

***Listen for Water*** is a snappy, bittersweet coming-of-age novel that tells the story of roles reversed—a daughter, Dakota, charged with keeping her mother, Ray, and their lives right-side up. It's no easy task for a teen who wants to be anywhere but with Ray who is hellbent on living as though she wasn't somebody's mother.

Their unhealthy parent-child relationship means Dakota has been burdened with age-inappropriate responsibility her whole life. She must scrounge for food as they face eviction from their low rent apartment, and she relies on whispered lessons from a mentor who is no longer in this world. What else do you do when Mom has an addiction?

As Ray explores her talents, which are video gaming on an ancient Nintendo and penning lyrics to suspiciously familiar melodies, her impulsive behaviour sends them both on the ride of their lives, during which a tampering incident has deadly consequences. They fall off the Earth, lost to the forested mountains, and embark on an emotional and physical quest for survival.

Each faces the challenge in unexpected ways. Ray hits her stride and ensures they do not need to adapt to a life without water. Dakota learns about her birth father and the roots of her strange recurring dream. As they write their own unique wilderness survival guide, they discover surprising things about themselves, their past, and their mother-daughter relationship.

In the end, Ray is gifted with the opportunity for a do-over. And Dakota? Can she ever forgive and forget that her mother was an addict?

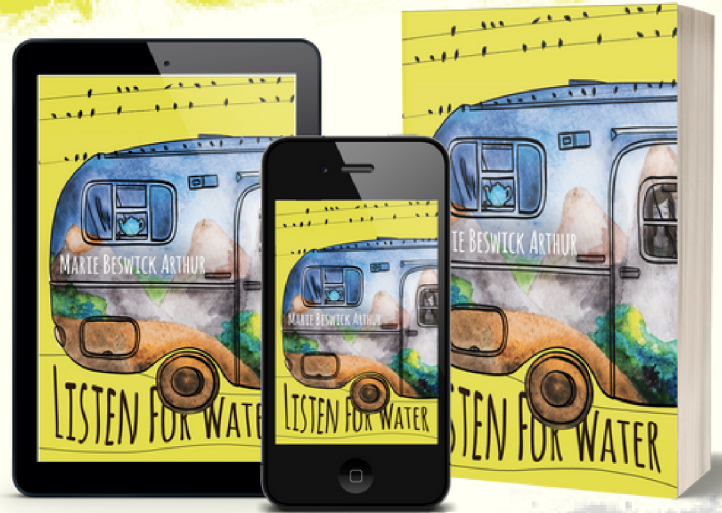
**"I wondered where my friends were, then remembered I didn't have a personal life. I had Ray."**

**"And I had a job. And I had dance."**

### Promotion

- Social media engagement and visibility on various platforms to an engaged audience for launch and sustaining post-launch
- Speaking engagements
- TV, podcast, magazine interviews and features
- Book signing events and readings
- Social media advertising for launch and sustaining post-launch
- Targeted keyword ad campaign

# Listen for Water



### About Marie Beswick Arthur

Marie Beswick Arthur is an award-winning writer of poetry and fiction who has worked with countless authors as a ghostwriter, editor, mentor, and coach. She co-authored, with Tricia Jacobson, the 2021 multiple-award-winning book *Nova: The Courage To Rise*. She writes to change the world and tell the stories of neglected, yet resilient, children.

A recipient of the Brendon Donnelly Award for Children's Literature and the Calgary Writers Association Short Fiction prize, Marie is a member of the Canadian Authors Association, and former juried member of the Professional Writers Association of Canada. *Listen for Water* is her first solo published novel (and it won't be her last).



"Melodic, poetic, majestic. *Listen For Water* reaches through the forest of life to capture the drumbeat of a damaged teenage girl through an unwelcome adventure in a U-Haul trailer, an addict mother, and a survival manual. Marie Beswick Arthur's brave words take us on untraveled roads that sing of survival, a reckoning, and a transformation."  
– **Kathy Klaus, Author of *Wild Ride***

## Target Audience

- Women 30-50+ who read literary fiction, some YA
- who enjoy books like
  - *A Bastard Out of Carolina* by Dorothy Allison
  - *Regretting You* by Colleen Hoover
  - *Lullabies for Little Criminals* by Heather O'Neill
  - *The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie* by Alan Bradley
  - *Little Bee* by Chris Cleave

## Categories

Literature & Fiction > Genre Fiction > Coming of Age  
Genre Fiction > Psychological  
Women's Fiction > Domestic Life  
Genre Fiction > Family Life  
Mothers and Children

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