

Media Kit

**International
Release**

**15 September
2022**

When Robbie is delegated onto Annie and Cat's project to run a public songwriting contest, he's convinced he'll connect romantically with Annie, a single mother on the verge of relaunching her singing career. Annie is furious, and Cat terrifies Robbie.

Yet the professional and relationship mayhem at Merger Music runs deeper than the contest chaos.

Annie's ex-lover, and still legally her manager, reappears after nine years and demands joint custody of their eight-year-old son. Cat's volunteer work is financially and emotionally draining. How much can her heart bleed for others before someone bleeds for her?

Robbie's going to be the hottest manager of rock stars in Australia, if he can just navigate through a negative minefield: his family. And their CEO's weakness for starlets creates a scandal that threatens to destroy everything they're all working for.

Can you find your true self, let alone love, in a business built on sex, drugs, and rock 'n' lies?

MORE TEXT THAN SEX - MEDIA RELEASE

More Text Than Sex by Jim Shomos explores the disarming and unifying power of music, despite the chaotic industry that often creates it. Along the way we get a glimpse of a unique angle into the music biz: the increasingly challenging times for non-performing songwriters. The fictitious record label, Merger Music, is part wink to Melbourne's 'Mushroom Music', part grimace to the corporatisation of heritage labels. As the Merger CEO proudly says, "This is the music biz, leave your common sense at the door".

While surviving the contest chaos, sexual tension and complex personal lives, their passion for music spins Annie, Cat and Robbie into a confronting version of sanity. Within the chaos, Shomos weaves in cheeky intimacy, and a fun romantic story. As award winning singer/songwriter Tania Doko wrote, "*This book is much deeper than an edgy contemporary romance, More Text Than Sex is a slow dance with the very soul of music.*"

READER REVIEWS

This story hooked me like a great song and I can't get bits of it out of my head. Every time I felt like slapping Annie, Cat, or Robbie for their dumb behaviour, they pivot in a way that surprised and endeared me more. Much deeper than an edgy contemporary romance, More Text Than Sex is a slow dance with the very soul of music. Tania Doko, award-winning singer/songwriter.

I'm often consumed by the story within a song, what a treat to dive into the song within this insatiable story. Jim Shomos is a literary rock star! Marcelle, Singer/Songwriter

BOOK DETAILS

Genre: Contemporary Fiction, Contemporary Romance - romantic elements, Enemies to Lovers, Dating & Relationships, Friendship

Target Audience: Women 18-55yo - Secondary: Men 25-55yo

AVAILABLE WORLDWIDE

ISBN: eBook: 9780645045871

ISBN: Paperback: 9780645045888

ISBN: Large Print Edition: 9780645045895



Jim's stories have skipped across film, TV, web, radio, songs and novels.

His first novel published in 2020, *Up Here*, began life as a screenplay and was shortlisted in the top-5 of the Australian Writers' Guild's 'Romantic-comedy competition' alongside international bestseller, *The Rosie Project*.

He has collected nominations and awards in Cannes, Film Victoria and the Australian Writers' Guild.

A passion for Haigh's Chocolates, Arsenal, Melbourne Victory, cycling and blueberry muffins. Sometimes cycling for blueberry muffins.

INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

What is the book about?

How music—more than any other medium—brings people together, no matter their background, beliefs, gender or language.

The messiness of romantic relationships in an industry that magnifies the mess.

Love can't find you until you find yourself.

How do you hope it will help others?

Firstly and most importantly, the book is entertainment. You try to give readers a few hours away from their daily grind with an engaging story and characters. That is the essential magic of books.

While peaking into the world of music and songwriting, maybe readers will be inspired to find their own bit of creativity. It could be as simple as painting the number on their letterbox pink and orange! Maybe the way they stack the kids' lunch boxes on the bench. Find your moments of creative madness within the mundane.

You don't find your purpose in life by sitting on the couch. Sure, meditation and contemplation is valuable, but self-discovery and creativity is sharpened by doing.

No matter how messy your life feels, there is always room for love. There is always someone for you.

Where did the catchy title come from?

