

VOLUME V

JAN.FEB.MAR. 2022 - ISSUE XXV

DEMODE

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A QUARTERLY MAGAZINE

Best of
Literature

Must-Reads
For This
Spring

Special:
Colombia
Tour

Maquilladora
de Bogotá:
Mofin



Exclusive:
Photographer
Alexander
Alejo

Christian Colorado

FW21/22 SS/22 OOX/CHPTR - X {REMIXED}





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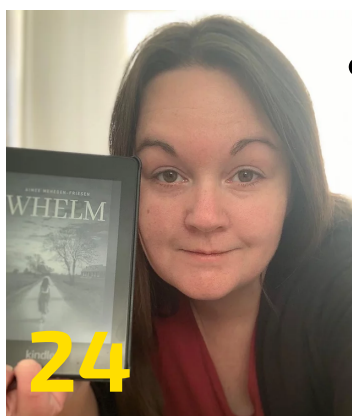
fw22 ready-to-wear
at Paris Fashion Week

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BLOOD AND DUST BY J.C. PAULSON

Blood and Dust by Joanne Paulson is a masterwork. Historical fiction of the wild west during the post-civil war era, it captures the complexity of a period fraught with uncertainty and hardship.



WHELM BY AIMEE MEHEDEN-FRIESEN

WHELM isn't your typical romance novel. Overall it is a pretty dark story dealing with some really important issues that unfortunately are becoming more and more prevalent in our society.

MYSTERIES + ROMANCE + THRILLERS + SCIENCE FICTION

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Great writers do it with a purpose in order to do better and finish every single book. A simple question for all the writers, why do you write?

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It all starts with his eternal curiosity towards creation, in wanting to communicate in different ways and his perspective of the world that he lives in and that he shares with people. (+)

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DE MODE magazine can be distributed through the mail or free distribution on authorized websites. The subscription business model of DE MODE for distribution fall into two main categories.

Non-paid publication means, there is no selling price and issues are given away for free, for example in street dispensers, airline in-flight magazines, or included with other products or publications.

Non-paid downloads, means, there is no download price and issues can be downloaded from the official website of DE MODE NEWS BUREAU or from website of authorized organizations.

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Published by: Kings Federation International Group
Website: www.kingsfederationinternational.com
Registered Head Office: M-15, Saltee Plaza, Jessore Road, South Dum Dum, Kolkata India 700080
Email: news@demodemagazine.com
Website: www.demodemagazine.com
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Satellite Offices: Thailand, France & United States

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PRINT & DIGITAL EDITION (GLOBAL COPY)

VOLUME 5 ISSUE 25 (NON-PAID PUBLICATION)
FOR THE MONTH JAN-FEB-MAR 2022
(1ST QUARTER ISSUE OF 2022)
TOTAL NO. OF PAGES 44

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK



Dear Readers,

We're presenting DE MODE JAN-FEB-MAR 2022 GLOBAL ISSUE COVER (VOL. 5, ISSUE XXV) - 5th Anniversary Special - Presenting Christian Colorado FW21/22 SS/22 OOX/CHPTR - X {REMIXED} Collection from THAILAND FASHION WEEK. We worked on the cover story with an amazing team from Bogota, Colombia. Met wonderful people, Alexander Alejo, an expert in fashion editorial photography, I must say that, also Makeup Artist Mofin and Filmmaker Santiago Caldas, a master at work. To watch the work of Santiago, please visit the website of Thailand Fashion Week.

When you open a book, you are also opening up: your mind, your potential and your point of view. We have brought you a list of the top 9 must-read books for this spring that will help you open up your potential and your point of view in 2022.

Enjoy reading DE MODE JAN-FEB-MAR 2022 GLOBAL ISSUE and share your feedback BY RATING US ON GOOGLE.

Nikhil Chandra Rana
Nikhil C. Rana (Nick)
FOUNDER & Editor-in-Chief

DE MODE
WORLD'S NO.1 FASHION, BUSINESS & LIFESTYLE MAGAZINE



PHOTO: ALEXANDER ALEJO
MAKEUP & HAIR: MOFIN
SHOOT: BOGOTA, COLOMBIA

COLLECTION

CHRISTIAN COLORADO
SS22 OOX/CHPTR-X {REMIXED}

SEEN AT

THAILAND FASHION WEEK
BANGKOK

DE MODE VOLUME V, ISSUE XXV GLOBAL

Christian Colorado

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PHOTO: ALEXANDER ALEJO
MAKEUP & HAIR: MOFIN
SHOOT: BOGOTA, COLOMBIA

"Chptr X" {Remixed} Spring-Summer 22 collection by CHRISTIAN COLORADO at THAILAND FASHION WEEK was a new chapter for their brand after 6 years of exploring their identity between searches, silhouettes, fabrics, zippers, non-conventional materials, ups and downs, spikes, loss and glories. Their designs started to make statements since the past season with a new beginning for them as a brand; understanding how the world is changing and how they have to roll with it. We're living in a brand-new world with new identities, new individuals and new needs. In their past collections, they explored and materialized childhood dreams, political issues, doubts, and joys. For the Spring-Summer 22, they have turned around something very important for their Latin culture: the telenovelas, giving them a new twist with very deep and superficial questions:

What if we did a telenovela back in the '90s with the issues, identities and acknowledge that we have in the present?

What about a non-binary main character?

What would be the subject of the whole Drama?

Which will be the personalities of the people involved in the drama?

What would be the name?

Which aesthetic they will have?

How do the roles fight about between the main characters, what it's good, and what it's bad??

Those were Designer Christian Colorado's breakpoints at the beginning and intend to answer all that questions with their very self- aesthetic vision. They break down too many clichés and give them a new twist like taking all that “kitsch” that they would see on TV and giving them a new life like a white tuxedo, the theme song, the “Galan” the villain, the furniture, sexiness, Big hair, big shoulders, big drama, etc.

In this research, they realized how a white suit made an impressive statement for a “Galan Latino”. That's why they take as the protagonist on this collection, and they reinterpreted the collection in different ways and different materials such as Linen, corduroy, PVC, and Rayon, and deconstruct and construct them again for the new identities (GalanX, Galana, Galane).



PHOTO: ALEXANDER ALEJO
MAKEUP & HAIR: MOFIN
SHOOT: BOGOTA, COLOMBIA



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PHOTO: ALEXANDER ALEJO
MAKEUP & HAIR: MOFIN
SHOOT: BOGOTA, COLOMBIA

Another statement piece that they found very important was the corset, used on a lot of important occasions such as quinceañeras (also called quinceaños or simple quinces). It's the celebration of a girl's 15th birthday, marking her passage from girlhood to womanhood, weddings and using a lot for female villains in telenovela dramas. They switch the rhetoric and made it for male or non-binary ones in our iconic industrial mesh.

For the shirts, they have played so many roles bringing the sexy as the start point, they can be used as an oversized shirt, a kimono, light jacket or a dress, made in raw linen.

This collection was showing during the NYFW SS22 season, for the THAILAND FASHION WEEK, they mixed and matched with their FW21/22 collections, bringing back some of the most iconic pieces of that collection trying to make some points that they have in the CHRISTIAN COLORADO brand, "fashion don't have rules", no gender or season ones.

Colombia





PHOTO: ALEXANDER ALEJO
MAKEUP & HAIR: MOFIN
SHOOT: BOGOTA, COLOMBIA



PHOTO: ALEXANDER ALEJO
MAKEUP & HAIR: MOFIN
SHOOT: BOGOTA, COLOMBIA

Top 9 Must-Read For This Spring

JUSTICE & JUDGEMENT HORROR TALES

BY AUTHOR FREDERICK WILLIAMS

NAFIS AND THE COLOURFUL HALLWAYS

BY AUTHOR ALESSANDRO NICCOLI

**IDYLLS OF THE NYMPHAI: FROM A
MANTIC CORACLE**

BY AUTHOR HARRY MATTHEWS

BLOOD AND DUST

BY AUTHOR J.C. PAULSON

WHAT IF JESUS WERE A COACH?

BY AUTHOR MICHAEL TAYLOR

WHELM

BY AUTHOR AIMEE MEHEDEN-FRIESEN

THE ZERO-SUM GAME OF YOU

BY AUTHOR ROSA L ANTONINI

AMONG THE PINES

BY AUTHOR MATT ANDERSON

**HEIR TO THE EMPIRE: THE NEXT
GENERATION**

BY AUTHOR JONATHAN TAYLOR

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**books +
author
interviews**



JUSTICE & JUDGEMENT HORROR TALES

BY AUTHOR FREDERICK WILLIAMS

Frederick Williams is the author of Justice & Judgement Horror Tales. In his latest sci-fi, you'll read horror tales that bring all essences to life and death. Always be careful what you ask and read for and you just might get it and like it!

ABOUT THE BOOK


The riveting modern horror anthology is unsettling yet unputdownable. Stylistic horror is full of shocks and surprises. Frederick Williams has mastered the art of sardonic writing and palpable storytelling with stories such as No One Gets Away, Master A Being, The Last Nation, Masters of Self Savors, The Last Day For All, and many more. A diverse collection of literary thought-provoking and disturbing short stories. The author begins his stories with "fairly mundane" details and when you're least expecting it, hits you with a hammer right on the head. Stories that will scare and take your soul.


'Two Sentence Horror Stories' is another book written by Author Frederick Williams. Unbelievable, terrific, pure horror blood bathing and cold bodies are a few of many words you will be driving into from Frederick Williams' Two Sentence Horror Stories. It's a tale of forty different two-sentence horror stories that is more than enough to keep you scared awake at night. These tales will start gripping your soul one by one as you keep reading. And before it ends, it'll take your soul and never let go.

'Tales From The Rapers' is the 3rd book written by Author Frederick Williams. Tales From The Rapers explores and details the theme of abuse, racism, crime, and dystopia in a pure horror setting. The Author's modern and unembellished prose trails the reader through an eerie sinister world of insanity. Increasingly shocking and gut-wrenching gothic, absurd storytelling and short story writing at its finest.

Get your copy of 'Justice & Judgement' today.

Connect with Author Frederick Williams socially

 [54140397-justice-and-judgement-horror-tales](https://www.amazon.com/dp/B075L3L3L3)

 [fdwilliams](https://www.instagram.com/fdwilliams)



THE AUTHOR

As long as horror exists, I exist and no one gets away." This is the common theme that echoes throughout all of Frederick Williams' tales of horror, science fiction, fantasy, justice and judgement. It is clear that Frederick Williams is not of this world. For over 20 years Frederick served as

a student learning the laws and principles of creation, nature, the universe and mathematical thinking and all of his stories are rooted in that knowledge.

