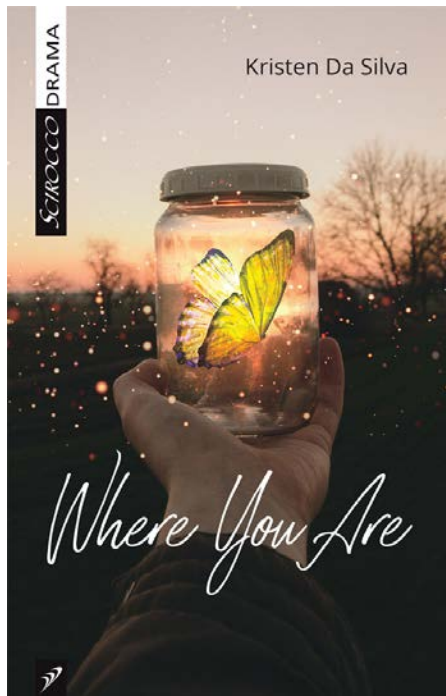




**J. GORDON SHILLINGFORD**  
P U B L I S H I N G I N C

BOOKS THAT ENTERTAIN, EDUCATE, AND INSPIRE

## ESSENTIAL READING



“Da Silva delivers an experience that often feels less like a stage production than a welcome and long overdue visit with four dear friends...provides a contemplative yet very funny look at love, loss, relationships and life.”

— *Wellington Advertiser*

“Moves quickly and confidently from laughter to tears and back to laughter again.”

— Andrew Wagner-Chazalon, *Luxury Orillia*

“...A comedy that is grounded in reality and heart. [Da Silva’s] play strikes a perfect balance...salty humour with just the right touch of sweet.”

— *Saltwire*

“A story about family that is at once laugh-out-loud funny and as warm as an August evening. Da Silva is a wonderful dramatist.”

— Norm Foster, playwright

[Where You Are](#) takes place in Little Current on Manitoulin Island, where city-transplants Glenda and Suzanne have lived together since Suzanne arrived single, penniless and pregnant thirty-three years previous, and moved in with Glenda and her late husband, Mark. While one is warm and industrious and the other brash and prone to late mornings, the sisters are nevertheless devoted to one another and spend laughter-filled days swapping stories about the locals and roping their appealing veterinarian neighbour,

Patrick, into performing various chores. This summer, an imminent visit from Suzanne's daughter, Beth, a doctor from Toronto, is about to complicate things. Not only do Suzanne and Beth clash over everything, starting with Beth's choice of pants, but the sisters have been harbouring a weighty secret. When Beth arrives, it becomes clear that they aren't the only ones. Amid a busy reunion week that includes a wild wedding, medicinal experimentation, and a budding romance between the two doctors, the women are eventually forced to confront truths that will change all four lives forever. [Kristen Da Silva's](#) play is a hilarious and honest exploration of family, forgiveness and falling in love.

[See More](#)

## THE INTERVIEW

[Dave Carley](#) is a Toronto-based playwright whose plays have had close to 500 productions across Canada, the United States and in many countries around the world. They include *Midnight Madness*, *Writing with our Feet* (nominated for the Governor General's Award), *After You*, an adaptation of Margaret Atwood's novel *The Edible Woman*, *Taking Liberties*, and *Orchidelirium*. Dave is the former editor at the Playwrights Union of Canada (now Playwrights Guild) and, for many years, was both script editor at CBC Radio Drama and play editor for Scirocco Drama. Dave's most recent full-length works have been *Twelve Hours*; an adaptation of Al Purdy's novel *A Splinter in the Heart*, and *Canadian Rajah*. He is currently completing a new work for stage: *Hope is a Bird*. For more on Dave, go to [www.davecarley.com](http://www.davecarley.com)



***Dave, most of your plays, even the love stories and the comedies, have a political dimension. Characters often have clashing points of view, yet they're able to connect in spite of their differences. What do you think works such as INTO, Taking Liberties, or Twelve Hours have to offer in today's polarized political landscape?***

Perhaps nothing. I hate to be pessimistic, but I don't see theatre reaching across any great divides these days. We're preaching to the choir.

***In many of your plays, the town of Ashburnham plays a large role. Tell us more about Ashburnham and the space it occupies in your imagination.***

Ashburnham is an enchanting part of my hometown, Peterborough. Although I live in Toronto now, that city remains the place I dream about. I know where at least some of the bodies are buried.

***You've done numerous adaptations, including a stage version of Margaret Atwood's The Edible Woman, and also A View from the Roof, an adaptation of Helen Weinzweig's short stories. What's that process like?***

It varies from book to book, but it's always a fascinating challenge to burrow into the work and minds of other writers. A challenge, privilege and great responsibility.

***One of your most notable gigs was as the long-time Script Editor for CBC Radio Drama. You're also the author of a number of acclaimed radio dramas, including Al Purdy at the Quinte Hotel about the remarkable poet, and The Final Hour, about D-Day. Can you compare and contrast radio and live theatre? What do you love about audio drama?***

Audio drama is intensely personal. It evolves entirely inside your head. It's rich to hear and immensely flexible. I recommend it to everyone, both to listen to and create.