More Text Than Sex was a song first. It's not about sex. It's about how the more communication toys we get, the less we connect. The song plays an organic role in the story, so the book title, *More Text Than Sex* made sense.

Why did you decide to write this book?

Songwriting, as a lyricist, was my original creative passion. My first songwriting partner, Russell Zimmer and I won a contest run by a regional radio station with one of our early collaborations. I wouldn't show that lyric to anyone now! BUT... the contest win helped me bluff my way onto my first TV writing gig as a copywriter on *Sale of the Century*. Which later

led to my first screenwriting gig (for the same company) as storyliner on Neighbours. I chipped away at the screenwriting craft professionally for 20+ years.

As record labels shrunk, merged and corporatised, opportunities for non-performing songwriters diminished, especially in Australia. At the same time the emergence of digital media created new outlets for singer-songwriters. This is all under the claustrophobic statistic that today's music market in the USA is 70% old music. That depressing stat for creators of new music is probably similar in most western markets.

This story is an ode to the craft of songwriting and in particular, the non-performing songwriters in the world.

BOOK QUOTES

Metabolism is a choosy bitch, and she didn't choose me. Cat

Music never judges us but it sometimes helps us question. Cat

If there was anything she'd learnt about sex and love, it was the unpredictability. Hearts and pheromones had an eclectic playlist. Annie

The teenager greeted her with that brace-filled smile that one day would make men melt, but she made sure Aoham understood it was the commitment to her studies that would make men malleable. Annie about her babysitter.

They jammed like they'd rehearsed the tune a million times, not the first, just Lachie and her squeezing sweet juices from the fruits of music. Pure organic joy. Annie on bongos, her 8yo son on drums

If you could nail their hug in a melody, it would be the top downloaded track forever. Cat about her and Annie

"People don't listen to words in great songs, they feel them." It was the paradox of art—the more personal the emotion, the more universal the connection. Cat to a troubled teenager she's mentoring

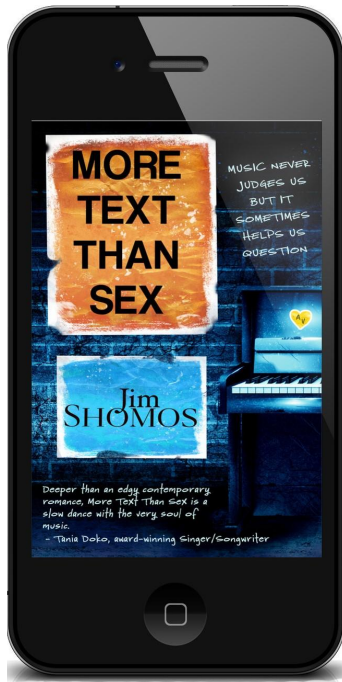
Nothing she could do. Nothing was her weakest link. Cat

Sometimes you just need to be there, not leading with personal prejudices or pushing your values from behind. Just be there. In this moment of fear and angst for Annie, the magic of friendship was the magic of friendship. Just be there. Cat

If you don't like a song, tell 'em it's got potential. Every song's got potential—you can rewrite the whole fucker if you have to." Merger Music CEO, Delaney

We all do stupid some time in our life. Hell, I lived most of my twenties and thirties way south of stupid. I invented more stupid than the Beatles had hit records. Merger Music CEO, Delaney