What makes Frederick Williams' Horror Stories unique is that he applies laws and principles of knowledge in his horror stories. His stories are written to make the reader think of horror mathematically. Horror is to have purpose, intelligence, justice and karma. The common premise of horror, present and past, is based on emotions. Frederick removes the emotions and replaces them with natural fear. That alone takes the fright level into uncharted territory. Horror is simple, direct, yet naturally poetic. This is what is missing in this genre. We have seen the same vicious cycle of the same stories told differently. It is clear that Frederick is carving a lane of his own.

He was born in South Carolina, raised in Capitol Heights, Maryland and lived in Kansas City with his four children and former wife. He also lived in New Jersey for a couple of years and now lives in Arkansas with his current wife Cherleena and son Elijah. Frederick's current plans are to have a writing consulting business teaching how to tap into your individual creative imagination in a natural and mathematical way.

THE INTERVIEW

WITH AUTHOR FREDERICK WILLIAMS

Q: What was that final or provoking thought that made you write your first book?

The want, the need, and the accomplishment. Why write if one does not have this spiritual/mental purpose or the why and reason with having the plan to complete it and express it. It all starts with a why and want and then it is to be fulfilled.

Q: Is writing your passion or emotion?

Neither. I see writing as a purpose, an aim, and a specific direction. It's like nature or being born to write and express specific ideas to be shared and known to the world. Nature has a universe of expressions and ideas and all are connected mathematically. I'm just sharing a part of that

Q: Do you believe in awards or rewards?

For me, writing is an award and a reward. It has built-in blessings already in it. It just takes the will and the want for one to receive them and express them. And when one receives them it reveals power for you and future readers. Being a writer you reward and award yourself. If or when one gets outside awards or rewards that is the icing on the cake!

Q: How can you bring change to the literature world?

Horror tells more truth than the bible. That's what I'm bringing to the world. Horror is to be told mathematically and intelligently with no fear and not so emotional. It is to be accepted as that. This is what is missing in horror. Truth most times is a horror story and it is real and it is human. Life can be a horror story that is to be told without emotional fear. This is the change I'm bringing to the world. In my horror stories, you experience why anticipation of death is worse than death itself and no one gets away. That's real human fear and horror and this is the change that I am bringing.

Q: What is your favorite Quote?

"As long as horror exists, I exist and no one gets away," Frederick Williams.

Q: How does writing inspire you the most?

It gives me the reason and drive to be greater than my last written story, my last life and my last purpose. When you know better you write better. The inspiration continues to grow and grow to perfection of myself and my writing.

Q: For you what is the meaning of being a writer?

The meaning of being a writer is self mastery. If you can master yourself you can and will master your writing and express it in your own style of writing.

Q: What are common traps for aspiring writers?

Being emotionally lazy, having no plan, lack of purpose or not having a why or a reason.. Having no patience, the fear of rejection, no confidence, and no will/want to fight to express yourself or your stories.

Q: Do you try more to be original or deliver to the readers what they want?

It should be both. It is to be a balance for you and your readers. The readers deserve that and one is to give them that. This is why we write. It's for the reader.

Q: Do you think someone could be a writer if they don't feel emotions strongly?

Yes. Sharing the truth is an example. Sharing facts in your stories is an example. Sharing mathematics in stories is an example. Being honest, right, and exact is an example. Sharing life and life experiences in your stories is an example. Some of the greatest stories ever told did this and some without strong emotions.

Q: What kind of research do you do, and how long do you spend researching before beginning a book?

I researched and studied my entire life with life experiences and the endless knowledge and understanding that I have gained being on this planet. Combining the study of human nature and math, creativity and my insane imagination, I have all the time and research there is.

Q: How do you feel being an author?

Becoming a published author feels on the next level. I feel complete and confirmed but I'm not satisfied. I still have more to do and share. The ability to create stories, there's something really magical about that.

Q: Do you have any upcoming books? What is it about?

Yes. More horror. I'm always working to improve my writing. I'm working on Tales from The Rapers Book 2 and Book 3 and Two Sentence Horror Stories Part 2 and 3 with some amazingly horrific art. I am also working on having a writing consulting business specializing in horror and fantasy. I want to teach aspiring authors mathematical thinking to inspire ideas for the new next level of horror.

Q: How do you feel about your book being listed by DE MODE?

To be part of something that is becoming great and powerful there are no words to explain it. DE MODE is becoming a huge household name on this planet and it is being extremely powerful in the media world. To be a part of this magazine is spiritually mind blowing!

NAFIS AND THE COLOURFUL HALLWAYS

BY AUTHOR ALESSANDRO NICCOLI

The 'novel' about Nafis leave behind centuries of history and speaks to readers of the 21st century. It tells us, in his long travel diary, that another Earth is possible...in a big reset. Nafis - accompanies the reader in understanding the consequences of man's presumption and greed.



ABOUT THE BOOK

From pandemic to normality

In this book by Author Alessandro Niccoli, read about the great revolution of a 13-year old boy, Nafis. Skinny, has green eyes and his hair is dishevelled. He lives in a big city in Southern Europe. It's the 21st century at the beginning of a worldwide pandemic and the fourth technological revolution that marks a point of no return. Poor lifestyles, senseless consumption of goods misunderstood as happiness, pollution and destruction cause Nafis to have a serious existential crisis. In this context, the boy experiences the rebellion of nature, which is the true protagonist of the book, in a whirlwind of emotions. One day, in a park in his smoky city, a ray of light strikes across his eyes and changes their colour. From that moment onwards, Nafis decides to change his life; nothing will be the same again.



He returns to live in the woods in a continuous adventure with faithful human and animal friends, where they walk together listening to prosperous past and present lives, in the symphony of nature.

Nafis explores his dreams, imagination, friendships and feelings, and gradually finds the strength that he had lost; he rediscovers the incredible abilities of the mind thanks to the energy he derives from his landscapes, which are masterfully illustrated.

Thanks to practicing ancient disciplines in nature, like a warrior, Nafis wages a peaceful war with words as powerful as swords, to awaken ideas, emotions and the masses, rediscovering a wonderful world that needs to be defended, towards a new era.

Get your copy of 'Nafis' today.

Connect with Author Alessandro Niccoli socially

 57895537-nafis-and-the-colourful-hallways  www.nafisbook.com



THE AUTHOR

Alessandro Niccoli was born in San Miniato on 2.1.1968. His interest in the commons prompted him to become a lawyer. He led political opposition in his city, to preserve the environment from over-building projects, from the spread of herbicides and poisons from local industry.

In 2013 he participated in a literary competition with the short story: "Walking, your spirit dreamed", published in the book "Tales of the Via Francigena", ed. Del Bucchia. In 2019 it was released in bookstores with "L'odore delle Rose" published by Europa Edizioni.

BOOK REVIEWS

- After reading the novel in Italian, my mother tongue, and in Spanish, I decided to read it also in English to be able to better appreciate it since I liked it. The notes on the most unusual terms that explain their meaning are very welcome, as they allow to enrich the reader's lexicon. As for the plot that I find original and the narrative style, the author has given his best. It is a book suitable for all age groups. There is little to change, I hope to read it in some other language too. - **Luigi Ammirati.**
- This is an amazing story about a young boy that lives in modern days with the pandemic situation; everything was realistic and incredibly near to us, everything changed and we can change ourselves and our goal as Nafis. beautiful and inspirational story. - **Roberta Giammarino.**

THE INTERVIEW

WITH AUTHOR ALESSANDRO NICCOLI

Q: What was your first thought when you started writing and when? What literary pilgrimages have you gone on?

For me, writing is a voyage across time and space, where the human being may find freedom, adventure, fulfillment, and joy. I didn't get good marks in school as a teenager. I would rather spend my days outside in nature. On the other hand, the teacher of Italian literature told my mother: "Alessandro will become a writer." My literary journeys have taken me from Hermann Hesse to Oriana Fallaci, through Paulo Coelho and Tiziano Terzani.

Q: What is the most unethical practice in the publishing industry?

To deceive aspiring authors with false promises of publication, extorting significant sums of money for works that will never be properly published and marketed, with the sole intention of taking advantage of them.

Q: Does writing energize or exhaust you?

Both. If there is inspiration at the beginning, the energy is enormous and drives me to write and write. The breaks are then used to take care of basic needs and go for a few runs in the woods to let off steam before starting again.

However, at the end of the manuscript, due to the endless rereadings with the editor, I must admit that I was on the verge of a psychological breakdown.

Q: What are common traps for aspiring writers?

Instead of thinking about the outcome, writing should be a disinterested act of passion, an aesthetic endeavor inspired by profound listening to oneself. Then, using our capacity to convert ideas into feelings, we may enrich them with puns and amazing settings where the reader can dive in.

Q: Does a big ego help or hurt writers?

I believe that ego is a major flaw cultivated by human society to prevail over others, nature, and the animal world. Storytelling, whatever the theme it deals with, must always originate from inspiration. In my opinion, the presence of a strong ego is very limiting.

Q: What is your writing Kryptonite?

It is clear to me how detrimental it is to write without inspiration. It won't bring a good experience to the reader and risks producing useless works.

Q: Have you ever experienced writer's block?

Yes, it's physiological. You just have to go out, breathe, run, live, laugh, and get over it.

Q: Did you ever consider writing under a pseudonym?

No, although I did it once. I wrote a strong pamphlet on conformism. I used the

pseudonym as a shield, but now that I am older, I have no reservations about publishing anything under my own name. I don't see the meaning of using a stage name, but I have nothing to say if someone wants to do it.

Q: Do you try more to be original or to deliver to readers what they want?

I write primarily for myself because writing gives me energy and nourishes my fantasies. It is only after that, that my focus shifts to the readers because of my desire to shake them, to make them discover new feelings, experiences, and possibilities.

Q: Can someone be a writer if they don't feel emotions strongly?

From what I said above, the answer comes by itself. Emotions, in my opinion, are the foundation of life and creativity. My emotions don't have to be extremely strong if they are compelling enough to give me the impulse to start a journey.

Q: How did publishing your first book change your process of writing?

The unexpected publication of my first book, by an Italian (and international) publishing house called Europa Edizioni, gave me great satisfaction, but it didn't push me to write more. The desire to write new stories was born on its own, based on strong inspirations. The first publication, if anything, may have given me more confidence.

Q: What kind of research do you do, and how long do you spend researching before beginning a book?

The idea of a book comes from intuition. After that, to feed my initial insight, I place my attention only on the coincidences, anecdotes, readings, emotions, and experiences of daily life. Next comes the vision of a character's actions and psychology. It is then that intuition and previous reflections take shape but only by letting go and completely freeing oneself in a sort of meditation, liberation, and rebirth, that the book comes to be.

Q: Do you have any upcoming books? What is it about?

I'm working on my third book: Danit, the story of a rebellious girl who runs away from home with a thoroughbred horse she frees from captivity. Danit will have many adventures in the forests with her horse and the other companions she meets.

Q: How do you feel about your book being listed by DE MODE?

