

**See why readers and
reviewers love . . .**



www.luminisbooks.com

publisher@luminisbooks.com

317-250-9539

Midpoint Trade Books is the exclusive distributor for Luminis Books. Booksellers and librarians, please go to www.midpointbooksnyc.com/ for ordering information.

Critical acclaim for *Fragile*:

“When your own life is shattered, sometimes the pieces needed to repair them lie in the broken lives of others. *Fragile* tells the story of three individuals who face their life-long celibacy, their loveless marriages, and their own self-loathing. An elderly virgin yearns for her lost lover, the lost lover faces the passionless life he chose, and a mother bottomed out on her luck wonders what drove her to try to end her own life. **Poignant and thought-provoking, *Fragile* is a fine piece of fiction to add to any collection.**”

—*Midwest Book Review*

“There is an element of higher meaning in this story that makes it fascinating to finish and to contemplate the experience of reading it. **For lovers of experimental literature, this book is tasty.**”

— Grady Harp, *Amazon Top 10 Reviewer*

“*Fragile* is a fine first novel by Chris Katsaropoulos . . . The wonderment is how easily we are able to edge into this disjointed style, and how readily we become part of this shattered and shattering story. **At the end it’s a ‘whew’ and a ‘wow’ because it was a pleurably demanding experience.**”

—Rita Kohn, *Nuvo Newsweekly*

“*Fragile* is a beautifully-written novel . . . the writing is uniquely refreshing. After reading *Fragile*, I found myself feeling very contemplative. **Readers will enjoy *Fragile* and will find meaning in it that applies to their own lives . . . Highly recommended.**”

—Paige Lovitt, *Reader Views*

“Katsaropoulos does a wonderful job of developing the characters and intertwining their stories. The tale he creates is intriguing and attention-grabbing. **Unlike anything you have read before!**”

—Kam Aures, *Rebeccasreads.com*

“**Mesmerizing and beautiful, a truly stunning book!** Katsaropoulos is new to writing fiction, and his first novel sets the bar incredibly high.”

“In what can only be described as a truly unique style, the author takes us from the thoughts of one character directly into the next: an ongoing narrative of a brief portion of these three lives, to a moment of intersection so hauntingly profound and exquisite, it will leave the reader astounded and deeply moved. “

“With a debut such as this, I see a wonderfully promising future for this author. A story and characters you will never forget, with a message as old and true as time itself. **I have already read this twice, and marveled at it even more the second reading. I cannot recommend this book highly enough!** A true classic for the ages.”

—Lauri Coats, *ReviewTheBook.com*

**FRAGILE**

By Chris Katsaropoulos

ISBN-13: 978-1-935462-27-9

ISBN-10: 1-935462-27-X

Literary Fiction, Paperback, 5.5" x 8", 208 pp., \$14.95

Synopsis

Amelia Geist, Holly Schenck, and Tris Holloway are all broken—in one way or another.

In a lifelong act of penitence and defiance, Amelia Geist has remained a virgin and saved herself for Tris, her first love, who abandoned her more than fifty years ago. A few weeks from retirement, Tris Holloway has led a separate life of his own in the hills above Silicon Valley, sealed by inertia within the confines of a loveless marriage and shattered by his decision to leave Amelia.

The only person who can repair the rift between Tris and Amelia is Holly, a single mother without means, who is trying somehow to mend her life while laid out in a hospital bed, a victim of her own suicide attempt.

The stories of Tris, Holly, and Amelia are presented in *Fragile* as broken fragments, woven together by profound truth and an astonishing connection that transcends the boundaries between this world and the next.

Author Bio

Chris Katsaropoulos is the author of more than a dozen books. He has traveled extensively in Europe and North America, and enjoys collecting books and music. *Fragile* is his first novel.

www.luminisbooks.com

publisher@luminisbooks.com

317-250-9539

Midpoint Trade Books is the exclusive distributor for Luminis Books. Booksellers and librarians, please go to www.midpointbooksnyc.com/ for ordering information.

