

Christine Byl is the author of *Lookout* and *Dirt Work: An Education in the Woods*. Her prose has appeared in *Glimmer Train Stories*, *The Sun*, *Crazyhorse* and *Brevity*, among others; she has been a Bread Loaf Fellow and recipient of the Alaska Literary Award. Christine has worked as a professional trail builder for the past 27 years. She lives in Interior Alaska with her family on Dene' lands.

Sharon Emmerichs teaches Shakespeare and early British literature at the University of Alaska Anchorage, where she lives with Juneau, the derpiest Siberian husky ever. *Shield Maiden* is her first novel.

John Messick is a writer, teacher, husband, and father. He earned his MFA at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, and has been awarded an AWP Intro Journals Prize in nonfiction and a Rasmuson Foundation Individual Artist Award. He teaches composition at Kenai Peninsula College in Soldotna, Alaska, where he lives with his family. *Compass Lines* is his first book.

Melinda Moustakis is the author of *Homestead* (Flatiron 2023), which is about two unlikely homesteaders in Point MacKenzie, Alaska in the 1950's and is based on her maternal grandparents. Her collection *Bear Down, Bear North: Alaska Stories* (UGA 2011) won the Flannery O'Connor Award and was a 5 Under 35 selection by The National Book Foundation.

David Stevenson has published five books of prose, most recently *Points of Astonishment: Alpine Stories* (2022). He directed the Low Residency MFA Program in Creative Writing at the University of Alaska Anchorage from 2008 to 2022. He is a member of the Alaskan Diaspora.