I am pleased and flattered by DE MODE's interest in my work. A coincidence? I don't believe in coincidences ... when a meeting takes place, there is always a reason. Certain synchronicities should never be ignored. And if Carl Gustav Jung says so, we should reflect.

IDYLLS OF THE NYMPHAI: FROM A MANTIC CORACLE

BY AUTHOR HARRY MATTHEWS

Idylls of the Nymphai from a Mantic Coracle is Harry Matthews' seventh poetry collection. In it, the author takes us on a journey with the Nymphs from the vantage point of a mantic coracle.



ABOUT THE BOOK

Idylls of the Nymphai from a Mantic Coracle is the 7th poetry collection by Harry Matthews. The poems concerning the Nymphai, the author informs us, were inspired by a peculiarly mantic coracle on the River Severn, in Shropshire, England- an eminent past-time, whose legendary hospitality and insights the author has frequently enjoyed.

The book is a collection of 45 short and interesting poems with rhyme scheme, irregularly grouped, each with a unique taste to offer. Each poem will resonate deeply with its imagery of sunsets, rivers, and the unbearable absence of the Beloved. The book is so well written that the readers can connect on many levels.

It's the seventh poetry book by the author so you can expect the book to be one of the best, with his experience in the art of poetry. When you pick up the book you won't be able to put it down without finishing. The poems are smooth and easy to read. It's a literary masterpiece by the author who says: "Theocritus called his pastoral poems "idylls" ('short poems'), particularly on a rustic theme. The Nymphai (Nymphs) were female spirits of the natural world- of the forests, rivers, springs, meadows, mountains, and seas. They say a load of a man is his coracle...a symbol for a spiritual journey, but also wholeness and completion; the surrender of one's life to God."

The author brings forth verses narrating the lives of mythological characters with a witty, contemporary twist. These verses are beautifully written and make you experience feelings of tranquillity and laughter.

Get your copy of 'Idylls of the Nymphai' today.

Connect with Author Harry Matthews socially

✧ [Idylls-of-the-Nymphai-from-a-Mantic-Coracle](#) 🌐 www.harryartpublishing.co.uk



THE AUTHOR

Author Harry Matthews has established his place as a young English poet with an emerging international reputation, combining poetic creativity with artistic flair. His poems carry the vital forces of England, even if as a poet he writes in the Shropshire countryside, detached from literary

London. His poetry contains every fruitful, every liberating thought imaginable. The initiated acknowledge his work to be a fascinating mixture of adventure, autobiography, philosophy, and Greek mythology. He has a chameleon-like ability to write poems in almost every verse form with stylistic and technical achievement: from Ghazals to Italian Quatrains to English Odes. His travels in India and Europe have influenced his work.

He is known for his travel book 'A Whimsical Journey Through India' (Jul'21), which re-imagines his youthful meanderings around India as an easy-going modern-day explorer, in an intimate and entertaining travelogue. Since its publication he has published the seventh collection of poems, 'Idylls of the Nymphai from a Mantic Coracle' (November 2021).

After 15 years of learning to write, by 2020 his focus shifted to poetry for publication. His first book 'Sonarification' was written in a month (June 2020). His second book 'Twynd' was written in July 2020; 'Hyperion' in August; 'Woodwose' in September; 'The Lost Shadow of Things' in October; 'True to the God in You' in November. His books are published by Harry Art Publishing.

THE INTERVIEW

WITH AUTHOR HARRY MATTHEWS

Q: What was your first thought when you started writing and when?

I wrote my first book in June 2020. It was simply to fill in the time. So, I suppose the answer was to cure boredom. I needed some activity to keep my mind off things. I wrote my latest book in July this year...My thought: I'm going to write this book about Nymphs; a dreamy pastoral collection, inspired by Shropshire.

Q: What literary pilgrimages have you gone on?

I have been to Hereford on several literary pilgrimages with the Thomas Traherne Association, both at Hereford Cathedral and St Mary's Credenhill, also the Church in Teddington where he is buried. I could also mention Lawrence's Clouds Hill in Dorset. I happened to be at Rohet Gahr near Jodhpur once where Bruce Chatwin wrote a draft of 'The Songlines'.

Q: What is the most unethical practice in the publishing industry?

Predatory publishers.

Q: Does writing energize or exhaust you?

I find painting energizes me with an uplift. I do my own artwork for my books, and I find that really helps to sell the book and make it more interesting. If I write poetry, I feel inspired, and determined, but without sufficient rest after finishing the book, I am easily exhausted.

Q: What are common traps for aspiring writers?

Cliché and an inability to accept criticism are pitfalls. It is always good to read as a writer and write with a reader in mind. I learned a lot from my masters in writing, but I don't think they can teach how to write. One must read writers. I think focus and perseverance conquers most of the snares.

Q: Does a big ego help or hurt writers?

I think a writer needs an ego to survive in an ego driven world, but the less of the writer in the writing, the stronger the writing, especially in English.

Q: What is your writing Kryptonite?

Well I'm hardly a Superman, but I think that my Achilles heel is over-exerting myself; this always lands me in trouble and burnout is something I have to guard against or rest through! I think the cure is sometimes the poison and vice versa. Ginseng for instance, gives me focus, but it makes me garrulous and excitable! 57 words

Q: Have you ever gotten a reader's block?

Yes, quite a few times. I am hyperactive, but when I do focus, I have a depth of concentration that surprises me. There are a few books I should read, but I probably won't, but that's fine, I read when I can, and have several on the go at once.

Q: Did you ever consider writing under a pseudonym?

Not seriously I considered a pseudonym: 'Perceval de Lillard'. My artist nom du guerre for a time was 'Hazman' but for writing I feel okay with my birth name.

Q: Can someone be a writer if they don't feel emotions strongly?

They could write, but I doubt it would have much impact. What interests me is that I learned language first from my mother by means of 'poetic devices'. If you can imagine it, and really feel it, and thereby describe it, then the reader will believe it and feel it too, and perhaps always remember it?

Q: What's the best way to market your books?

Having a book is like having a website. It can be brilliant, so it better be presented to the right people, so it can take off.

Q: How did publishing your first book change your process of writing?

Not much, except I now take longer to write. With the first book I drafted a poem or two a day every day for a month. I went straight to drafting, all the thinking and gathering in my memory; ideas reaching maturity after brewing for years. Draft, revise, edit. The Idylls took 4 months- I had doctoral research in tandem.

Q: How many unpublished and half-finished books do you have?

I have boxes full of them! I plan to get round to publishing a few more. The Amsterdam story has been with me since I was 22. It will probably be a massive tome. Then there is the ocean fantasy I've conceived as a trilogy. Then there are many more poetry collections simmering nicely...

Q: What kind of research do you do, and how long do you spend researching before beginning a book?

I find I do plenty of research for my poetry collections in the academic library, especially around the theme that emerges. The Idylls required Classical research, and the bucolic poets such as Theocritus and Virgil who inspired me. I did research on coracles still used on the River Severn in Shropshire today. Being in a coracle is research.

Q: How do you feel about your book being listed by DE MODE?

It's truly lovely. Writing each of my poetry books is hard work- I'm never sure it will reach the audience I hope for it. Being listed by DE MODE is a great feeling for me, because it means my collections of poems made it wider across the world and raised a laugh - which is really all I'm trying to do.

BLOOD AND DUST

BY AUTHOR J.C. PAULSON

Blood and Dust by Joanne Paulson is a masterwork. Historical fiction of the wild west during the post-civil war era, it captures the complexity of a period fraught with uncertainty and hardship. Relationships are formed out of mutual need and self-preservation. Through it all, Paulson delivers a narrative with such heart and intimacy that the reader feels as though they are making new friends along the way.



ABOUT THE BOOK

James Sinclair is on the run, hunted like an animal. An innocent encounter with a young woman leads to horrific allegations by a powerful man. Before he can take a breath, a friend smuggles him out of 1880s Toronto, Canada via the remnants of the Underground Railroad and out into the wilderness.

James has never been on the back of a horse before. But now, he's riding hard for the Canadian west, fighting raiders, meeting hobos, befriending Métis traders and beautiful women.

He must find a new home. He wants to find love. But the long reach of a wealthy industrialist could not just scuttle all his plans; it could also end his life.



Blood and Dust is a thrilling ride that roams across half a nation in its wild early days. Its breathtaking pace and high passion will keep you captivated until the last page.

BOOK REVIEWS

Things take a turn for the worse just as James Sinclair is settling into a new profession and a new love. But as they say, no good deed goes unpunished. He's accused of something he didn't do. A very powerful man and in the 1880s, a young man's word just doesn't hold up. Forced to leave behind everything and everyone he knows, he sets out for adventures he never dreamed of in the Wild West. This story grabs your heart and stays in your head long after you've turned the last page.

Get your copy of *Blood and Dust* today, on Amazon and the official website of Black Rose Writing; and also check out the Adam and Grace series, on Amazon.

Connect with Author J.C. Paulson socially

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THE AUTHOR

At three in the morning seven years ago, J.C. Paulson awakened with a start — as she had every night for several months. These were dark times.

A job loss. A father's impending death. A frightening accident. Insomnia and worry.

But this awakening was different. This time, a handsome police officer and a fiery red-headed reporter were meeting over a bishop's body. This time, the entire plot of a novel was dancing in her sleep-deprived brain. I will never remember this in the light of morning, she thought. But she did. 18 months later, *Adam's Witness*, her first mystery and love story, was born. Paulson decided she could not wait to query the book and dove into self-publishing. Three more novels and a novella in the Adam and Grace series followed, and another book is in the works. The published mystery works include *Broken Through*, *Fire Lake*, *Griffin's Cure*, and *Two Hundred Bones*; the work in progress is tentatively entitled *The Maddox Verdict*. Yet when she was writing book four, *Griffin's Cure*, she hit the wall: writer's block. While she wrestled with this frustration, her husband had his own nightmare, his own strange awakening. Write this down for me, he asked. Help me make sense of it.

The nightmare became a novel of its own, in an entirely different genre: historical fiction, a western...with a touch of romance tucked inside. *Blood and Dust* wrapped Paulson in its thrall, and it ultimately made its way to the offices of Black Rose Writing, a Texas publisher.

THE INTERVIEW

WITH AUTHOR J. C. PAULSON

Q: What was your first thought when you started writing and when?

I've been writing more or less all my life; I think I scribbled my first little poem at about the age of six. I thought it was the most natural thing in the world. Fiction intended for an audience is, of course, a different matter. I thought, how hard can this be? Write 80,000 words, get them edited, push them out there? That was in 2014. Now I know. It's unbelievably hard work. And so rewarding.

Q: What literary pilgrimages have you gone on?