Readers and reviewers love *Precarious*:

“The art of the short story is alive and well in the hands of Al Riske, who understands how to walk the tightrope of subtle emotional resonance.”

—Catherine Ryan Hyde, *author of Pay It Forward, Love in the Present Tense, Chasing Windmills, and many others.*

“Riske’s characters brim with the fears, desires, and idiosyncrasies of real, complex human beings. In the collision of spiritual and sexual concerns that plague them, we find a truth that makes us believers in the power of his fiction.”

—Laura Matter, *Blue Mesa Review*

“Enthusiastically recommended.”

—*Midwest Book Review*

“You will enjoy each page of this book and hope that there is just one more when you are finished reading.”

—Victoria Gonzalez, *Reader Views*

“The writing is Hemingway lean and it’s clear that one of Riske’s strongest gifts as a storyteller is his witty dialogue.”

—Gretchen Clark, *author of “This Is a Woman” and other essays*

“A hugely talented writer, Al Riske beautifully captures the nuanced behavior of relationships and the universal struggle to understand why we do what we do.”

—Rachel Canon, *author of The Anniversary*

“This book will stay with you long after you close it and put it away. You’ll no doubt pick it up again for a second read, maybe even a third.”

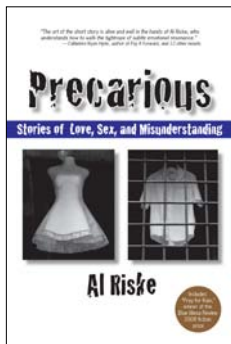
—*Reading at the Beach*

“These are stories that you find yourself in—the highest compliment I can pay an author. You see your own foibles and, if you’re lucky, an occasional glance at your own grace.”

—Terry McKenzie, *TMACWORDS*

“Al Riske has taken this form [the short story] and made light in his collection *Precarious*, not that he has made light of his characters, though. He has given them voices of volume, of life. Each story carries weight of its own, leading to the common denominator that we are all flawed.”

—Sky Sanchez, *San Francisco Book Review*



PRECARIOUS

By Al Riske

ISBN-13: 978-1-935462-32-3

ISBN-10: 1-935462-32-6

Literary Fiction, Paperback, 5.5" x 8", 256 pp., \$16.95

Includes "Pray for Rain," winner of the 2008 *Blue Mesa Review* Fiction Prize

Synopsis

The stories in *Precarious* are about doing the right thing and regretting it. About making bets and dancing naked.

They play out in rain-soaked Seattle and drought-stricken California. In the front seat of Mom's Malibu and a vacation cabin on Cape Cod. On a tiny island and in a desert filled with light and heat and sand that slips through your fingers like friendships you once had.

In these fifteen stories you will meet a boy trying to make it through that summer between the end of high school and the start of something else. A woman attracted to a man with muscles, because it makes her feel safe . . . until it doesn't. A man who can only imagine what it's like to sleep with many different women, but that's OK—he has a good imagination.

In prose that is by turns spare and lyrical, the stories of *Precarious* capture the feeling of late summer. A never-ending game of Kick the Can. All sense of time lost among the stars

Author Bio

Al Riske grew up in the Pacific Northwest and has worked as a newspaper reporter, magazine editor, and ghostwriter. His short stories have appeared in *Beloit Fiction Journal*, *Pindledyboz*, *Switchback*, and *Blue Mesa Review*, where his story "Pray for Rain" won the review's 2008 fiction prize. He now lives in California with his wife, Joanne, and their dog, Bodie.

www.luminsbooks.com

publisher@luminisbooks.com

317-250-9539

Midpoint Trade Books is the exclusive distributor for Luminis Books. Booksellers, please go to www.midpointbooksnyc.com/ for ordering information.

Enthusiastic praise for *Indian Summer*:

"I loved this novel which has a beautiful summer backdrop. It is fun yet mysterious and also delivers that all important feeling of suspense. Certainly a book worth reading."

