

This Wasn't the Plan (and that's the point)

A story-driven, illustrated book about career pivots, resilience and becoming who you really are.

Careers aren't linear. They're messy, unpredictable, and rarely go according to plan - and that's exactly where the good stuff happens.

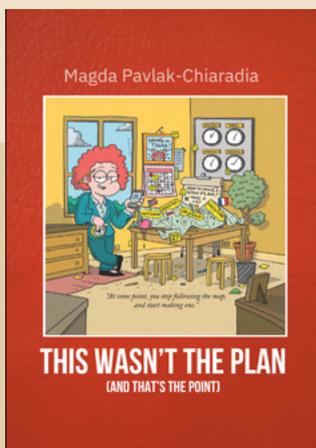
This Wasn't the Plan (And That's the Point) is told through sharp insight, humor, and single-panel comics, as a guide for anyone in the first decade of their career, looking for a career change, or navigating further along their own path and wondering if they're doing it 'right'.

Spoiler: there is no right - just the next right step.

Blending personal stories with practical coaching moments, she navigates power dynamics, reinvention without starting over, spotting hidden opportunities, and growth through uncertainty. It is a companion for people figuring it out as they go.



Magda Pavlak-Chiaradia, Author
Grew Up in Portland, ME.
Lived in Boston, MA



Manuscript Reviews:

"Reading this feels less like a book and more like a late-night coffee with a trusted friend. Real, relatable, and comforting - guidance I know I'll return to throughout my career." - Kaya P.

"A powerful reminder that modern careers are unpredictable - and that every choice can be the right one when you lead with integrity." - April K.

Available for standard bookstore ordering and event stock

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Illustrator: Luigi Segre

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About the Book

This Wasn't the Plan (And That's the Point) is a narrative nonfiction book for people who are rethinking their lives, careers, and sense of identity.

Blending: personal storytelling, practical reflection and original single-panel comics.

the book speaks to readers who are capable, curious - and are asking whether the life they built still fits.

It's especially resonant for:

early-career professionals, mid-career pivots, women returning to themselves after caregiving, reinvention, or big transitions

This is not a corporate self-help book.

It's a human story about change - thoughtful, funny, and honest.

Why This Book Works in Independent Bookstores

This book lives where independent bookstores live: at the intersection of story, meaning, and community.

It's also highly giftable thanks to its illustrated format and approachable tone.

What I Offer Your Store

I don't just show up to sign books - I create a conversation your community wants to be part of.

Option 1 - Book Signing & Meet the Author

A relaxed in-store signing with conversation, personalization, and Q&A.

Option 2 - Author Talk

A 30–45 minute talk on:

How we rebuild our careers, confidence, and identity when life doesn't go as planned.

Includes: reading excerpts, audience discussion, signing afterward

Option 3 - Community Event

Perfect for: women's groups, book clubs, career changers, creative or professional communities.

I've been doing discussion on the topics covered by the book with college students and young professionals in Europe.

Let's Work Together

I love partnering with independent bookstores to create meaningful, community-centered events.

Magda Pavlak-Chiaradia

I'm available for U.S. events - especially in New England