Physical pilgrimages have not been possible. I'm incredibly busy as a journalist (day job) and author (all other times of the day, and sometimes concurrently). COVID-19 has not helped over the last two years. I do, however, engage in many workshops, conversations, interviews and events online. Perhaps when I retire. I would kill to go to the Lake District in England, where great poets once wrote and rambled.

Q: What is the most unethical practice in the publishing industry?

Oh dear. Must I choose just one? I have heard of authors and publishers buying their own books in large quantities from the main book distributors (and then reselling them personally, I gather) to push up their rankings. I'm not sure I like that approach from those who can afford to stack the deck. There are also, unfortunately, a great many people who lure you in with promises of promotion and support, and never deliver. There is a lot of preying on authors.

Q: Does writing energize or exhaust you?

I am completely energized, perhaps to the point of exhilaration, while I'm writing. Once I finally close the computer, I am utterly spent. So, both.

Q: What are common traps for aspiring writers?

Those who have not written in the past but have a great story to tell should perhaps take care to learn basic rules of writing, such as grammar, spelling and how to structure a chapter. The story is so important, but imparting it in an easy-to-read, understandable way is equally so.

Q: Does a big ego help or hurt writers?

It helps when marketing and hurts when writing. Be humble before your art, as one author put it.

Q: What is your writing Kryptonite?

COVID despair (although I have not contracted it) and lack of coffee.

Q: Have you ever had reader's block?

What a great question! I have, occasionally. Because I am also an editor, I have to force myself out of that mode when I read. Otherwise, I'm constantly mentally editing while I should simply be enjoying. That indeed blocks the brain.

Q: Do you try more to be original or to deliver to readers what they want?

You know, I don't think I've considered this. I write what I am compelled to write, and then hope to find my audience. I don't think I can do it any other way.

Q: Did you ever consider writing under a pseudonym?

Absolutely. I still may adopt one for a new series I am considering. I think if you move too far away from the genre you are known for, it may be helpful to take on an alias and new persona.

Q: Can someone be a writer if they don't feel emotions strongly?

Not fiction, no. One could attempt it, but I think the lack of emotion would be obvious on the page.

Q: How did publishing your first book change your process of writing?

I became more disciplined after the first. I became much more aware of style, structuring my chapters, and creating a more professional arc. Whether I have succeeded in that last is up to the reader to decide.

Q: How many unpublished and half-finished books do you have?

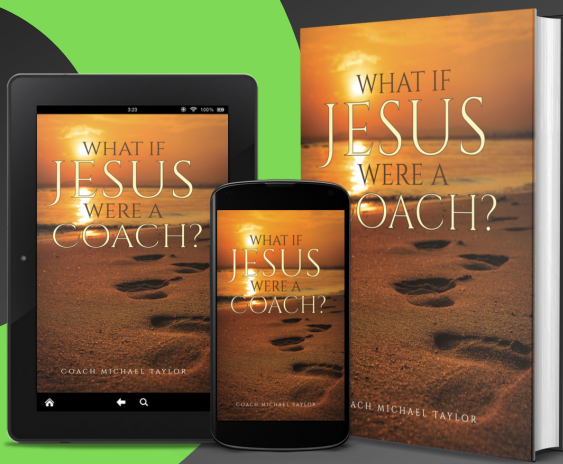
I have one half-finished book. In general, apart from diverging from my fourth book to write my new historical fiction, I work in a very linear way. One thing at a time. But the ideas are legion.

Q: What kind of research do you do, and how long do you spend researching before beginning a book?

It depends on the book. Adam's Witness did not require a lot of research; I knew most of the details from my time at the local newspaper. Blood and Dust, however, took more time to research than to write. I read books about Canadian history, Googled endlessly, all those things.

Q: How do you feel about your book being listed by DE MODE?

Oh my goodness! I am thrilled, delighted, honoured, and surprised. Thank you so much for this exciting opportunity. Reaching new audiences is so important to authors, and I am very grateful to DE MODE.



WHAT IF JESUS WERE A COACH?

BY AUTHOR & COACH MICHAEL TAYLOR

Be guided by the master teacher, Jesus Christ, and Coach Michael Taylor and see that there's so much more to spirituality than doctrines. In this book, you'll find a refreshing, new, and positive approach to religion and Christianity that aims to inspire you to find the truth and set yourself free!

ABOUT THE BOOK

Begin Your Spiritual Journey and Self-Discovery but Without the Usual Religious Doctrines That Surround Christianity - Go At Your Own Pace and Find Yourself With This Positive Approach to Christianity!

Would you consider yourself spiritual but not necessarily religious? Do you want to connect with a higher power but without being barred by religious dogma and doctrines?

There are many people that are hesitant to pursue their spiritual journey because of the strict religious doctrines surrounding Christianity that don't coincide with their personal views. But what if I told you that you can still connect with a higher power and achieve inner-peace through spirituality without the strict rules?

In this book, you'll find a refreshing, new, and positive approach to religion and Christianity that aims to inspire you to find the truth and set yourself free!

In this book, you'll discover:

- A new perspective: All you need to do is open your mind and by the end of this book you'll discover a brand new and refreshing outlook on religion and life!
- For anyone: You don't have to be religious, or even believe in god to benefit from the valuable lessons in this book.
- Inner-peace: Discover yourself, achieve your dreams, and connect with a higher power. Be surrounded by the teachings of Jesus and be guided into a brighter and better life.

Get your copy of 'What If Jesus Were A Coach' today on Amazon.

Connect with Author Michael Taylor socially

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THE AUTHOR



At the age of twenty-three Coach Michael Taylor was living the American Dream. He had gotten married, purchased his first home, had 2.5 kids, and by society's standards he had succeeded. Within a six and a half year time frame, his American Dream turned into the American nightmare, as

he experienced, divorce, bankruptcy, foreclosure, depression, and being homeless for two years living out of his car.

During the darkest period of his life, he received a miracle. He was sitting up late one night because he was too depressed to sleep. As he sat there staring at the books, this question popped into his mind; "Michael, what if you took all of the energy and effort you've used in trying to get rich, and channel that energy into figuring out how to be happy?"

As a result of asking himself that question, he began an amazing journey of transformation in which he began reading books on personal development, psychology, metaphysics, philosophy, and spirituality. After several years, he was able to rebuild his life and he decided to share the lessons he learned along his journey with others by writing a book. Even though he had no experience or training in writing, he made a commitment to himself that he would complete his book and have it published. After completing his manuscript, he sent it to 60 different publishers and received 60 different rejections. Not to be discouraged, he decided he would figure out how to publish his book himself.

THE INTERVIEW

WITH AUTHOR & COACH MICHAEL TAYLOR

Q: What was your first thought when you started writing and when?

I wrote my first book back in 1995. It was a little intimidating at first since I didn't have any credentials or experience as a writer, but I was so committed to getting my message out that I moved past my fears and wrote it anyway.

Q: What literary pilgrimages have you gone on?

I have never gone on any writing pilgrimages or had any special training on being a writer. I have always had a passion for books and I taught myself how to be a writer after journaling for several years.

Q: What is the most unethical practice in the publishing industry? Does writing energize or exhaust you?

I believe Vanity Presses can be very unethical in how they promote their services and take advantage of new authors. Their primary goal is to sell books to the authors and they generally price them so high a first time author can't really make a profit. Writing definitely energizes me and fills me with passion. Writing is my primary form of creative expression and I love sharing my creativity with others.

Q: What are common traps for aspiring writers?

Imposter syndrome can be a huge trap for writers because they may not believe they are worthy of sharing their knowledge and stories through writing. It takes a lot of courage and vulnerability to share yourself through the art of writing which sometimes keeps authors from expressing themselves through their writings.

Q: Does a big ego help or hurt writers?

A big ego can definitely be a hindrance to being a great writer if the writer is writing for other peoples approval. A true writer writes to express their creativity and knowledge and uses writing as a way to share their unique gifts and talents.

Q: What is your writing Kryptonite?

As an author of 10 books, I honestly do not have any Kryptonite I'm aware of. One of my greatest challenges is having so many ideas that I lose focus and bounce around with several different ideas, but I do not see that as a bad thing because eventually, I will complete each writing project I start.

Q: Have you ever gotten a reader's block?

No. I'm a firm believer in meditation and learning to quiet my mind. This minimizes writer's block and helps me stay focused and creative. Since I love reading books I never get readers block.

Q: Did you ever consider writing under a pseudonym?

I've never considered it. I love writing under my own name which is my personal brand as an author and life coach.

Q: Can someone be a writer if they don't feel emotions strongly?

If a writer doesn't have passion and emotions involved in their writing, I do not believe their writing will be as effective. The stronger the feelings and emotions a writer feels the better writer I believe they will be.

Q: How did publishing your first book change your process of writing?

I started writing by journaling. I then realized I have a gift for writing and sharing my ideas with others. By publishing my first book I realized I could make a positive difference in the lives of others and I became focused on being a teacher with my books.

Q: How many unpublished and half-finished books do you have?

I have written a book per year for the past seven years and I currently have two other book projects I'm working on. They will be released in the next two years. One per year.

Q: What does literary success look like to you?

True success for me is when someone reads one of my books and writes me a letter explaining how my book helped changed their life.

Q: What's the best way to market your books?

I have had good success using a PR firm to promote my books. I also send out press releases and use social media.

Q: Do you try more to be original or to deliver to readers what they want?

All of my books are original and based on my own life experiences and research. Writing, for writers, is a medium through which they can express their feelings and experience to this whole world. By sharing their experiences they can positively impact the lives of the reader.

Q: What kind of research do you do, and how long do you spend researching before beginning a book?

I read a ton of self-help books and I am always learning and growing. Because of my commitment to my own growth, I always have new content for future books.

Q: How do you feel about your book being listed by DE MODE?

I'm excited to be published in DE MODE magazine because my books are nonfiction personal development books. Since it is a lifestyle magazine, I believe the audience will really resonate with my work.



WHELM

BY AUTHOR AIMEE MEHEDEN-FRIESEN

"Whelm" by Aimee Meheden-Friesen is a heartfelt story that follows Audra Filigree who's come at a point in her life where nothing makes sense. Audra is a beautiful lady who comes from a wealthy family, but she leaves it behind for her boyfriend Dalton who brings her nothing but misery, anxiety and mental trauma. The book is more like a self help guide that sends a powerful message to all the readers out there- no matter what life throws at you, you got to be tough and find your path to self-discovery.



ABOUT THE BOOK

WHELM isn't your typical romance novel. Overall it is a pretty dark story dealing with some really important issues that unfortunately are becoming more and more prevalent in our society. Author Aimee Meheden-Friesen states she's had people close to her deal with a variety of mental health struggles, and from time to time she's dealt with depression herself. The book is overly dramatized for the purpose of storytelling, but she wanted to push the message that the perfect life of material excess that many people idealise isn't necessarily perfect for everyone and that sometimes it takes walking away from everything to gain a new perspective. She also hoped to help normalize these types of mental health struggles to help take the stigma out of them. It is her belief that at some point in our lives, most of us struggle with expectations.

