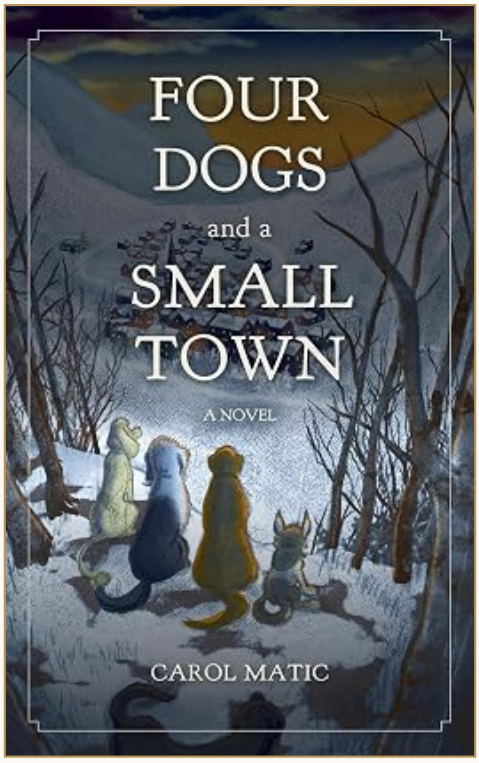


PUBLISHED NOVEMBER 1, 2026

“Four dogs in a small town help their humans navigate love, loss, and life in 1965.”

In 1965, widower Alvin Klepacki's dog, Jenny, decides her human has gone long enough without a conversation that goes beyond the weather. With fellow dogs Milo, Pfifers and Oscar, she sets a matchmaking plan in motion. The scheme soon grows more complicated, because the other dogs' humans bring problems of their own: some tied to the battlefields of World War II, others to an uncertain future.

Publisher	SevenEightNine Press
Published	November 1, 2026
Length	423 pages
Genre	Historical fiction, with magical realism and a touch of romance
Setting	A small town, 1965
Formats	Paperback ($19.00) and ebook ($9.99)

A Novel for Readers Who Like Their History Warm

Four Dogs and a Small Town is an ensemble novel set in the year 1965, when, as the book puts it, the times are changing for everyone. The dogs set the plot in motion, and the humans carry the history, in a blend of historical fiction, magical realism and a touch of romance.

Who It Is For

- Readers of historical fiction set in the 1960s, including those drawn to the postwar generation.
- Readers who enjoy ensemble, small-town stories with humour and heart.
- Dog lovers, and book clubs and reading groups looking for a warm, discussable novel.

Review copies and inquiries

Digital review copy available on request.
info@carolmaticbooks.com • carolmaticbooks.com

About the Book

Widower Alvin Klepacki never imagined that something as simple as walking his dog could change his life, and he was right. It didn't.

Jenny did.

Jenny is Alvin's dog, although who owns who is an open question.

Frustrated over Alvin's refusal to engage in life – specifically in the area of discussing more than the weather with fellow dog walker Sylvia Babenko – Jenny, along with fellow dogs Milo, Pfifers, and Oscar, come up with a plan.

But what starts as a simple case of matchmaking soon turns into a much more complicated enterprise. Oscar and Pfifers have their own humans with problems. Some are tied to the past on the battlefields of World War II, others on the uncertainty of the future. It's 1965, and the times, for everyone, are a-changing.

Publisher's description, as it appears on the book's retail pages.

At a Glance

Setting	A small town in 1965
Central characters	Alvin Klepacki, a widower; Sylvia Babenko, a fellow dog walker; and the dogs Jenny, Milo, Pfifers and Oscar
Themes	Love, loss, the long shadow of World War II, and facing an uncertain future
Tone	Warm and humorous, with magical realism and a touch of romance

For Librarians: Where It Fits and How to Order

Adult fiction, historical fiction, and book club or reading group collections. The paperback and ebook are both available through library channels:

Paperback	Listed in the Ingram catalogue under the SevenEightNine Press imprint.
Ebook, library	OverDrive/Libby and Hoopla, through Draft2Digital.
Ebook, retail	Amazon, Apple Books, Barnes & Noble and other online retailers.

About the Author

Carol Matic is a Jersey native and a former librarian who loves dogs. She writes for librarians on her blog, *Second Look Books*, where she reviews vintage children's books for budget-conscious collections, and she documents her path into self-publishing on a second blog, *On the Trail of Rogue Lits*. *Four Dogs and a Small Town* is her novel for adult readers.

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Self-publishing blog	On the Trail of Rogue Lits • onthetrailofroguelits.blogspot.com
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Early Reader Response

4.46 Goodreads rating from six advance-copy ratings (as of Oct 30, 2026)	**967** readers added it to Goodreads want-to-read (as of Oct 30, 2026)	**5.0** Amazon rating from two ratings (November 2026)

These are early figures for a newly released novel and are shown as published on each site.

Book Details for Cataloguing

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Digital review copy available on request. Please write to info@carolmaticbooks.com.

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