—Jessica Roberts, *Bookpleasures*

"I've been blessed in these past few weeks with young adult books that have taken me to places I have absolutely not wanted to come back from. **This book will be one that will sit on my shelf for a very long time, and I will pass along to my daughter, her daughter, etc.** I loved this book."

—Amy Lignor, *Bookpleasures*

"*Indian Summer* is a unique read middle school readers will relish."

—Midwest Book Review

"This is an enjoyable young adult tale that focuses on how a courageous but frightened tweener sees things in an adult world. Marcie is terrific . . . **middle school fans will enjoy Marcie's charming *Indian Summer*.**"

—Harriet Klausner, *The Merry Genre Go Round Reviews*

"Unlike many stories in this genre, Richardson presents conflicts and issues that are subtly shaded with no clear good vs. bad, right vs. wrong. **This real-world treatment of complex social and environmental issues places *Indian Summer* a notch above similar stories.** Richardson create(s) complex, yet realistic relationships."

"*Indian Summer* is a thoughtfully written story requiring the reader to consider a number of value judgments along the way. For the YA reader . . . an entertaining and informative read. **Thoughtfully written adventure with a hint of magic.**"

—Thomas Temple, *Amazon Reviewer*

"Tracy Richardson writes as if she remembers exactly how hard it is to fit in when you are Marcie's age. Marcie learns a lot that summer about growing up and readers will learn along with her."

—Shelley Wenger, *TCM Reviews*

"*Twilight* got your tween reading, which is great. But let's be honest here, it isn't the best form of literature available out there. And while your tween might not be ready (or willing) to give Shakespeare a try at this point in her life, parents can continue feeding this new-found interest for reading by picking up more books that are not only geared at tweens, but are well written, have an intriguing plot and whose main character is relatable to them. Tracy Richardson's *Indian Summer* is exactly that."

"If you're the kind of parent who likes to read what your tween reads, rest assured: *Indian Summer* is a book you will also like reading."

—*Blogcritics.org*



INDIAN SUMMER

By Tracy Richardson

ISBN-13: 978-1-935462-25-5

ISBN-10: 1-935462-25-3

Young Adult Fiction, Paperback, 5.5" x 8", 212 pp., \$11.95

Synopsis

Can a spirit from the past come back to help us solve a problem in the present?

Twelve-year-old Marcie Horton is not looking forward to spending a lonely and boring summer at her grandparents' lake cottage. That is, until the woods near their home are threatened with development by the wealthy president of the university where her parents teach.

Marcie is guided by the spirit of an Indian girl as she seeks to unlock the secrets of the past in her quest to save the centuries-old forest from development. Her effort is complicated by her growing friendship with the university president's popular daughter and the annual sailboat race, in which Marcie finds herself competing on the team of the wealthy summer house owners against the local residents.

Marcie's success hinges on whether she can unravel the cryptic messages she receives in her dreams and visions from the mysterious spirit of the Native American girl, before the woods—and perhaps something much more important—are lost forever.

Author Bio

Tracy Richardson lives in Indiana with her family and their Jack Russell terrier, Ernie. When her children started reading, she rediscovered her childhood favorites and began developing stories of her own. Images from growing up on Lake Michigan feature prominently in her novels, and sometimes bits and pieces of actual people and events—much to her children's delight and dismay!

www.luminisbooks.com

publisher@luminis.com

317-250-9539

Midpoint Trade Books is the exclusive distributor for Luminis Books. Booksellers, please go to www.midpointbooksnyc.com/ for ordering information.