The book's protagonist Audra Filigree is rich and beautiful. She has the so-called perfect boyfriend and is sailing through life, living the North American dream. But when that false veil of perfection crumbles, her whole world falls apart in a heartbeat. Despite her privilege, her life no longer feels right and she dissolves into a full-fledged panic attack. Not knowing what else to do, Audra starts walking with no clear destination in mind. Battling mounting anxiety and unrealized depression, she continues walking on a journey of self-discovery and in rebellion against the life she begins to realise was never what she wanted for herself. Along the way, she learns who her true friends are and the real meaning of love.

Get your copy of 'Whelm' today on Amazon.

Connect with Author Aimee Friesen socially

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THE AUTHOR

Writing has been Aimee Meheden - Friesen's passion for as long as she can remember. As a young girl, she would write fully-illustrated mystery or adventure tales about her pets that she describes as delightfully cringe-worthy. Yes, her mama still has all of them and no, you can't

see them. As a teen, she got more serious about it and wrote constantly: journals, short stories, even a novella. She dreamed of becoming an author. But she lacked the self-confidence to pursue it, and instead took first-year pharmacy in university thinking that would give her career stability. Although she did always like science, she hated the program and ultimately dropped out. It just wasn't her thing. All she got out of that year was the credit she did in Women's Literature and a letter inviting her to join the Honours English program that remained a lingering regret.

Years later, Aimee resumed her post-secondary studies but it was again to further her administrative career instead of her passion. She went part-time and finally graduated college with diplomas in both Occupational Health and Safety and Human Resources Management. Yay! Her kids were getting where they were old enough they didn't need her as much. Between this and finishing her education, she needed a new hobby so she picked up writing again. She still had this idea in mind from her teen years, so she pulled out those first dusty six chapters she had written way back when out, had a good laugh, completely rewrote them and thus began WHELM.

THE INTERVIEW

WITH AUTHOR AIMEE MEHEDEN - FRIESEN

Q: What was your first thought when you started writing and when?

The original idea behind WHELM was "there's nothing wrong with my life, but there's nothing right with it either." This began in 1998 with 6 chapters that got put away and pulled back out in 2017 to start over.

Q: What literary pilgrimages have you gone on?

My second book is largely set in my hometown of Winnipeg, Manitoba and it's been fun revisiting a few favourite spots as I'm writing. I also have a little trip planned to the West in the spring, but I don't want to say too much lest I give anything away.

Q: What is the most unethical practice in the publishing industry?

It's nearly impossible to get your name out there unless you know someone. Publishers often won't reply, so you wind up having to self-market at your cost and it's easy to get scammed. I've heard of first-time authors having their debut novel costing them upwards of \$10,000, so in many cases, the market is only really geared for the well-to-do to be successful.

Q: Does a big ego help or hurt writers?

A big ego can definitely be a hindrance to being a great writer if the writer is writing for other peoples approval. A true writer writes to express their creativity and knowledge and uses writing as a way to share their unique gifts and talents.

Q: Does writing energize or exhaust you?

Both. It depends on the scene and whether it's an exercise in success or futility.

Q: What are common traps for aspiring writers?

Trying to be something you're not or holding yourself back out of fear of failure.

Q: What is your writing Kryptonite?

Time (or the lack thereof) and distractions. All too often life gets in the way.

Q: Have you ever gotten writer's block?

Absolutely. I've come to a difficult scene where it's taken me four months to write a single word. If I can't write, I try to use the time to reread and make edits so I'm at least productive.

Q: Did you ever consider writing under a pseudonym?

Yes.

Q: Do you try to be more original or give readers what they want?

With Whelm, I just wrote what I wanted. With my second book, I am still writing what I want, but I am trying to incorporate a few elements

for readers as well.

Q: Do you think someone could be a writer if they don't feel emotions strongly?

Only in certain contexts, like for biographies, non-fiction or textbooks.

Q: How did publishing your first book change your process of writing?

I make more of a point to plot things out.

Q: How many unpublished and half-finished books do you have?

Just the one I'm currently working on. I'm stubborn and like to stick things out.

Q: What does literary success look like to you?

I'm just looking to get the book out there, and hoping that people enjoy it and maybe feel a bit less alone.

Q: What's the best way to market your books?

I am the wrong person to ask. I suck at social media and am still trying to figure this out myself.

Q: What kind of research do you do, and how long do you spend researching before beginning a book?

It depends on the topic. I tend to stick to writing about things that are real life and that I understand, so my form of writing doesn't typically require a lot of pre-research work. I research individual items as needed.

Q: How do you feel about your book being listed by DE MODE?

I really appreciate this opportunity, THANK YOU.

WORLDWIDE BOOK REVIEWS OF 'WHELM'

- This story had me hooked from the beginning, the topic of mental health was so beautiful covered and really resonated with me. The characters were well written and really had me rooting for them throughout. Fiction and self-help book rolled into one! Would love to read more from this author.

- Reviewed by Danni in the United Kingdom

- "Whelm" by Aimee Meheden-Friesen is a heartfelt story that follows Audra Filigree who's come to a point in her life where nothing makes sense. Audra is a beautiful lady who comes from a wealthy family, but she leaves it behind for her boyfriend Dalton who brings her nothing but misery, anxiety and mental trauma

- Reviewed by a fan reader in India



THE ZERO-SUM GAME OF YOU

BY AUTHOR ROSA L ANTONINI

A "Zero-Sum Game of You" is an inner newly discovered journey that equips you with the right amount of knowledge and applications to elevate yourself as a person to thrive in all areas of your life. Treating life choices as a game and being accountable in the process is an honest reminder that each of us has control of most of our life's outcomes.

ABOUT THE BOOK

Have you ever felt like you have been running for hours but are not able to get anywhere? Are you exhausted from trying to climb a ladder created by society, culture, beliefs, or social media? Have you felt empty and without purpose? The Zero-Sum Game of You will show you how to get rid of anything holding you back and help you design your path to success and happiness regardless of where you are today.

In-game theory, there is a concept known as a zero-sum game. A zero-sum game is a situation where one player's gains are equal to another player's losses. As a result, the net of the transaction is zero. At the end of a zero-sum game, there is no doubt about the winner or loser. What if there were a different type of a zero-sum game? What if there was a game you could always win without depriving someone else of something? What if all the other zero-sum game players were irrelevant and the only one that counts is you? Welcome to the Zero-Sum Game of You.

In this book, Rosa explains an individual's internal battles in the form of a game. She compares how the human mind and perceptions function under its own set of code, and this human programming becomes the driving force to the individual's outcome. She believes that a person can reprogram themselves just like software code can be modified to perform in different ways. This transformation can happen if an individual is willing to adopt a new way of thinking and learn to manage their perceptions and emotions which leads to a new way of behaving; ultimately improving their lives, relationships, and everything around them.

Get your copy of 'The Zero-Sum Game of You' today.
Connect with Author Rosa L Antonini socially

 [author.lopezanton](https://www.instagram.com/author.lopezanton)  [Antonini_author](https://twitter.com/Antonini_author)  www.rosaantonini.com



THE AUTHOR

Rosa L. Antonini is a devoted philanthropist and Software Engineer. Throughout the years, she noticed the similarities between human behavior and software engineering. She is deeply passionate about helping others open their minds and hearts to live a life of self-fulfillment. Her debut

book, The Zero-Sum Game of You, came to her as an inspiration born from her sense of gratitude. This book is a combination of over twenty years of practicing metaphysics and software engineering experience.

Author Rosa graduated as a Pharmacist in the Dominican Republic and later became a Software Engineer with a master's degree in Information Systems in the United States. She is the first in her family to go to college, for which she thanks her parents. Her mother especially, for working multiple manual labour jobs which enabled Rosa to receive an education. Author Rosa hopes to build multiple programs in different countries, including the US, to help young adults by providing them with the necessary tools internally and externally. She has a strong desire to identify ways to help decrease others' suffering. She believes that education and knowledge are key factors for an individual's success and freedom. She considers that a strong mindset with defined core values and goal-setting strategies are the best weapons to prevent becoming a pawn in someone else's game. One of her goals with this book is to provide the reader with the necessary practical tools to enable them to take control of their lives to build their success on their own terms.

THE INTERVIEW

WITH AUTHOR ROSA L ANTONINI

Q: What was your first thought when you started writing and when?

My first thought came unexpectedly as my mind was wandering about different human struggles. A Zero-Sum Game idea came as a realization that we are the outcome of our continuous internal battles between the leader and the hopeless forces within us. This happened in October 2019.

Q: What literary pilgrimages have you gone on?

I never thought of writing a book or becoming an author before. I'm a Software Engineer by profession, so it is easier for me to write software code than to write words in English. This book was born from a heartfelt inspiration. My book writing process was very challenging, to say the least. I started writing in English, then translating to Spanish, then re-writing in English. I needed to communicate the emotions I was feeling, which often can be lost in the translation.

Q: What is the most unethical practice in the publishing industry?

There are many challenging factors in the publishing industry. I was lucky to get in contact with Kia Harris at KH publishers. They work with first-time black and brown authors whose books strive to bring their readers a constructive message. It has been a pleasure to work with Kia and her team.

Q: Does writing energize or exhaust you?

For me, writing is very energizing. It gives my life a special purpose by enabling me to reach out and connect to others on a large scale. There were some sections of my book that were very emotional to write. I have felt exhausted after but found that in most cases a quick nap allowed me to recharge.

Q: What are common traps for aspiring writers?

Lack of authenticity and lack of confidence. I found that there is so much misleading information in social media which makes some writers insecure and believe that they are not good enough.

Q: What is your writing Kryptonite?

I find it hard to find the motivation to write sometimes when surrounded by apathy and lack of ambition. It can be heartbreaking to see someone drowning just because they choose not to swim.

Q: Have you ever gotten a reader's block?

Not lately but when I was in middle school, I remember having a hard time with history. I just could not get into it. As time went on, I improved once I realized the importance of understanding our history, and the impact it

has on our present and future.

Q: Did you ever consider writing under a pseudonym?

No because I felt that a self-help book should be about being authentic and true to yourself. Keeping my name on it was important. If I ever decide to write a book within another genre, I might use a pen name.

Q: Do you try more to be original or to deliver to readers what they want?

I am always true to my message. I write about what I believe based on my experience and research. I write for the reader, not only thinking about what they want, but what I believe can be helpful to them to make their lives better. Many times, what a person wants to hear is not what will give them the best chance for happiness and fulfillment.

Q: Can someone be a writer if they don't feel emotions strongly?

Emotions are important to a story, but I think that anyone with a story to tell can be a writer. A wonderful way for people to connect emotionally and exchange experiences is through storytelling.

Q: How did publishing your first book change your process of writing?

