

## 2021 CATALOG

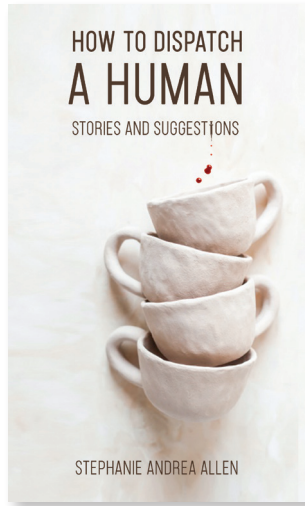
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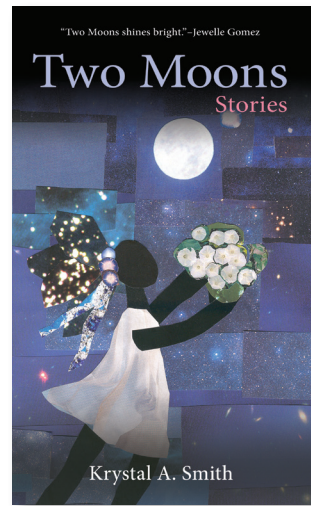
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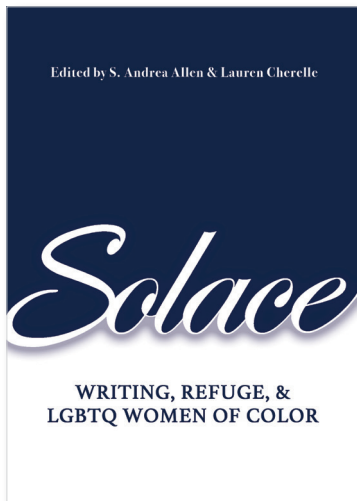
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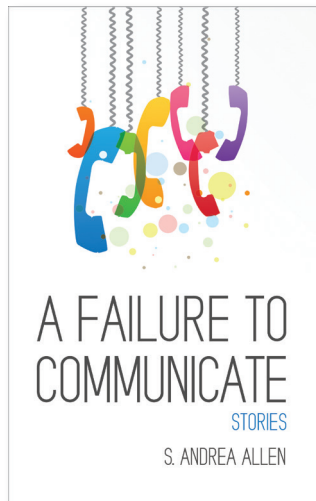
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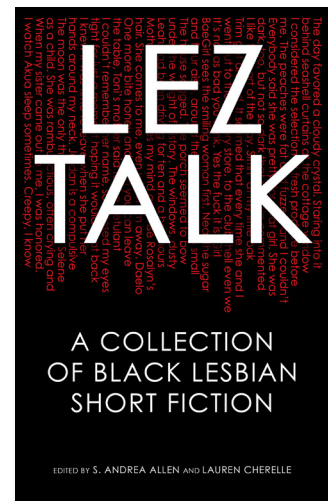
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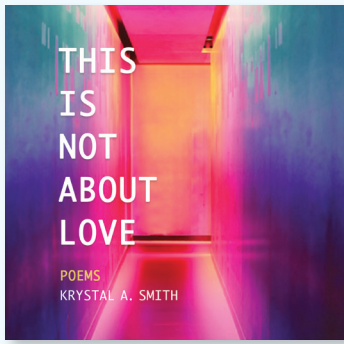
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## **This is Not About Love**

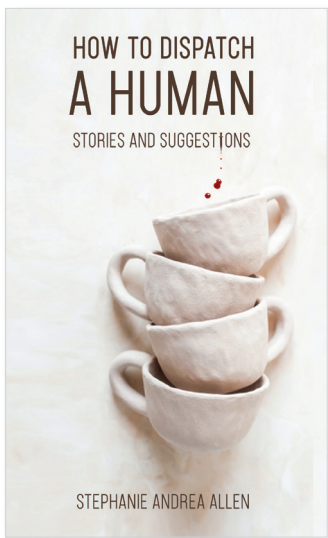
Krystal A. Smith

“The poems in author Krystal A. Smith’s debut collection, *This is Not About Love*, are everything we need in this moment of isolation. They examine loneliness and togetherness in all their forms -- by choice, by necessity, and by force of circumstance. These poems’ longing, desire, pettiness, humor, and devastation mirror all that it is being in and out of relationship. --Jason Herndon

Smith’s debut collection of poetry explores the complexities of human emotion and relationships via memory, experience, and imagination. Smith reminds us that love is not a singular emotion, and romantic relationships are not paramount to happiness.

