

Fairbanks Literary Sampler Biographies

Elva Birch is an author of the impossible and irresistible. She is a fire dragon Gemini who belly dances outside to twenty below and lives in a house that she built with her true love in a birch forest in Alaska. <https://elvabirch.com>

Jaclyn Wilmoth writes novels that are memoirs and memoirs that are novels, often with a sprinkling of poetry. She is the author of *The Snow Witch*, a novel that explores the memories you can't unsee. She is also the co-editor of *Marrow Magazine*, a literary journal that delves into dark spaces, and the founder of *Lightning Droplets*, a blog about the magic of writing. She lives in the boreal forest of Alaska, where she teaches creative writing, grows very large kohlrabi with her husband, and tries to keep her daughter away from no-no mushrooms and berries. Hauling water is her least favorite chore. <https://lightningdroplets.com/>

Craig Martelle has published well over 100 books and has sold over a million copies in his favorite genres of Science Fiction and Thrillers. He also runs the largest indie author conferences in the world along with the group that has changed innumerable authors' lives for the better, Michael Anderle's 20Booksto50k®.

<https://craigmartelle.com>

<https://www.facebook.com/AuthorCraigMartelle/>

Kris Farmen is a novelist, historian, and recovering journalist whose work has appeared in *Alaska* magazine, *Eater*, the *Alaska Dispatch News*, *The Anchorage Press*, and *Russian Life*, among others. He holds a BA in anthropology from the University of Alaska, an MA in archaeology from Flinders University in Australia, and made his living for 13 years as a professional archaeologist and historian before turning to writing. He lives in Alaska with his wife, daughter, and rescue dog. <https://www.krisfarmen.com/>

Don Standing Bear (Mi'kmaq/Abenaki/Huron) is an award-winning Native artist, speaker, and spiritual advisor, who has served in numerous leadership roles. His gifts include dispute resolution and counseling. Don holds two degrees from the University of Alaska Fairbanks, and did post-graduate work in Indian law, contributing two chapters to the "Handbook for Tribal Court Judges." Don is featured in the PBS documentary "Why We Dance", for his work in starting the Midnight Sun Intertribal Powwow, in Fairbanks,

Alaska. Don is currently artist/owner of Standing Bear Creations, and he and his wife Edie operate Sunrise Kennel Racing Sled Dogs, in Two Rivers, Alaska, where he has resided for the last 39 years. His vision is to inspire others to find healing and wholeness.

Carolyn Kremers writes literary nonfiction and poetry, and is a dedicated teacher and lifelong musician. Her books include *Place of the Pretend People: Gifts from a Yupik Eskimo Village* (memoir), *The Alaska Reader* (literary anthology), and *Upriver* (poetry). She designed and implemented the MFA creative nonfiction program at Eastern Washington University and taught for many years at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. In 2008-09 and 2015-16, she was a Fulbright Scholar at Buryat State University in Ulan Ude, Russia. In 2019, she received a Kathryn Davis Peace Fellowship from Middlebury College to continue studying Russian. She lives in Fairbanks. https://www.pw.org/directory/writers/carolyn_kremers.

Paul Greci is the award-winning author of four Alaska wilderness survival novels (*Surviving Bear Island*, *Follow the River*, *The Wild Lands*, and *Hostile Territory*.) *Surviving Bear Island* is the Alaska Reads book for 2022-23, and *The Wild Lands* is a 2022 Battle of the Books selection at the high school level. Paul has spent most of his 33-year teaching career working with struggling and reluctant readers in Fairbanks, Alaska and when writing his stories, he aims to engage this population. When Paul isn't teaching or writing you can find him running and walking the trails around Fairbanks, sea kayaking in Prince William Sound, or curled up with a good book next to the woodstove.

Jean Anderson has always loved short stories and enjoys writing them. She arrived in Fairbanks in 1966, planning to stay for a year as an adventure, and is still here. She enjoys being part of Writers League, a local, longtime group of poets and prose writers who meet in one another's homes regularly to share work. Her most recent collection, ***HUMAN BEING SONGS: Northern Stories***, was published in 2017 by the University of Alaska Press. Recent stories appear in *CIRQUE*, *ALASKA WOMEN SPEAK* and elsewhere.

M.C. MoHagani Magnetek has degrees in Anthropology, English, as well as an MFA in Creative Writing & Literary Arts and is currently a Cultural Anthropology & Historical Archaeology PhD at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. She is 2023 Rasmuson Foundation Individual Artist Fellowship Awardee for her work in progress, "Just Add Water: Reparations for My Soul."

Her published works include “Shhh Be Quiet” Building Fires in the Snow (2016). “Acrimonious Black Woman Sparks Climate Change Debate with the President” Alaska Women Speak (Spring, 2019). Her novel, “The Mad Fantastic, 2098” (2020). Her play, “for colored ladies who have considered pull-tabs with their last two dollars” (2021). "Death by a Thousand Kisses: A Ms. Mahogany Bones Murder Mystery” Alaska Women Speak (2021) and “That One Magnetek Time I Jumped Over Five Cars” Wheels on Ice: Stories of Cycling in Alaska (2022).

A Coast Guard veteran, Community Organizer and a Human Rights Advocate who is world renown, nationally recognized and locally accepted as the undisputed people’s champ because she believes poetry is therapeutic. She is currently working on getting her life together. Frying fish is her favorite pastimes.