I learned some techniques and tools during the process that I did not know when I started but it has not changed my motive, message or voice. I write out of love, gratitude, and compassion.

Q: What does literary success look like to you?

Literary success for me is the feedback I receive from a reader telling me how their life has changed positively because of my writings. I feel a great passion for helping others feel a sense of accomplishment and self-fulfilment. Any words I can say or write that can bring hope; any tool I can provide that can enable others to build a better path; Any pain I can help someone to avoid and every family I can help provide better financial means through education and training are what literary success means to me.

Q: What kind of research do you do before beginning a book?

I started writing from impulse and inspiration. As I moved forward and got into different areas, I did some additional research to provide the reader with some facts based on statistics.

Q: How do you feel about your book being listed by DE MODE?

I'm super excited and grateful. I thank you so much for this opportunity.



AMONG THE PINES

BY AUTHOR MATT ANDERSON

The 276-page collection of 15 stories combining fantasies, nightmares and tragedies will make you hooked to your seat till the very last paragraph of the book. As you go through the stories you will find shocking horrifying revelations and unanswered discoveries set through the seasonal decades of the author's native place. Among The Pines by Matt Anderson is a perfect partner, for all horror, mystery, suspense lovers those who love reading in train, cafeteria, Binge reading, travel, office /school.

ABOUT THE BOOK

"Drawing upon the horrors and grim fantasies of contemporary weird fiction authors as well as folklore and history, Matt Anderson offers his first collection of short stories. This collection contains fifteen nightmares, fantasies, and tragedies set entirely in Minnesota. These stories take the reader through the seasons, through the decades, and through the ever-watchful woods on an expedition of unsettling discoveries and horrific revelations."


With Among The Pines, I wanted to write a series of stories that showed how long the shadows of the unknown and obscure can reach, spanning all seasons, all years. I wanted to show that the people in Minnesota when placed in mysterious, tragic, or dire situations often act as people; that is to say, they may act with courage, with fear, with malignancy, like anybody else.


WORLDWIDE BOOK REVIEW OF 'AMONG THE PINES'

The book (Among The Pines) is an exceptionally well-articulated and lucidly written collection of short stories which is based entirely in his hometown Minnesota. I will not share anything about the story, protagonists of this book as I believe it diminishes the hard sweat effort of the author to mesmerize the audience and readers with his / her writing style. Starting from the book title, the cover, the colour theme and the 276-page collection of 15 stories combining fantasies, nightmares and tragedies will make you hooked to your seat till the very last paragraph of the book.

Get your copy of 'Among The Pines' today.

Connect with Author Matt Anderson socially

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THE AUTHOR

Matt has been fascinated with writing fiction since he was six years old, when the dream to become an author was first ingrained. Even when he was that young, he had wanted to make his mark on the world as an author, understanding that the written word, from its first birth as prehistoric cave

paintings and cuneiform script, have been a signature of the human species. He has spent much of the past two decades, however, either writing fiction without the intention of publishing, practising with language and style or simply because he tried to simultaneously take on multiple projects with little progress. Within the past decade, he decided to restructure his personal lifestyle, to try to be himself, to be more confident and less pessimistic – not merely about his writing career but about the world – and, so far, this has seemed to help his writing in great strides.

Although Author Matt has won awards for his writing in middle school and high school, he has been too afraid of submitting his stories to any actual contests or anthologies, whether they are local or much more strenuous and competitive international feats. Rejection is a horror all its own, and it remains to be formidable and difficult to overcome. Writers must be brave enough to work through the voices of critics, and the voice inside themselves. 'Among The Pines' is his only published work to date, but he is constantly working on his next projects. And he is becoming more confident in submitting his works to various publishers and global magazines.

THE INTERVIEW

WITH AUTHOR MATT ANDERSON

Q: What was your first thought when you started writing and when?

I recall being six years old when the urge to be an author really settled into my mind. After further learning about how writing and the part it has played throughout human history, this desire only grew. Though there have been some setbacks, this desire has never left.

Q: What literary pilgrimages have you gone on?

I only have dreams of having enough time and money on my hands to travel to the locations where some of my favourite authors conducted their dreams.

Q: What is the most unethical practice in the publishing industry?

In my research, I've found that publishing companies have been taken over by predatory greed. Being an author has become a swashbuckling competition of who can turn out the most books in the prettiest packages, regardless of quality. This makes it difficult as an aspiring writer to be recognized by readers, and by publishers.

Q: Does writing energize or exhaust you?

When I was younger, the idea of writing thrilled me - I wanted to change the world, change the ills that have plagued society, but reality has made me see differently. Writing is still wonderful, being the tool through which you can share your fantasies and dreams and desires, but the world seems so big.

Q: What are common traps for aspiring writers?

If you do not do your research into each facet of writing (including publishing and legalities), it's very easy to feel overwhelmed. It's all too easy to think that you will just write up your manuscript, rush it out to get published, and the royalties will rush in. But that's not how the writing industry works, I'm afraid.

Q: What is your writing Kryptonite?

All writers have a voice inside which tells them that anything they write, no matter how much effort or time they put into it, will ever stand up to what they perceive as the readers' standards. Each time I sit down to write, I wind up thinking that it is garbage and nobody will ever want to read it.

Q: Have you ever gotten a writer's block?

Yes, frequently. On occasion, I can force myself to write through writer's block, but I wouldn't recommend it. For me, the best thing I can do is to step away from the project and walk through the woods. After some time, I find that the writer's block may still be there, but the words will come more easily.

Q: Did you ever consider writing under a pseudonym?

Yes. My name feels too boring, not very "flashy" for readers, but I've decided that the best thing I can do is to begin associating my name with authorship. Perhaps when I decide to radically play with genres I'm not used to, then I may use a pseudonym.

Q: Do you try more to be original or to deliver to readers what they want?

I have a Hitchcockian desire to always write original works, and to shy away from pandering to the greatest number of readers. I know the risk of making fewer royalties is always there when you're writing original works, but at least I'll be writing what I wish to write.

Q: Can someone be a writer if they don't feel emotions strongly?

Technically, yes. Individuals who have difficulty or who genuinely do not have strong emotions are able to act and fake it very well. But for some readers, it is very easy to tell the difference.

Q: How did publishing your first book change your process of writing?

After publishing my first book, I've found that the general formatting of the document has become more professional, less like the structure of a high school writer. It has also taught me to consider the different characteristics of my work from a perspective other than my own, so that revisions feel more rational and refined.

Q: What's the best way to market your books?

I think there are too many variables to pin down a proper answer. I really wish I knew!

Q: How many unpublished and half-finished books do you have?

For my short fiction, I like to think that that particular list of unfinished works is shortening. I keep multiple shorthand journals for my ideas. For my longer works, I have many "chapter ones."

Q: What kind of research do you do before beginning a book?

For a short story, I generally spend anywhere from a couple of days to a couple of weeks studying information for a story. For a novel-sized project, the duration is anywhere from a week to half a month.

Q: How do you feel about your book being listed by DE MODE?

I'm very honored and pleased to have something I wrote being an addition to a globally-read magazine!



HEIR TO THE EMPIRE: THE NEXT GENERATION

BY AUTHOR JONATHAN TAYLOR


The story is about Martha, who always admired her veteran father. She always dreamt to set her father's example but it could only be possible if she gets selection in the premium military academy.


ABOUT THE BOOK

The initial idea for my authorial debut, *Heir To The Empire: The Next Generation*, actually started out as an off-shoot of a different story. One of the characters in that story was a writer, and I was wondering what kind of stories she would write. The concept I developed regarding what her work would be was initially based on the idea of child soldiers. Nowadays it seems like a cut-and-dry problem no one should ever consider, particularly in wealthy nations, but a quick glance throughout history will reveal a lot more ambiguity surrounding the topic, and that particular ambiguity was something I think said writer character, who also was a teen-aged adventurer with a history of mental illness, would find worth exploring. Over time, as I started wondering what causes the ambiguity, and how various countries or communities would make such a practice not just legal, but justified, I realised the story had too much potential to leave in the hypothetical future of some franchise I hadn't even begun to write yet, so I started writing it myself. Instead of a story about an ongoing war, I decided to write about a cosmopolitan post-war society still dealing with the cleavages the war has left behind. While not officially a part of the curriculum, part of my characters' education as officers is to learn to work alongside other students, accept their differences and find out how their strengths would best work together. The book is aimed much more at how the cadets, my main characters and others, get to know and learn to trust each other, through their common experiences and the hardships they overcome together.

Get your copy of 'Heir To The Empire' today.

Connect with Author Jonathan Taylor socially

 [jonathan.taylor19](https://www.instagram.com/jonathan.taylor19)

 www.demodemagazine.com



THE AUTHOR

The boy who would become Jonathan Taylor was born in 1992 to white-collar parents from blue-collar backgrounds. He grew up in Eastern Europe in a time of important and at times dramatic changes in the world around him. He adjusted to his new and ever-changing world by keeping an open mind

and taking in as much of his surroundings as possible. In his attempts to understand the world, he also created various short stories and other narratives throughout his early life, to make sense of what was going on around him. Not all of his stories found their way to paper, or any written form, in fact, most didn't. His mind kept turning and adjusting the stories that mattered to him, always exploring different perspectives and insights into the world. He soon turned his attention to writing essays, delving more deeply and intricately into particular topics and discussion points that attracted his attention. Outside of his writing and creative endeavours, he was an exemplary child. Dutiful in his schoolwork, kept himself out of trouble and bad crowds, always attempted to be on good behaviour. His goal as a storyteller has morphed over his time in the university as well.

Outside of his writing, Jonathan Taylor enjoys discussing philosophy, history, politics, as well as a variety of other topics. He also spends much of his time reading, be it literature, news, scientific articles, or summaries, as well as analysing, comparing, and contrasting various stories, be they in audio, written, or visual form. His aim as a writer is to be able to sustain himself based solely on his writing.

THE INTERVIEW

WITH AUTHOR JONATHAN TAYLOR

Q: What was your first thought when you started writing and when?

I explained the creational background of the book in its corresponding intro. By the time I had committed to writing it, in July 2019, a lot of the changes I describe were things I settled on. What the book became afterwards was an exercise in imagination and consistency.

Q: What literary pilgrimages have you gone on?

Funny you should call it that, I actually developed the initial concept of my debut book during an internship. The University curriculum required I do one, eventually, and the opportunity presented itself. While there, I refined the ideas I already had, and this new one... started demanding my attention.

Q: What is the most unethical practice in the publishing industry?

Hard to say, I avoided it entirely by choosing to self-publish. On the one hand, it's because I wouldn't accept changes I thought would go against my vision, and was very worried that could happen, on the other, the industry seemed to practice unnecessary gatekeeping.

Q: Does writing energize or exhaust you?