**Krystal A. Smith** is a Black lesbian writer of poetry and speculative fiction. Her poetry can be read at *Entropy Magazine*, *Kissing Dynamite*, *Emerge Literary Journal*, and *Serendipity Literary Magazine*. Her debut collection *Two Moons: Stories* was released from BLF Press (2018) and was a 2019 Lambda Literary Award Finalist.

Poetry	44 pages	ISBN: 978-1-7359065-2-2
Paperback	6.5 x 0.2 x 6.5 inches	\$13.95 USA
April 2021	Black and white interior	\$19.99 CAN



## **How to Dispatch a Human: Stories and Suggestions**

Stephanie Andrea Allen

“Stephanie Andrea Allen’s story collection embraces the acerbic complexity of *Joanna Russ*, the practical science of *James Tiptree Jr.*, the moral center of *Rod Serling* along with the finger-popping, sister sense of your local black beauty shop. Not a combo you want to pass up.

--Jewelle Gomez, author of *The Gilda Stories*

This short story collection is unapologetic, often humorous, foray into the quotidian magic that envelops Black women’s lives. The stories are filled with Black queer characters who will entice and delight readers as they traverse the worlds around them. With a mix of near fabulism, near future, and other speculative fictions, Allen reminds us in exquisitely nuanced prose that the fantastical can be found amongst the ordinary.

**Stephanie Andrea Allen** is a southerner, scholar, and writer. Her work can be found in *Big Echo: Critical Science Fiction Magazine*, *Black From the Future: A Collection of Black Speculative Writing*, *Sinister Wisdom*, and in her debut collection of short stories and essays, *A Failure to Communicate*.

Short Stories	170 pages	ISBN: 978-1-7359065-0-8
Paperback	5.25 x 0.5 x 8 inches	\$16.95 USA
March 2021	Black and white interior	\$22.99 CAN



## **Black From the Future: A Collection of Black Speculative Writing**

Edited by Stephanie Andrea Allen and Lauren Cherelle

“ Within this revelatory 22-piece anthology of prose and poetry across the horror, fantasy, and science fiction genres, editors Allen and Cherelle have gathered works by some of the best and boldest voices in African-American speculative writing... There’s something for everyone in this outstanding anthology.

--Publisher’s Weekly (Starred Review)

This anthology encompasses the broad spectrum of Black speculative writing, including science fiction, fantasy, magical realism, and Afrofuturism, all by Black women writers. The editors have gathered the voices of twenty emerging and established writers in speculative fiction and poetry; writers who’ve imagined the weird and the wondrous, the futuristic and the fantastical, the shadowy and the sublime.

Speculative Fiction	244 pages	ISBN: 978-0-578-50213-7
Paperback	5.5 x 0.6 x 8.5 inches	\$19.95 USA
August 2019	Black and white interior	\$22.95 CAN



## **God’s Will and Other Lies: Stories**

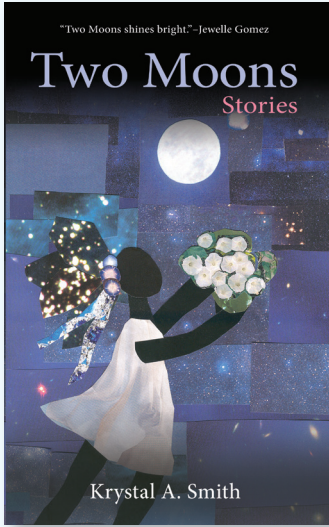
Penny Mickelbury

“ Mickelbury’s characters speak in distinct voices, rife with the cadence of place, and her elderly characters are as uniquely defined as her children. Everyone has a fully realized place at this table. --Camille-Yvette Welsch, Foreword Reviews