***You have an extensive catalogue of short plays. Why do you like writing short plays? Where have yours been performed?***

Short plays are good discipline. They make you focus. I am currently curating a festival of ten-minute wonders in Port Hope and I'm astonished at how much the playwrights are able to say within just a few minutes.

***Dave, you're a prolific playwright and producer who always has a project on the go. What are you working on right now?***

I am finishing a play about species extinction. It's called *Hope is a Bird* and centres around a couple who find the last survivor of a species previously believed to be extinct – the Ivory-Billed Woodpecker. The play asks how far we should go to save a particular species – when so many are at risk, and there is so little time.

***Do you have any pithy advice for aspiring playwrights?***

Persevere. Don't wait for someone to produce you. Do it yourself. Forget dramaturgy; find a good director. If you can, avoid working with people exactly like yourself. They might not teach you anything you don't know already. It's better to be triggered than to be lulled. Love and respect your actors; they are bravely saying your words. And, above all, persevere. I can't say that often enough.

[Read the Full Interview](#)

**CLASS NOTES**

*Want to share your story about how you use JGS titles in your classes? Let us know. We'd love to talk to you!*



*This month we focus on the growing popularity of e-books in the classroom. J. Gordon Shillingford Publishing now has over a hundred titles available in e-book formats as well as in paperback. We welcome any questions you may have about our e-book offerings.*

While many students prefer to work with traditional books, e-books have a number of advantages for both educators and students. These include:

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- *Accessibility.* E-books are often more accessible than traditional books, with features designed to make reading easier for students with disabilities.
- *Interactive features.* E-books offer students tools such as highlighting, zoom, or read-aloud. The most popular of these features is the ability to search content—eliminating the need for flipping back and forth through the pages to find particular passages.
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- *Cost.* E-books are usually very affordable.
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**RECENT RELEASES**



[See More](#)

## COMING ATTRACTIONS

### • IN THEATRES •

***Bed and Breakfast*** by Mark Crawford

[Orillia Opera House](#), Orillia, ON, July 26–August 11, 2023.

***New Canadian Curling Club*** by Mark Crawford

[Huron Country Playhouse](#), Grand Bend, ON, August 3–20, 2023.

***Where You Are*** by Kristen Da Silva

[Lighthouse Festival](#), Port Colbourne, ON, August 9–August 20, 2023.

***Downed Hearts*** by Catherine Banks

[Ship's Company Theatre](#), Halifax, NS, August 16–27, 2023

***Where You Are*** by Kristen Da Silva

[Port Stanley Festival Theatre](#), Port Stanley, ON, August 23–September 9, 2023.

***The Real McCoy*** by Andrew Moodie

[Blyth Festival](#), Blyth, ON, August 24–September 9, 2023.

***The Waltz*** by Marie Beath Badian

[Factory Theatre](#), Toronto, ON, September 6–17, 2023.

***Jake's Gift*** by Julia Mackey

[Sunset Theatre](#), Wells, BC, September 8, 2023.

**Reading: *Yolanda Bonnell***

[Word Vancouver](#), Vancouver, BC, September 16, 2023.

***Bittergirl: The Musical*** by Annabel Fitzsimmons, Alison Lawrence & Mary Francis Moore

[St. Jacob's Schoolhouse Theatre](#), St. Jacobs, ON, October 4–December 24, 2023.

***Jake's Gift*** by Julia Mackey

[Rose Theatre](#), Brampton, ON, November 9, 10, and 11, 2023.

***Monster*** by Daniel MacIvor

[Factory Theatre](#), Toronto, ON, November 16–December 10, 2023.

***Here Lies Henry*** by Daniel MacIvor

[Factory Theatre](#), Toronto, ON, November 23–December 17, 2023.

***The Waltz*** by Marie Beath Badian

[Great Canadian Theatre Company](#), Ottawa, ON, February 13–25, 2024.

***In the Kitchen*** by Fatuma Adar, Augusto Bitter, Olivier Choinière, and Rosa Labordé

[Factory Theatre](#), Toronto, ON, March 8–31, 2024.

• ONLINE •

***A Time to Dream***, a documentary about the extraordinary women of the CASA project.

[Playwrights Guild of Canada](#) production, available online now.

***Inose/Field Trip***, a sound walk created by Yolanda Bonnell in partnership with Dr. Jesse Popp that encourages participants to connect with the natural world.

[Common Boots Theatre](#). (A video ASL version of *Inose/Field Trip* is now available.)

***Buffy***, a five-part podcast about Buffy Sainte-Marie by Falen Johnson.

[CBC Listen](#). All episodes online now.

• ON SCREEN •

***With Love and a Major Organ*** by Julia Lederer.

Starring Anna Maguire, Hamza Haq, and Veena Sood. Coming to theatres soon!

***The Swearing Jar*** by Kate Hewlett.

Starring Adelaide Clemens, Douglas Smith, Patrick J. Adams, and Kathleen Turner. Now available to buy or rent on various streaming services including Apple TV and Digital TIFF Bell Lightbox.

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