

LYRICS FOR ROCK STARS

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PUBLICATION DATE

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BISAC FIC029000 FICTION /
Short Stories (single author)

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MARKETING & PUBLICITY

National Media Outreach: Print, Electronic,
Traditional, and Social including:

- Book Club Programs
- Library Promotions
- University Readings
- Writing Conferences/Organizations/Groups
- Workshop Events with Readings

KEY SELLING POINTS

1. Compelling stories—together, they rise in harmonic commentary on the West's past and present.
2. Written in crisp clean prose, a deeper look reveals that attention to even the finest detail has built momentum and meaning.
3. This collection will make you cry, laugh, and marvel at the hidden ways history affects our lives.
4. These stories trace hope through the long unfolding of generations and time.

AUTHOR AWARDS

V Press LC Compilation Book Prize Winner
Colorado Book Awards Finalist
Danahy Fiction Prize Winner
Arther Edelstein Prize Winner

ONLINE

V Press LC Author Page
<http://heathermateussappenfield.com>

DESCRIPTION

Lyrics for Rock Stars is a collection of seventeen stories—some historical, some contemporary—all set in the West. Involving skiers, ranchers, cyclists, suffragettes, tourists, super models, dead pigs, burro racers, religious beet farmers, immigrant miners, scorned lovers, penitent centenarians, and musicians, they are as varied as the region's landscape. Some involve kids surviving the choices of the adults around them. Some involve those adults. Three of the stories are humorous. In one story, a fourteen-year-old girl's sexual awakening takes form in a crush on an older cowboy as she starts to understand her parents' rocky history. In another, an eight-year-old girl is forced to comfort her pregnant mother on the night her father has left for another woman. In the title story, a very pregnant gold-digger understands the error of her ways and, spurred by a meeting with a singing hippie, tries to start a new life. All of the stories explore how society's values clash with our individual desires, and the ways we weave our lives through these opposing forces, often creating not of a lifeline, but a noose.

Heather Mateus Sappenfield



AUDIENCE

Anyone twenty-plus years of age who enjoys literary fiction. The stories are accessible and active enough to cross into upmarket literary fiction and upmarket women's fiction. Fans of Pam Houston's *Cowboys Are My Weakness* and Bonnie Jo Campbell's *American Salvage* will enjoy this collection. Lovers of the West and its history will revel in these stories.

AUTHOR BIO

Heather Mateus Sappenfield's writing explores the adventures that fill life, often in the Rocky Mountain landscape that has been her lifelong home. She's fascinated by the many selves each of us becomes in our varied roles throughout the day (some we like, some we do not), and her writing often delves into the internal adventure of juggling those multiple selves.

PRAISE

"An exploration of the inner lives of marriage and mountain towns, the stories in *Lyrics for Rock Stars* rise like the foothills to meet the peaks...Sappenfield knows the modern West."— Nicole Magistro, owner of Bookworm of Edwards & 2015 judge for Kirkus Prize for Fiction.

"["Indian Prayer" is] finely observed...painstakingly crafted...Every element has been fitted in a way that rewards even an unpracticed eye turned to the hidden stitchery of fiction." — *The Review Review*.

Wow!...a rousing literary adventure...Sappenfield's courageous children bring you to tears as they work their way through the messes adults make for them. These vivid, muscular stories make me feel glad to be human. — Bonnie Jo Campbell, author of *Mothers, Tell Your Daughters*, National Book Awards & NBCC Finalist



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