

Where did you come from, colored child?

What bones broke to make you?"

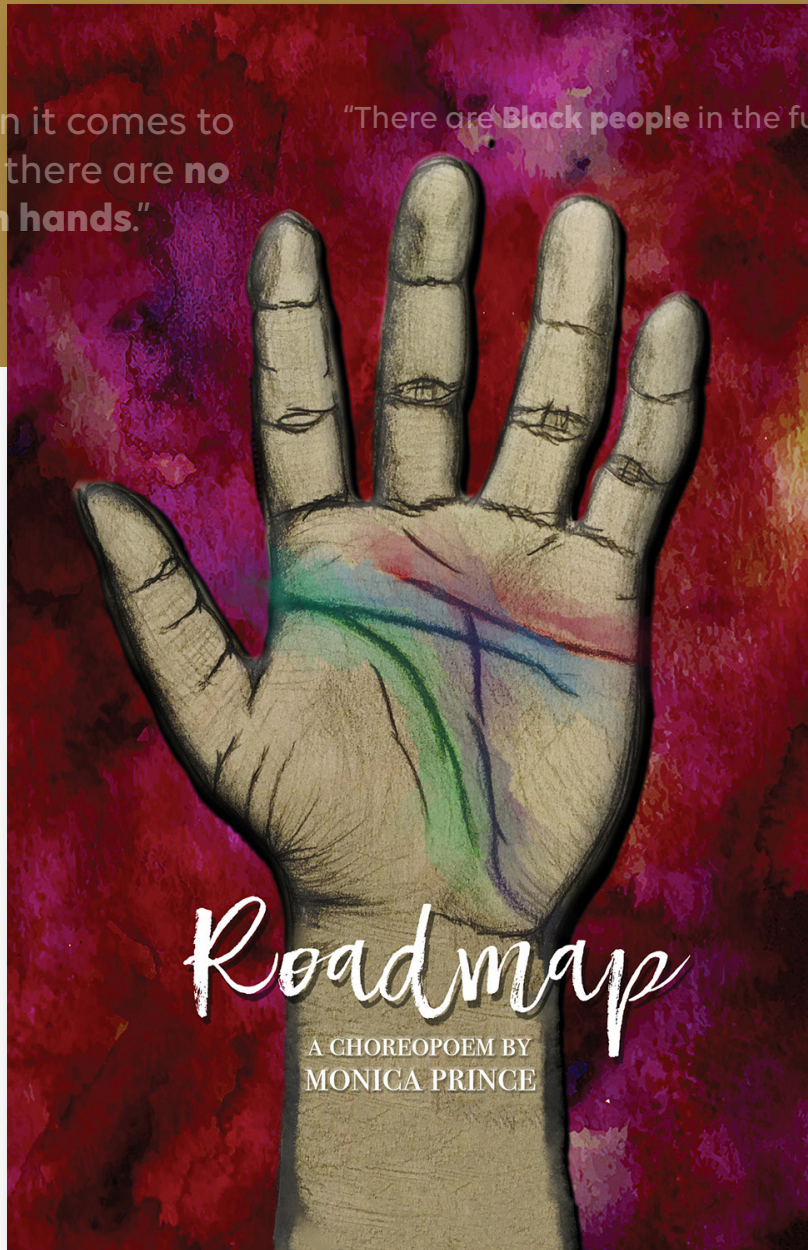
"Who will tell my mother her son is a map of every way Black men can die?"

"When it comes to love, there are no clean hands."

"There are Black people in the future. They grow up. They grow old."

"Every child is named (fwp), but we each spell it differently."

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About the Author

Monica Prince teaches activist and performance writing at Susquehanna University. Her books include *How to Exterminate the Black Woman: A Choreopoem*, *Instructions for Temporary Survival*, and *Letters from the Other Woman*. Born to Guyanese parents and obsessed with maxi skirts with pockets, she writes, teaches, directs, and performs choreopoems all over the country, but is mostly found on Twitter @poetic_moni or on her website, monicaprince.com.

sfwp)

Praise for *Instructions for Temporary Survival*

"*Instructions for Temporary Survival* is a book concerned with naming oneself, with claiming an identity in a world that seems bent on tearing us apart...or as the poet Monica Prince herself says, '...we'd wake up and claim our new / names. Pay attention to this new / insurrection.'" Constantly moving between—and surviving—opposing poles, this book's speaker seems to rise from the rubble into an identity of resonating song: "Remember, beloved: you are unlit candle, / unlocked door, razor blade freshly sharpened." This is a beautiful debut!"