That depends on the content. Action scenes, romantic scenes, and plenty of simples, or more advanced, discussions taking place throughout my work energise me. Descriptions, however, be they of people or buildings or other objects, are much more fickle, and therefore more exhausting.

Q: What are common traps for aspiring writers?

Assuming they actually get along to writing, which a lot of people struggle with, aspiring writers often overemphasise one particular aspect of the writing at the detriment of everything else. Too much worldbuilding, dialogue that is too verbose, overly complicated backstories... In plain speech, they don't know what readers actually look for in books.

Q: Does a big ego help or hurt writers?

When it keeps them from accepting or recognising constructive feedback, it hurts. When it pushes them to seek out ways to improve their craft, it helps. The important thing to note is not necessarily moderation, but awareness as to what allows them to have consistent quality turnover.

Q: What is your writing Kryptonite?

As I've alluded to in a previous answer, description. Not because I can't picture things or say how they look, it's because I want people to imagine for themselves what I describe. As such, every description I write becomes an exercise in sensitivity, giving the audience just enough to allow them to picture the scene.

Q: Have you ever gotten a reader's block?

I have DNF'ed a few books in my day, yes. And also applied the brakes when I noticed it was not working. No one will be on your case if you decided to pause a book for whatever time, and I generally recommend that. The same is true for writer's block, fyi.

Q: Did you ever consider writing under a pseudonym?

I have, and decided I would. Jonathan Taylor is not my birth name, I chose it as a pen name because it suits me, is more palatable to international audiences, and acknowledges my background to a degree.

Q: Do you try more to be original or to deliver to readers what they want?

I don't see the matter being a contradiction, readers want original stories or stories with some sense of originality or innovation. That is true regardless of genre conventions, or what inspiration authors use.

Q: Can someone be a writer if they don't feel emotions strongly?

Technically, yes. Individuals who have difficulty or who genuinely do not have strong emotions are able to act and fake it very well. But for some readers, it is very easy to tell the difference.

Q: How did publishing your first book change your process of writing?

It didn't, but it did change the way I think about marketing and bringing my book out. More precisely, about what I need to do to generate interest and get the word out that my book has been published and might be interesting to readers for xyz reasons.

Q: How many unpublished and half-finished books do you have?

None, I work neatly. And have a spectacular capacity when it comes to memory. I am sadly incapable of displaying it because it's already in use. I have a lot of unpublished short stories though, but those are lost, and will therefore never actually be published.

Q: What kind of research do you do before beginning a book?

I actually do very little, I already have a lot of general knowledge at my disposal, all I need to do is just dip into that pool and I will generally find something that I can use. When I require something more specific, I generally go for a targeted search, something that requires 15 minutes at most.

Q: How do you feel about your book being listed by DE MODE?

I welcome the opportunity and look forward to my article released.



ALEXANDER ALEJO

Photographer Alexander is an advertising fashion photographer, visual designer and artist, with more than 10 years of experience in the creation and production of campaigns, graphic pieces and audiovisual solutions for models, people and companies in Bogota, Colombia.



THE JOURNEY

It all starts with my eternal curiosity towards creation, in wanting to communicate in different ways my perspective of the world that I live in and that I share with people. For this reason at a very young age, I found in graphic arts and alternating with music the best tools to transmit what my restless mind, builds without stopping. In the national university after studying for a diploma in digital photography, I found a connection that allowed me to communicate and explore other expressions. I started with conceptual photography where art was always the inspiration. Time after studying visual design, I found more and more tools to enhance this medium of expression where the mobile image, design, animation among others became my work and my life. Time after working for a Colombian fashion magazine, I found a school of photography specialized in fashion and advertising that although my opinion towards fashion was not the closest, I discovered that I could implement a stamp, leave a mark and communicate with the body and its acting with its expressions and combined with a styling could build a differential, investigating the environment.

I found various references that enhanced and enriched this thought and stamp that I have always wanted to implement and that this is who speaks for me. That is who builds and is the protagonist who conquers various places and media. Now I can say that after many years of struggle (which continues) I can say that I am a photographer of editorial fashion with a little more than 10 works published in international media around the world, including DE MODE.



Always working with impressively talented people, beautiful and original, showing that you can travel without boarding a plane to embark on a ship, that your work transcends borders and that these allow you to be eternal. That's why I'm fighting, that I want now if I board those flights and sail those seas, to conquer these squares and so be able to build more editorials, work on more campaigns and continue telling stories through the models that pose for my lens.

In increasingly diverse scenarios, with garments and designers, with make-up artists and assistants, with comfort and discomfort, with sun or rain with heat or cold, where there is some light there, we can compose and propose every day bold photographs, much more elaborate, that break schemes and say that fashion photography is not perfect, that my photography is and will be irreverent, but with purpose and concept, not an empty one that does not communicate, A photograph that contributes to the brands and my clients, to my models and collaborators, that more and more places and landscapes, that more and more faces and their expressions accompany me.

SERVICES OFFERED BY PHOTOGRAPER ALEXANDER ALEJO

Services I currently provide are fashion photography, advertising photography, commercial photography, product photography, campaigns, as well as audiovisual production for companies and individuals.



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ALEXANDER'S INTERVIEW WITH DE MODE

Q: What was your first thought when you started photography?

Trying to decipher the first thoughts is a complicated task because in my head came up and came up various thoughts, some of amazement, others of questioning some epic and even absurd. The only thing clear is that my mind wanted to continue... I wanted that feeling in my head... in my hands and eyes!

Q: How do you as a photographer make sure that the thing, person or landscape you want to shoot looks the way you want it to?

To assure it is complicated, but I always trust that a good direction, a good planning and above all a good attitude contribute to a great result, however, we will always have to overcome with the fears or limitations of our models and contribute to these through a sample of how they look before the camera is great therapy, for them.

Q: From your point of view, what makes a good picture?

A good image is one that manages to transmit

feelings whether positive or negative, that allow you to investigate, question and even bother, there are good photographs, because if your image has a concept or an intention and someone expresses it there you achieved a great image.

Q: What is your favourite subject to photograph?

Without a doubt I would say that fashion photography, but not the perfect fashion that everyone talks about but the real fashion, the one that has no margin of perfection that does not limit the model, nor the styling that does not put in perfect locations and neat a perfect model, but the one that allows you to tell and transmit that allows you to explore art, fashion, commercial and what does not fit.

Q: Since the photography techniques and equipment change quickly, it is important to stay up-to-date. What do you do to always keep up with the times?

Clearly it is an important and necessary factor, but it depends on you as a photographer to know how to do and know how to be, if for various reasons you do not have enough money for last category equipment, you must make the most of your equipment, but you must always investigate, study and implement new techniques and

even try to be one step ahead. But becoming a photographer is a long road and brings with its equipment and techniques.

Q: Nowadays almost everyone has access to devices with which it is possible to take pictures. What do you think is the difference between a professional photographer and any other hobby photographer?

The difference is in the eye that is behind each tool, be it a mobile device or a professional camera, if you know how to communicate if you know how to compose and if you know the technique and most importantly you have the sensitivity that makes you a real photographer.

Q: Are you a detail-oriented person?

I would not know how to answer this question, the client has a need and we must meet that need, but from my perspective it is important to give opinions and advise our client.

Q: Which one is your favourite lens and why do you prefer it?

Without a doubt the 50mm 1.8 allows you to do many things, it is a beautiful lens to portray, a lens with bokeh on its point, additional it is versatile for photo and video is a perfect lens.

Q: Who influenced you the most? Is there any other photographer that you considers a kind of idol?

One of my most important references is without a doubt the master Peter Lindbergh, who allowed me to question myself in what I do today, the treatment of light, the direction of models, his spots, his look is something that inspires me and challenges me to be a better photographer every time.

Q: Among your works, which one is your favourite? Why?

A publishing house that I managed together with a great team majo barbosa, maleja and my younger brother, where each one inspired and contributed his contribution to achieve some incredible photos that managed a publishing house and a back cover for an Italian magazine.

Q: What, in your opinion, is most important to consider while shooting portrait pictures?

Capture the essence of whom you have in front of you to get that person to open his soul and allow you to capture it.

Q: Which editing software do you usually use? As for how good would you describe your skills in that software?

Photoshop and lightroom are my main working tools

for post-production that I use, I'm interested in using them and getting the most out of them so I study these and their infinite possibilities and tools without leaving others like lain aside I'm beginning to investigate it.

Q: In your free time, what kind of pictures do you like to shoot and which ones do you avoid?

I think I still have a lot to prove as far as photography is concerned I love to capture and compose, maybe political photography is something that doesn't kill me, but it is even a challenge to me to prove what that is.

Q: How do you feel about working with DE MODE?

It was a rewarding experience that I would like to repeat and that I hope will be accompanied by good rewards, I expect a new project soon.



MOFIN MAQUILLADORA de Bogotá



Maria Fernanda Clavijo Torres, nickname, Mofin, works independently as a professional makeup artist in Bogota, Colombia. She recently worked on a global project of Thailand Fashion Week, in association with DE MODE, and that's how she came into the limelight. Also, her fabulous work made it to the front cover of the magazine.

Being a pro in artistic & editorial makeup, she has been fascinated with art since she can remember and has always loved creating new colours by mixing them. The fact of giving life to a drawing, adding shadows and blending pigments was just relaxing for her. Whenever she was found painting or drawing, people asked her if she does not get tired, to which, she always responded that this brings her a lot of serenity.

BEAUTIFUL RELATION WITH HER MOTHER

When she was a child, she remember her admiring her mother putting on makeup. She always think that her mother was so talented. She was the only woman Mofin met using colourful eyeshadows every day, people always were impressed with her beautiful eyes, her eyebrows and mouth. She used to ask her how does she make up herself and things like that.

She used to think she was going to be a graphic designer but it never sounded like a serious career option to many close people. So, she felt a bit lost about what to do when she finished school. During the interview, when we asked her the question "How did you decide to be a make-up artist?", she remembered the time when she went to an event where different universities attended to show the careers they offer to the school students. Everybody was determined for something. She wanted to see which universities have medicine, also she requested everyone to accompany her to find her dream career. All of them were saying. "Ok, I will go with you," but the interesting moment of that day was when she found a University with careers related to art. She saw a lot, but just one

caught her attention. Yes, it was the makeup artist's career. She did not know this could be a career and the possibility to be able to study further in Colombia. In the end, she did not have enough money to study for a career. She felt everything was lost, but life give her the opportunity to study with a scholarship and there is where everything started. She was studying a career that mix the two topics that made her feel pleased. The beauty and the art. While she was studying, the present day was more exciting than the day before. She concluded her studies successfully, and she was one of the best students in the class. The teachers were so proud of her work, and for the first time she felt was doing things well.