This is the music biz, leave your common sense at the door. Delaney



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ALSO AVAILABLE



Jim's debut novel, **Up Here**

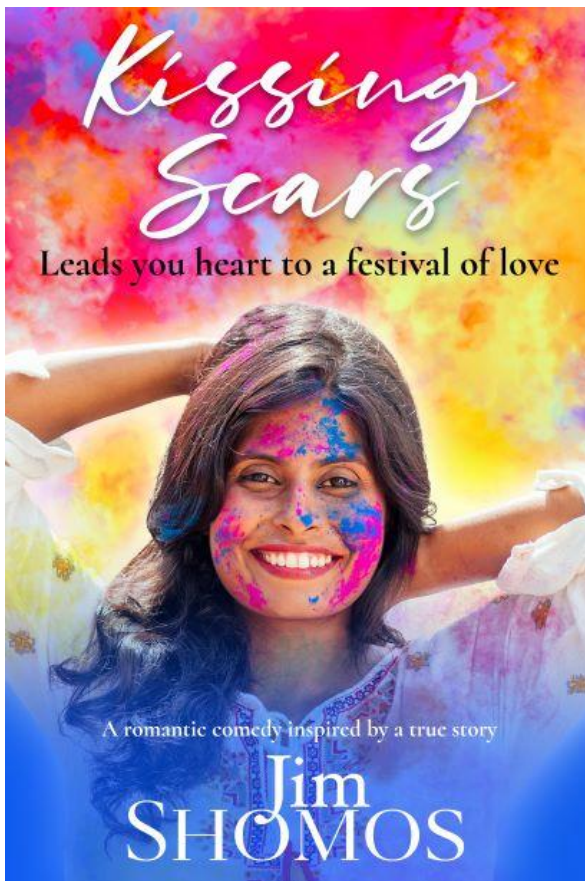
When you've had two dream marriages, choosing your eternal soulmate in heaven is one hell of a dilemma.

www.JimShomos.com/up-here

*The most original romantic-comedy this century. Artisan Book Reviews, 5**

*Up Here touched my soul, a beautiful romantic comedy about love, hope and courage. Alli, 5**

*Jim Shomos must have written this with a twinkle in his eyes, as moving as it is funny. Ella, 5**



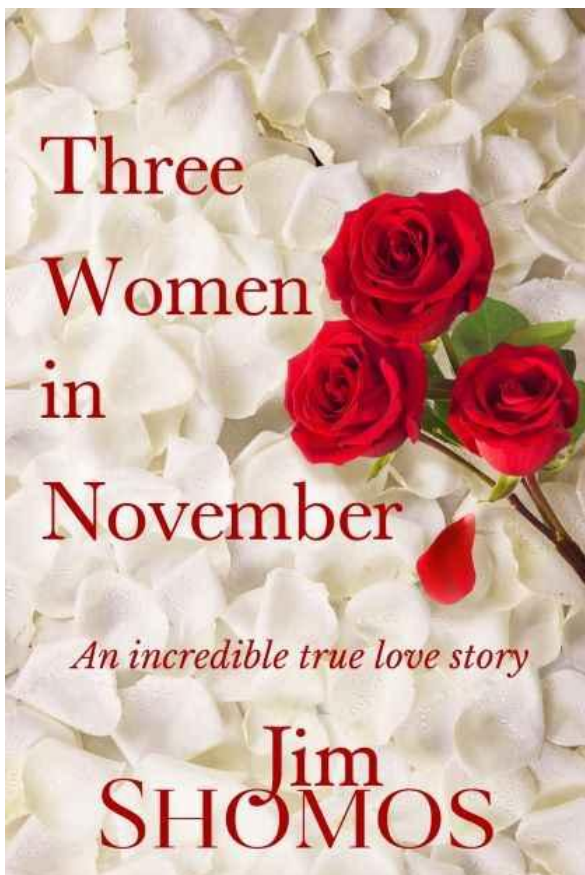
Kissing Scars

Leads your heart to a festival of love. A romantic comedy novella inspired by a true story.

*Shomos has created another remarkable romantic comedy that leaves you suspended right alongside Sanaya and Leo. Jess 5**

*Intoxicating, organic, and simply breathtaking. The Never Ending Bookshelf, 5**

www.JimShomos.com/kissing-scars



Three Women in November

Based on a true story, Three Women in November sends you on a safari into the complex jungle of contemporary relationships, with three high-achieving women and an almost extinct beast: a ro-man-tic.

*Leo's heart rolls from one potential car wreck to another. You want to close your eyes, but just keep reading. Rosalie, director/producer, 5**

*I loved this book. I could relate to everything that Leo endured. The pain, the joy, and putting your life on edge for that chance to find true love. A great read, despite the tears streaming down my face. Michele, 5**

*Romantic, funny, confronting. An addictive story to the end. - Shannon, 5**

<https://jimshomos.com/three-women-in-november>