—Jericho Brown, Pulitzer-Prize winning author of *The Tradition*

"Monica Prince triumphs with this first collection of poems, elaborations on African American experience, from a grandmother's cane wine to Malcolm X to rape survival to Michelle Obama's portrait in the National Gallery. She complicates her identities as she inscribes them into verse documents. Each poem is well wrought, powerful, passionate, and wise."

—Denise Low, Kansas Poet Laureate, author of *ShadowLight*

"In her collection *Instructions for Temporary Survival*, poet Monica Prince speaks directly to her reader in an invitation as much as an instruction. These poems are easy to love, the verses are carefully crafted reflections on surviving illness, caregiving, grief, love, loss, and asking as many questions as it offers lessons. Each line is intentional, weighty, and engaging as eavesdropping on grown folks' conversations."

—Suzi Q. Smith, author of *A Gospel of Bones*

"Like lit candles, one after another, the poems in *Instructions for Temporary Survival* draw on an old yet startling permanence of sheer human will: to live, and to love. To glow hot, to insist."

—Laura Newbern, author of *Love and the Eye*

From *How to Exterminate the Black Woman*

"I don't know how it couldn't change everyone who reads it for the better."

—Jessica Fischhoff, author of *The Desperate Measure of Undoing*

"This 'choreopoem'—a series of poems arranged like a stage play—is one of those works of art that makes you want to jump out of your chair and shout with rage, or despair, or triumph, as those moods cycle through the work. I won't summarize what Prince has done in this book, because it's too good. ...Just go buy it."

—Katharine Coldiron, Book and Film Globe reviewer

"The personas in *How to Exterminate the Black Woman* explore generational trauma, domestic violence, patriarchal oppression, and racial oppression. Within these cultural explorations, Prince raises a call to action for the oppressed and for the oppressors."

—Kristiane Weeks-Rogers, author of *Self-Anointment with Lemons*

Appearances

- TV appearance on La Pitchoune cooking show premiering on Magnolia Network (formerly DIY Network), Fall 2022
- Live Reading at Bucknell University, January 23, 2023
- Erotic Writing Workshop with White Whale Bookstore in Pittsburgh, PA, February 4, 11, 18, & 25
- AWP panel on polyamorist writing, March 5
- New Orleans Poetry Festival, April 28-30
- Live Performance of How to Exterminate the Black Woman and Roadmap with the Center for African American Poetry & Poetics in Pittsburgh, PA, June 9-11
- Live Book Launch with the CommUnity Zone and Mondragon Books, July 7
- Virtual reading with Literary Cypher, July 11
- Virtual Readings on the Pike, July 13
- Virtual Literary Craft Talk with The Writer Center, August 11
- Reading with Karla Kelsey at Susquehanna University, September 19
- Performance of How to Exterminate the Black Woman and Roadmap at Patterson Performing Arts Development Council in Patterson, NJ, October 20-21
- Featured reader and editor at Barrelhouse Conversations & Connections Conference at Chatham University in Pittsburgh, PA, October 28
- Live from Lewisburg! Variety Show at Campus Theater in Lewisburg, PA, November 22




Ongoing Marketing and Publicity


Global distribution via IPG

National author tour

 @MonicaPrinceChoreopoet Facebook author page — (311 likes; 317 followers)

 @Miss.Prince (Facebook personal page — 1.8K friends)

 @poetic_moni (2,397 followers)

 @poetic_moni/ (836 followers)

All of these social media platforms, and the website, are used for book promotion. This includes book clubs, Q&As, live chats, boosting pre-order links and sharing previously published excerpts of the choreopoem.