No lies, the truth is that she did not get good makeup projects the first year because of Covid. But one day, when her hopes were gone, an old friend from school called her and asked her to work for him. Then she was working for his photographer's colleagues and finally when she least expect it she was working for an important Colombian Brand and an international magazine. And she is ready for more, whatever life wants for her.



interview

PHOTO: NICOLÁS MATEO PRIETO RODRÍGUEZ | MAKEUP: MOFIN

Q: How old were you when you became obsessed with make-up?

I was always obsessed with how my mother make up herself, she was so talented. She looked gorgeous, and the make-ups looks she made, were not common here where I live. But in 2016 make-up become important on the internet and when I was 16 I realize being a make-up artist could be a profession.

Q: When did you decide “okay, this is it, I’m going to be a professional make-up artist?”

Since I was a child, I fancy about art, drawing and painting. When I found a career in Colombia, I just take the opportunity and I did it before think it.

Q: What were the early days of your career like? Did you have to test a lot in the beginning to build your book?

Well, I finished my career in December 2019, and the covid arrive, so it was not a good beginning. But finally starting in 2021 someone believe in my talent and there everything started. I am still building my book, every day there is something new to test.

Q: Tell us what a dream job is for you?

Working around the world, be able to eat and live every day thanks to my job, meeting famous people and make-up artists I admire.

Q: Who are some people that have inspired you throughout your career?

Firstly my mother, as I told you. And talking about famous make-up artists Mimi Choi, Doniella Davy, Kirsten Coleman, Divinamuse and Hotin Catalina.

Q: How long have you been a makeup artist and how did you get your start in the industry?

I do not have the experience I would like to have because it is not too much, maybe two years, but I am still 19, there is a long way to go. I started working for photographers, and they recommended me in their work field.

Q: What do you love most about make-up?

The fact that you do not do the same thing every single day, you can experiment. Colours, techniques, products. Being a make-up artist is not predictable.

Q: If you weren’t a makeup artist, what else would you do?

I still would like to taste a lot of professions, I am young and someday I would like to learn digital art

and be a tattoo artist. By the way, I am studying Modern Languages at the University because I fancy travel and working outside.

Q: How would you describe your signature look and what is it about your style that sets you apart from other make-up artists?

I am looking for my style, I like to try everything that catches my attention and someday decide what to do in the future. Also, I think that getting out of my comfort zone is a chance to learn something new, so I am open to learning more. Something interesting about me is that I need to have a perfect result because if I do not, I will try the times it requests.

Q: What are the three tools in your make-up kit that you can never, ever be without?

Actually, I think everything is really important, we use a lot of tools and products. But I will say the moisturizing cream because the skincare before is indispensable. The second one are the false eyelashes, I have different types of them depending on the make-up. And the last one will be concealer because we can get a beautiful look just using it.

Q: What is the most important beauty advice that you can give to women?

Take care of your skin. Using make-up is more than just putting many products on. Your skin needs to be cleaned, toned up, moisturized and protected. That is the true beauty secret woman need to know before make-up tips.

Q: What are some common beauty mistakes that women make?

As I was telling you, skincare should be a routine that everybody needs to implement in their lives. Mostly if you use make-up, and you want to have a good result and look pretty.

Q: What products do you think should be a staple in every woman's purse?

I really like the make-up no-makeup look, it is how I make up myself. I advise always taking a good concealer, a foundation that mixes you, maybe something to brush their eyebrows, waterproof mascara and nude lipstick. Also, you could have a fixer to end the make-up and make it durable.

Q: What's your favourite makeup brush?

Hard question because everyone has their function, but if I have to choose one I will go for the eyebrows thin brush because you could use them for eyebrows, eyeliner and lips.

Q: Advice for young make-up artists.

I do not know if I am ready to give advice because I am still young but guys, do not be afraid of what people think about your dreams and your career. Be happy doing whatever you want.

Q: What is your favourite quote?

Be persistent with the things you want.

Q: How do you feel about your interview with DE MODE?

Gratefully and exciting to show a bit of myself to the spectators of the magazine. It is the biggest goal I have done.



PARADISE TOUR

Bogotá, Colombia





JAIME DUQUE PARK, BOGOTÁ, COLOMBIA

Jaime Duque Park is a family-oriented amusement park located in the Tocancipá municipality of the Metropolitan Area of Bogotá, Colombia. The park contains the Jaime Duque Zoo, the Museum of Mankind, as well as replicas of several major locations and buildings from around the world. A monorail runs through the park to help get guests from one area to another. The monorail has been replaced by a panoramic train. The park also has an outdoor stage for live performances. Here, the park has hosted performances by musicians such as Kylie Minogue, Guns N' Roses, Jamiroquai, The Killers, David Guetta, Paulina Rubio and Evanescence.

Parque Jaime Duque completes with a replica Taj Mahal and many other wonders.

The Taj Mahal (original) is an immense mausoleum of white marble, built in Agra, India between 1631 and 1648 by the Mughal Emperor Shah Jahan in honor of her favorite wife Mumtaz Mahal. It contains the tombs of both Mumtaz and Shah Jahan. It is the jewel of Muslim art in India and one of the universally admired masterpieces of the world's heritage.

This Colombian Park is a 100% non-profit entity, built without official or private assistance, which allocates the income to its maintenance, to the construction of new cultural scenarios, to support causes in favor of the helpless childhood and old age, to finance environmental education activities and conservation of ecosystems and endangered species. In general, it aims to rescue the principle of social solidarity and through the proper use of free time help build values, family, and society.



CATEDRAL PRIMADA DE COLOMBIA

The Cathedral Metropolitan Basilica of Bogotá & Primate of Colombia, officially the Cathedral Basilica Metropolitan & Primate of the Immaculate Conception & Saint Peter of Bogotá, is a Roman Catholic cathedral located at the eastern side of Bolívar Square in Bogotá, D.C., Colombia. It is seat of the Archbishop of Bogotá, Luis José Rueda Aparicio. The Cathedral was built four times in the same place. The first construction took place between 1556-1565 to replace the original thatched chapel, but due to poor foundation, it later collapsed. The second construction took place around 1572, yet the earthquake of 1785 reduced it to ruins. The fourth and final construction occurred between 1807 and 1823. It is said to be built by descendants of Jesuit missionaries. When the Spanish conquerors officially founded the city of Bogotá, they established 12 huts and a hay-church, that -after being built- would take the name of Archbishopric Cathedral of Bogotá. The cathedral holds the remains of Gonzalo Jiménez de Quesada, founder of Bogotá. The cathedral, its area 5,300 square meters, is the biggest in Colombia and one of the biggest ones in South America.

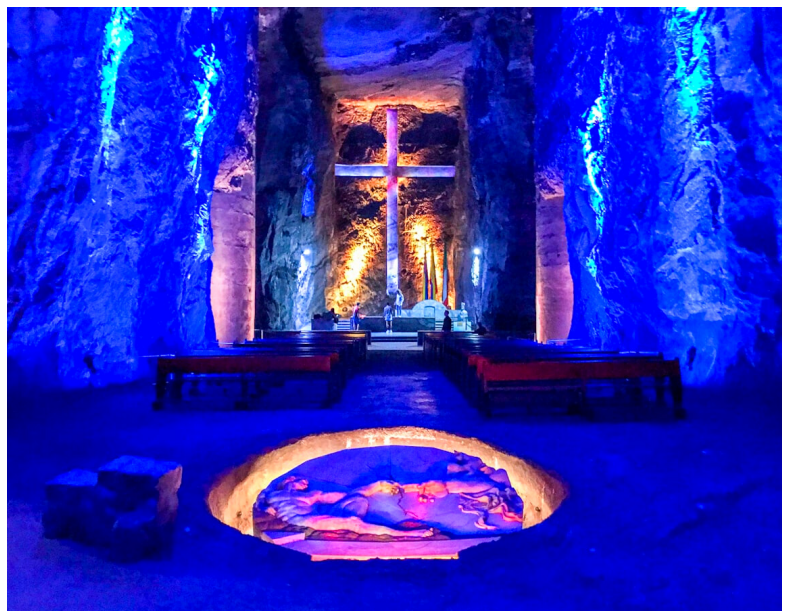


The Salt cathedral is considered one of the most notable achievements of Colombian architecture, being described as a "Jewel of Modern Architecture". The cathedral represents a valuable cultural, environmental, and religious patrimony for the Colombian people. The cathedral is a functioning church that receives as many as 3,000 visitors on Sundays, but it has no bishop and therefore no official status as a cathedral in Catholicism



SALT CATHEDRAL

The Salt Cathedral of Zipaquirá is an underground Roman Catholic church built within the tunnels of a salt mine 200 meters underground in a halite mountain near the city of Zipaquirá, in Cundinamarca, Colombia. It is a tourist destination and place of pilgrimage in the country. The temple at the bottom has three sections, representing the birth, life, and death of Jesus. The icons, ornaments, and architectural details are hand carved in the halite rock. Some marble sculptures are included.





CAÑO CRISTALES

Caño Cristales is a Colombian river located in the Serranía de la Macarena province of Meta, and is a tributary of the Guayabero River. It was found in 1969, by a group of cattle farmers. The river is commonly called the "River of Five Colors" or the "Liquid Rainbow," and is noted for its striking colors. The bed of the river from the end of July through November is variously colored yellow, green, blue, black, and especially red, the last caused by *Macarenia clavigera* plants on the riverbed.

ROSARIO ISLANDS

The Rosario Islands also referred to as Corales Islas del Rosario, is an archipelago located off the coast of Colombia, approximately 100 kilometers from Cartagena. It is one of the 46 Natural National Parks of Colombia.

The national park was founded in 1988, to protect one of the most important coral reefs of the Colombian Caribbean coast. People can visit the national park area of the islands, and tours are available. Isla Rosario has an aquarium and open-sea oceanarium that people can visit. Activities include swimming, snorkeling, and fishing, among others.



LAS LAJAS SANCTUARY

The National Shrine Basilica of Our Lady of Las Lajas, commonly called Las Lajas Shrine, is a basilica church located in southern Colombia. The basilica is situated within the municipality of Ipiales, in the Nariño Department, and is built inside the canyon of the Guáitara River. The present church was built in a Gothic style between 1916 and 1949, taking up a total time frame of 33 years to build. The name Laja comes from the name of a type of flat sedimentary rock similar to shale and slate. It is a popular pilgrimage site for Christians from both Colombia and neighboring Ecuador, due to the legend of a Marian apparition that is purported to have taken place here in the 18th century.





STOP WAR

A promotional poster for Thailand Fashion Week. Two models are featured against a plain grey background. The model on the left has long black hair and is wearing a black lace crop top and matching black lace pants. The model on the right has short brown hair and is wearing a black backless top and white trousers. The text 'THAILAND FASHION WEEK' is overlaid on the left model's torso. The main headline 'PHYSICAL RUNWAY IS BACK' is centered in large white letters. At the bottom, event details and application information are provided in smaller white text.

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