Mickelbury attends to the lives of Black women, mostly aging and elderly, all determined to face life with strength and grace. A nearly blind woman is determined to venture out into the world alone. A woman estranged from her community ponders the meaning of hearsay and its consequences. And in the novella, “Into the Fire,” Mickelbury follows the life of a southern family striving for success amidst the violence of 1960s Detroit. In beautiful and exacting prose, Mickelbury gives voice to an often-overlooked coterie of women in this superb collection of fiction.

**Penny Mickelbury** is a pioneering newspaper, radio and television journalist. She is an award-winning writer of stage plays and a co-founder of Alchemy: theatre of Change. *God’s Will and Other Lives* joins her successful mystery series: The Mimi Patterson/Gianna Maglione Mysteries (two-time Lambda Literary Award finalists); the Carole Ann Gibson Mysteries (winner of a Gold Pen Award by the Black Writers Alliance); and the Phil Rodriguez Mysteries; and the novel of historical fiction, *Belle City*.

Short Stories	Paperback	5 x 0.5 x 8 inches	ISBN: 978-0-9972439-2-5
March 2019	206 pages	Black and white interior	\$15.95 USA
			\$19.95 CAN



## **Two Moons: Stories**

Krystal A. Smith

2019 Lambda Literary Finalist  
in Lesbian Fiction

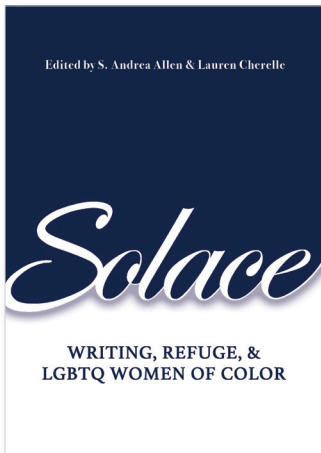
“In all, Smith writes with raw emotion in powerful, voice-driven prose. Reading Smith is like wandering between dreams; her stunning, fantastical worlds play by their own rules, challenging the imagination and encouraging deep feeling.

--Booklist

*Two Moons* is a splendid debut collection of stories that traverses the connections between earth and the heavens, the living and the spectral, human and animal. In “Harvest,” a woman tasked with providing for her community ponders her inability to bear live children. In the title story, “Two Moons,” a young woman falls in love with the moon, and is astonished by the moon’s response. In “What the Heart Wants,” a rejected lover discovers that her physical and emotional desires are incongruent with the organ pumping blood through her veins.

**Krystal A. Smith** is a Black lesbian writer of poetry and speculative fiction. Her poetry can be read at *Entropy Magazine*, *Kissing Dynamite*, *Emerge Literary Journal*, and *Serendipity Literary Magazine*. Her debut collection *Two Moons: Stories* was released from BLF Press (2018) and was a 2019 Lambda Literary Award Finalist.

Speculative Fiction	164 pages	ISBN: 978-0-9972439-0-1
Paperback	5 x 0.4 x 8 inches	\$14.95 USA
March 2018	Black and white interior	\$17.95 CAN



## **Solace: Writing, Refuge, & LGBTQ Women of Color**

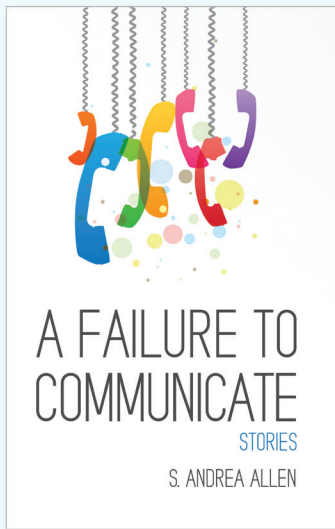
Edited by Stephanie Andrea Allen and Lauren Cherelle

“In *Solace*, Allen and Cherelle collect an exciting group of LGBTQ women of color writers to explore the power of literature and identity. These words could not be more timely or more important. Read *Solace* to find comfort, build strength and formulate resolve for the work ahead.

