Charlene Carr

<https://www.charlenecarr.com/>

<https://www.instagram.com/charlenecarrauthor/>

**History of Publication**

* We Rip the World Apart, 383 pages, HarperCollins Canada, Welbeck Publishing, 2024, Sourcebooks Landmark, 2025
* Hold My Girl, 432 pages, HarperCollins Canada, Welbeck Publishing, Sourcebooks Landmark, 2023
* The Stories We Tell, Behind Our Lives Trilogy #3, 300 pages, Coastal Lines[[1]](#footnote-1), 2017
* What We See, Behind Our Lives Trilogy #2, 348 pages, Coastal Lines, 2017
* Behind Our Lives, Behind Our Lives Trilogy #1, 380 pages, Coastal Lines, 2016
* Before I Knew You: A Novella, 124 pages, Coastal Lines, 2016
* Whispers of Hope, A New Start #5, 195 pages, Coastal Lines, 2016
* Forever In My Heart, A New Start #4, 208 pages, Coastal Lines, 2015
* By What We Love, A New Start #3, 196 pages, Coastal Lines, 2015
* Beneath the Silence, 300 pages, Coastal Lines, 2015
* Where There Is Life, A New Start #2, 194 pages, Coastal Lines, 2014
* When Comes The Joy (previously titled Skinny Me), A New Start #1, 158 pages, Coastal Lines, 2014

### Education

**Bachelor of Journalism,** University of King’s College, *Halifax, NS*, May 2010

**Master of Arts in English**,Dalhousie University, *Halifax, NS,* October 2009

**Bachelor of Arts in English**,Crandall University, *Moncton, NB*, May 2006

**Literary Representation**

Hayley Steed of Janklow & Nesbit Associates, London, UK

**Selected Literary Shortlists, Grants, Tittles, and Awards**

Forest of Reading, Evergreen Award Nominee for *We Rip The World Apart,* 2025

Thomas Raddall Fiction Award, Shortlisted for *Hold My Girl,* 2024

Dartmouth Book Award, Shortlisted for *Hold My Girl*, 2024

Best Books of 2023 by CBC Books, *Hold My Girl*

Highly Anticipated Buzz Books of Fall/Winter 2023 by Publisher's Weekly, *Hold My Girl*

Amazon Editor’s Picks – Best Literature and Fiction, *Hold My Girl,* 2023

Grants to Individuals, Arts Nova Scotia, 2024

Arts Equity Grant, Arts Nova Scotia, 2023

Explore and Create Grant, Canada Council for the Arts, 2022

Grants to Individuals, Arts Nova Scotia, 2021

Reader’s Digest Journalism & Rogers Broadcasting All News Scholarships, University of King’s College, 2009

James R. Johnston Graduate Scholarship, Dalhousie University, 2007-2009

Mushkat Memorial Essay Prize, Dalhousie University, 2008

**Selected Volunteer and Paid Appearances and Readings**

WFNB WordsFall, Featured Author, *Sussex, New Brunswick*, 2024

Afterwords Literary Festival, Featured Author, *Halifax, Nova Scotia*, 2023, 2024

Cabot Trail Writers Festival, Featured Author, *Cape Breton, Nova Scotia*, 2024

Sunshine Coast Festival of the Written Arts, Featured Author, *Sechelt, Vancouver*, 2024

Eden Mills Writers Festival – Featured Author, *Eden Mills, Ontario*, 2023

Coast to Coast Literary Series – Featured Author, *Niagara Falls, Ontario*, 2023

Nova Scotia Book Awards – Host, *Dartmouth, Nova Scotia*

BiblioBash – Featured Author, *Toronto Public Library, Ontario* 2023

Canada 150 Literary Tour NL in association with NL Public Libraries – Featured Author, *St. John’s, Newfoundland*, August 16, 2017

Canada 150 Literary Tour NL – Featured Author, *Carbonear, Newfoundland,* August 9, 2017

Love Our Local Authors, A.C. Hunter Library – Featured Author, *St. John’s,* February 24, 2017

