



She Writes Press (April 2019)

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www.kimberlykrobeson.com

Los Angeles Professor Releases Not-So-Typical Love Story ***The Greek Persuasion challenges the notion of one true love***

Is there such a thing as one true love, a person's other half?

Los Angeles Valley College assistant professor Kimberly K. Robeson tackles this age-old question in her provocative debut novel *The Greek Persuasion* (She Writes Press, April 2019). Through the adventures of protagonist, Greek-American professor Thair Mylopoulos-Wright, the novel explores both the nuances of sexual orientation and complexity of mother-daughter relationships in a tale that is, at once, sensual and cerebral.

Consumed by a myth about Zeus, soul mates and a magic sword, Thair goes on a quest for wholeness and experiences several unexpected and exciting romantic relationships. While recounting her grandmother's youth in 1940s Egypt and her mother's in 1960s Greece, Thair gains appreciation for the influence of her family's matriarchs, but chooses to forge her own path beyond the traditional. Engaging in relationships with both men and women, Thair gains new insight into her quest for completion.

Novelist Kimberly K. Robeson takes readers on an emotional journey through exotic settings and complex desires that will leave readers turning pages well into the night. The author navigates the landscapes of a port city in Egypt, a tranquil Greek Island and its mainland, cities in the United States, as well as the complicated human heart.

Will Thair ever find the missing part of her that Zeus chopped off with his magic sword? Or is the concept of "The One" just a fairy tale that ultimately leaves us disappointed? Is completion something we all hold within ourselves?

Advance Praise for *The Greek Persuasion*

“Robeson makes her protagonist’s existential fretfulness about her future, and her feelings of uncertainty as she pursues a perfect romantic match, highly relatable. . . . Thair’s narrative will resonate with readers who are confronting their own unpredictable futures.” **Kirkus Reviews**

“A nuanced and meaningful exploration of both maternal relationships and female sexuality.”
Jennifer Baumgardner, author, *Manifesta* and *Look Both Ways: Bisexual Politics*.

“In her heartrending debut novel, Kimberly K. Robeson sets a quest for romantic fulfillment against an alluring Greek backdrop and a five-year journey of self-discovery. An exploration of the intricacies of sexuality, romance, and relationships. *The Greek Persuasion* is an enchanting read from beginning to end.” **Danielle M. Wong, author of *Swearing Off Stars***

“A complete and masterful insight into a woman’s mind. Kimberly K. Robeson offers an honest and brave encounter with her characters, making one become an invested spectator of women’s lives and their circumstance of love throughout time and in distant lands.”
Alicja Bachleda, Actress, films include *Ondine*, *Trade*, *The American Side*, and *Pan Tadeusz*.

“Kimberly K. Robeson’s interweaving narrative of love stories combine modernity and myth in a tale that centers on multiple points of view without losing direction and is done with such ease. Human life is embedded in time and space, while at the same time exploring ethnic, sexual, generational, and temporal fluidity. . . . One is awed by an ending that balances closure and pathos; becoming and élan.” **James Bland, PhD, Harvard, Recipient of an Academy of American Poets Prize, creative work in *Kenyon Review*, *Ploughshares*, *Callaloo*, *Agni*, among others**

“To find a way to convey how much I loved *The Greek Persuasion* . . . I felt like I was attached at the hip of Thair, the protagonist, all the way through her journey. A personal and raw novel, full of honesty, about one person’s journey to find her place as a woman in a modern society—because labels shouldn’t matter. Thair’s love for Dita (her grandmother) is fierce, for Phaedra (her mother) it’s complicated, and for her lovers it’s complex and clearly important to understand her true self. What a joy to read.” **Amy Morse, Former VP of Marketing at McGraw-Hill**

“This narrative discusses age-old questions in a contemporary context. . . . Like every mind that actively seeks fulfillment as “entelechy,” Aristotle’s term for fulfilled potential, Thair must come to terms with her past—her Greek roots—and her future. . . . Robeson writes a novel that is both brave and sensual, and I look forward to reading her next book!” **William Wallis, PhD, author of *Hawk*, and poet, collections include *L.A. My Love*, *Sonnets*, and *One Moment More***

“A very talented writer, Kimberly K. Robeson, takes us on a unique and incredible ride with her complicated and deeply unsettled character, Thair, a Greek American professor, who travels many times to the island of Kythnos, Greece to relax and let go of all the stresses of her life. Along her quest for true happiness, Thair’s journey opens up your mind, heart, and soul to the possibilities of sexuality, passion . . . Bravo!” **Adoni Maropis, Actor, *24*, *Mortal Kombat*, *Hidalgo*, *Troy*, and more.**



About the Author

Kimberly K. Robeson is a Greek-American assistant professor at Los Angeles Valley College where she teaches world literature, creative writing, and composition. She is the co-advisor for the college's LGBTQ+ Club. She has lived in Venezuela, Borneo, and Spain, but grew up in Greece, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, and the United States. She received a master's degree in comparative literature and has taught English in Greece, Peru, and the United States for the past twenty-seven years. She has a voracious appetite for travel, not only to experience new places, but more importantly to hear people's stories first-hand. Kimberly, like her grandmother, has always been a storyteller and Greece is always in her heart. Kimberly currently resides in Los Angeles with her husband, Hugo, and their three bulldogs: Achilles, Oia, and Opa. *The Greek Persuasion* is her debut novel.

Events

Thursday, January 31st 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Los Angeles Greek Hebrew Radio

Can be seen on www.kimbelrykrobesson.com and

<https://www.facebook.com/lagreekhebrewradio/videos/532860310557878/>

Saturday, May 4th 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Bay Area Book Festival, San Francisco

Thursday, May 16th 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m.

Los Angeles Valley College

Introduction by actor Adoni Maropis (*24*, *Hidalgo*, *Troy*)

[Book launch](#), reading, prizes, discussion, and music by Greek singer, Vassilia Meliou

June 7th 7p.m. to 9 p.m.

Vroman's Bookstore

[Reading with an introduction by Erika Endrijonas, PhD, Superintendent/President of Pasadena City College](#)

June 9th 2p.m.

Carlsbad Library, San Diego, "Around the World"

Hosted by Adventures by the Book

<http://adventuresbythebook.com>

Reading with Kris Waldherr (England), Judy Bernstein (Sudan), and Eldonna Edwards (US)

June 15th 11a.m. - 1p.m.
Barnes and Noble in Encinitas
Reading and book signing

June 16th 8:40 am
[Interview with Amy Johnson at CBS KCAL Los Angeles](#)

September 22nd 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Brooklyn Book Festival, New York

The Greek Persuasion Featured in . . .



[San Diego Union Tribune](#)
[Gay San Diego](#)
[The Del Mar Times](#)
[The National Herald](#)



Awards

Announced June 11th, 2019:

***The Greek Persuasion* is a Finalist in The International Book Awards in the “Fiction: Multicultural Category”**



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