--Julie R. Enszer, author of *Avowed*

Deeply troubled by recent acts of violence against Black and Brown lesbian, bisexual, and trans bodies, *Solace* explores how LGBTQ women find solace: in each other, in their communities, and from within themselves, as they traverse the challenges of living as LGBTQ women of color in the United States. *Solace* is a collection of poetry and prose that explores our pain, as well as our attempts to find solace in a world that seeks to destroy us. What are our strategies for survival? Where do we find solace?

Anthology	244 pages	ISBN: 978-0-9972439-6-3
Paperback	5.5 x 0.4 x 8.5 inches	\$16.95 USA
January 2017	Black and white interior	\$19.95 CAN



## A Failure to Communicate: Stories

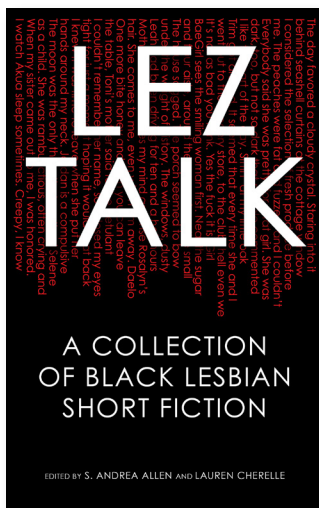
Stephanie Andrea Allen

“In this thought-provoking kaleidoscope of stories, Allen is witty, angry (which I personally appreciate), wounded, and willing to share from these different angles how the commonality of what’s not said can and does intersect with the lives of women in media, community, and relationships. --Lambda Literary Review

Allen’s debut collection of short fiction and essays, focuses on a singular theme: communication, and how it, or the lack thereof, impacts Black women’s lives. The stories range from the humorous to the heartbreaking: one woman wins a bake-off because her co-worker misunderstands the contest; a teenager reflects on his mother’s inability to discuss her depression; a woman realizes that her partner has been hiding a gambling addiction, and has to decide whether to help her or save herself. The women in these stories are often silenced, but Allen imbues them with a voice that demands to be heard.

**Stephanie Andrea Allen** is a southerner, scholar, and writer. Her work can be found in *Big Echo: Critical Science Fiction Magazine*, *Black From the Future: A Collection of Black Speculative Writing*, *Sinister Wisdom*, and in her debut collection of short stories and essays, *A Failure to Communicate*.

Short Stories	128 pages	ISBN: 978-0-9972439-4-9
Paperback	5 x 0.3 x 8 inches	\$14.95 USA
January 2017	Black and white interior	\$17.95 CAN



## Lez Talk: A Collection of Black Lesbian Short Fiction

Edited by Stephanie Andrea Allen and Lauren Cherele

2016 Foreword INDIES Book of the Year  
Awards Finalist in LGBT Adult Fiction

“These stories are strong...The common thread is Black + lesbian, but the diversity of the stories here outlines the extraordinary depth of talent that is out there, and which needs to find the light of day.

--A.L. Brooks, Curve Magazine

A necessary and relevant addition to the Black LGBTQ literary canon, which often-times overlooks Black lesbian writing, *Lez Talk* is a collection of short stories that embraces the fullness of Black lesbian experiences. The contributors operate under the assumption that “lesbian” is not a dirty word, and have written stories that amplify the diversity of Black lesbian lives. At once provocative, emotional, adventurous, and celebratory, *Lez Talk* crosses a range of fictional genres, including romance, speculative, and humor. The writers explore new subjects and aspects of their experiences, and affirm their gifts as writers and lesbian women.

Anthology	222 pages	ISBN: 978-0-9972439-9-4
Paperback	5 x 0.5 x 8 inches	\$15.95 USA
April 2016	Black and white interior	\$18.95 CAN