**Spoken Word Poetry Guest Performer**, *Halifax, NS*

* Child Soldiers Initiative Fundraiser with Zero Force, JUST US Coffee House, February 10, 2012
* CommUNITY with Poets 4 Change, The Company House, February 1, 2012
* Wordrhythm showcase 60-second slam, 1313 Hollis, November 20, 2010
* Youthful Ideas with Saint Mary’s African Student Society and OXFAM, SMU, March 11, 2009
* Reel to Reel with Democracy250, East Preston Recreation Centre, November 1, 2008

**Professional Affiliations**

The Writers’ Union of Canada, 2022-2023

Writers’ Federation of Nova Scotia, 2011-2014, 2019, 2021-2023

Women’s Fiction Writers Association, 2021-2023

Alliance of Independent Authors, 2015-2020

Writers’ Alliance of Newfoundland and Labrador, 2014-2016

**Author Testimonials –** Excerpts from letters of support for a previous grant application

“Charlene has a history of writing fiction that is not just entertaining and highly readable, but that also engages with important social issues… fiction that touches on topics such as grief, body image, and infertility, among others.” – Trudy J. Morgan-Cole, Author of *A Roll of the Bones* and *Most Anything You Please* (Breakwater Books)

“In the fall of 2009, [Charlene] was a student in my Narrative Nonfiction Workshop… I found her to be a bright, thoughtful, engaged student who wrote very well, and whose interests were wide-ranging and eclectic… what struck me immediately was Charlene’s well-honed skills as a storyteller, abilities which are clearly transferable across the literary genres.” – Stephen Kimber, Professor Journalism at University of King’s College. Author of *The Sweetness in the Lime* (Vagrant Press)*, Reparations* (Harper Collins)*.*

*“*Charlene possesses a commendable work ethic. She is organized, sets realistic timelines and work schedules, and is driven by a clear vision for her work.” – Melanie Martin, Author of *A Splendid Boy* (Flanker Press).

“Charlene Carr writes fearlessly and brilliantly from the heart about motherly love, loss, and difficult moral choices. Her characters are so real, you ache for them as they struggle to do the right thing in impossible circumstances.” – Julianne MacLean, *USA Today* bestselling author of *A Curve in the Road*

**Selected Media Coverage**

**The Toronto Star,** “Moves us to anger, brings us to tears’: Sweeping family saga set against the large canvas of Canadian racism’, February 1, 2024

**The Globe and Mail, “**Twelve books that capture the fabulous and fraught nature of motherhood”, May 12, 2023

**CBC**, “32 Canadian books to read in spring 2023”, April 6, 2023

**Cityline**, Book Club Pick (*Hold My Girl -*2023, *We Rip The World Apart –* 2024)

**CBC, The Next Chapter**, “What makes someone a mother? That’s the question at the heart of Charlene Carr’s thriller Hold My Girl”, February 24, 2023

**CBC**, “6 Black Canadian writers to watch in 2023”, February 2, 2023

**Toronto Star**, “Issues of race, class, IVF propel writer Charlene Carr’s Nova Scotia-based thriller ‘Hold My Girl’”, February 1, 2023

**She Does The City**, “Motherhood and Race Examined in Charlene Carr’s Page-Turning Novel ‘Hold My Girl’”, January 25, 2023

**The Globe and Mail**, “Charlene Carr’s new novel inspired by real-life fear: What if her daughter wasn’t biologically her own?” January 24th, 2023

**She Does The City**, “23 of Our Most Anticipated Books Releasing in Early 2023”, January 3, 2023

The Globe and Mail, “The top 30 Canadian books to read in 2023”, December 29, 2022

**Variety**, “Blink Studios to Adapt Charlene Carr’s Upcoming Novel ‘Hold My Girl’, January 20, 2022

**The Bookseller**, “Welbeck snaps up ‘heart-wrenching’ novel from Carr in two-book deal”, January 20, 2022

1. Coastal Lines is my independent (self) publishing imprint. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)