Author website: monicaprince.com

Continued outreach to literary publications and podcasts

Outreach to author community

Contact Information and Rights Availability

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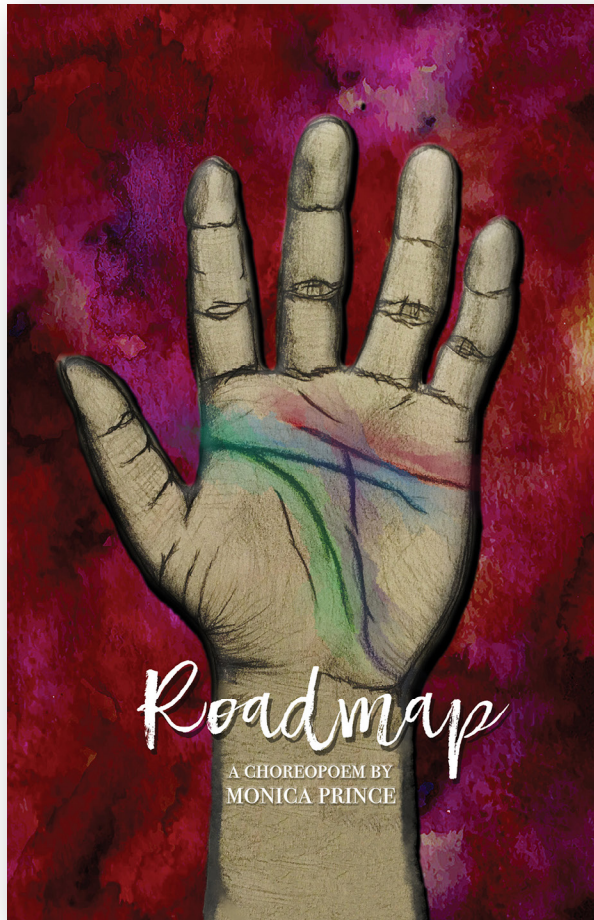
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Rights Availability

All Rights Available Worldwide





From the Cover

In this radical twenty-first century choreopoem, Dorian, a young American Black man, is tasked by an ancestral spirit to thwart his inevitable murder. He traces his family tree, from his grandmother to his offspring, uncovering secrets of sex work, self-harm, and assault alongside snapshots of #BlackBoyJoy. Guided by The Novelist, an omniscient muse, and her troupe of dancers, Dorian must interrogate his legacy, forgive his past, and reckon with being Black in modern America. He tries on different selves and possible futures in his increasing desperation to experience the luxury of growing old and finding solace despite institutional racism declaring him a threat. Through the poetry, dance, and song of Roadmap, will Dorian overcome the odds or become another hashtag?

What is a Choreopoem?

A choreopoem is a choreographed series of performed poems incorporating dance, live art, music, song, and drama. It can be enjoyed as both a standalone collection of poetry and as a staged performance. The term choreopoem was coined by the late Ntozake Shange in 1975 with her award-winning piece, *For colored girls who have considered suicide / when the rainbow is enuf*. The genre focuses on blending various forms of performance art to produce a collective tour de force. As a play, the choreopoem intends to inspire collaboration and stimulate the reader's or viewer's imagination and understanding of major cultural themes.

Choreopoems are a reimagining of older traditions of storytelling and performance. From the griot (a class of traveling storytellers and historians in African cultures) to the traveling bards in Europe, oral history has been alive for centuries. In the United States, our craving for stories told aloud is evident in the Harlem Renaissance of the 1920s, the Beat poets of the 1950s and 60s, and the explosion of spoken word poetry in the 1980s and 90s. With social media platforms like Instagram, Tik Tok, and YouTube, the consumption of performance is much higher: anyone can record a video reciting a poem, rapping, singing, dancing, or telling a joke, upload it, and just like that, millions have access to new art. The choreopoem's place in this world of art and literature is somewhere within spoken word poetry,

performance art, and theatre. The choreographed series of poems, enhanced by dancers, live artists, and sometimes original music compositions, combine the best elements of those creative arts and make them accessible to even the casual reader at home on their couch.

Though the choreopoem's history requires a main premise, source material, and a commitment to the blending of art, the choreopoem of the twenty-first century strives beyond awareness—it demands action from its participants.

In *Roadmap* we meet a young man named Dorian. Roadmap's premise—is Dorian's murder inevitable because he is Black or because of how he was raised? Dorian struggles to determine if his homicide can be thwarted through investigating his family history and trying to unlearn behaviors of toxic masculinity, misogyny, and self-harm. On paper, this show includes stage directions, character descriptions, and carefully researched statistics and figures. These elements allow readers to envision the performance, but also help directors to use their own styles to produce the staged version. Reading this choreopoem becomes a collaborative experience, where book clubs and reading groups can gather to read the show aloud, mimicking a staged reading for a more immersive experience.