Reviewers are excited about *Summer Sanctuary*:

*“Summer Sanctuary, exudes a strong voice for the two central characters . . . they learn what it means to measure a person’s worth not based on circumstances, but on the will to survive. Gray has captured the essence of what it means to be a young teen—wanting to grow as an individual while needing the security of a home and loving family. **Summer Sanctuary can help guide teens through the difficult transition between childhood and becoming adults.**”*

—Kayleen Reusser, author of *Taylor Swift—a Blue Banner Biography*

“What a big-hearted story, told with affection and humor. I loved spending time with Matthew and his family and with Dinah, the girl who looks in from outside. Like Dinah, young readers will find a place of welcome and comfort, a true sanctuary, in the pages of this book. Like Matthew, they’ll discover something important about friendship and independence.”

—Helen Frost, Printz Honor Award-winning author of *Keesha’s House*.

*“Because of my work with junior youth (aged 12 to 15), I’m always on the lookout for books that balance realism with high standards, as well as being approachable while not being patronizing. **So when I get my hands on as delightful a book as Summer Sanctuary, you can understand why I would be so excited.**”*

—*Blogcritics.org*

*“There are many interesting questions and dilemmas peppered throughout *Summer Sanctuary*. Many of them remain unanswered by the last page; **however, it’s clear that the author’s purpose isn’t to answer these questions, but rather to make her readers think. I most certainly did!**”*

“The book’s realism is mainly related to the fact that the author Laurie Gray deals with some important issues without beating around the bush, but also without presenting it in a way that would be a little too much for a 12 to 15 year old to handle.”

“Summer Sanctuary is a delightful, heart-warming and thought-provoking book.”

—*Blogcritics.org*

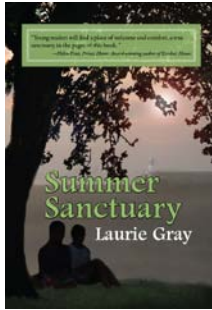
“Find out what it’s like to have your perspective on life challenged. Take a walk in someone else’s shoes to see how the truths you know may not be true for others. And find a safe place and a safe person to share who you really are in *Summer Sanctuary*.”

—Erikka Adams, *Teens Read Too*

*“The book is an easy read and is well written to trigger questions in the preteen. **The author has dealt with issues of science, religion and interpersonal judgments in a kind and respectful manner, which should delight parents wishing for their children to explore their own inner feelings.**”*

—*ReadersFavorite.com* 5 Star Review

SUMMER SANCTUARY



By Laurie Gray

ISBN-13: 978-1-935462-34-7

ISBN-10: 1-935462-34-2

Juvenile Fiction, Paperback, 5.5" x 8", 212 pp., \$11.95, ARCs Available

Synopsis

Matthew knows that this summer is going to be the worst ever. His best friend Kyle is gone, his younger brother Mark has surpassed him in size and athletic ability, and his mother is pregnant for the *fifth* time.

The eldest home-schooled son of a preacher, Matthew plans to bury himself in books about the speed of light and Einstein's Theory of Relativity to see if he can prove his own theory about the dilation of time.

Instead, he befriends Dinah, a homeless teenager seeking refuge at the library.

Although from very different backgrounds, Matthew and Dinah come to realize that they have a great deal in common—their love for music, and for cans of olives and potato chips found in a supermarket dumpster that are *just* past the sell-by date . . . and maybe even for each other.

Matthew struggles with his feelings for his own family as he helps Dinah avoid Child Welfare. And in the process, Dinah helps him discover that even the smallest acts of kindness can make a very big difference.

Author Bio

Laurie Gray has served as a Deputy Prosecuting Attorney in Fort Wayne, Indiana, and as an author and lecturer for the National Symposium on Child Abuse. Laurie is the founder of Socratic Parenting, LLC (www.SocraticParenting.com), the co-creator of Token of Change™ (www.TokenofChange.com) and a consultant for Sophie's Café (www.SophiesCafe.org). *Summer Sanctuary* is her first young adult novel.

www.luminisbooks.com

publisher@luminis.com

317-250-9539

Midpoint Trade Books is the exclusive distributor for Luminis Books. Booksellers, please go to www.midpointbooksnyc.com/ for ordering information.