



AMY DONOVAN IS BEST KIND.

JOAN SULLIVAN: What's the last gift you gave/received?

I gave my dad a few lobsters picked up from the Ingonish Harbour wharf for Father's Day, and the lobsters gave my car a lingering scent of kelp forests and ocean floor.

IRENE VELENTZAS: I believe writing is a form of discovery. What was the most surprising discovery you made while writing the piece featured in *Best Kind*?

My piece in *Best Kind* experimented with perspective, both in that it is written from the second person and in that the two perspectives included in it—guide and guided—are multiple. Both perspectives are drawn from my own experiences, with a sprinkling of the experiences of others', to craft two characters who are me but not-quite-me—each one me interacting with an other who, in each interaction, is someone else. In some ways, I hope, this mirrors the overall aim of the essay, which is to depict a forest where the boundaries of self and other, human and animal, are wobbly—reflecting a world of relations and interdependence to which many of us are so often blind.

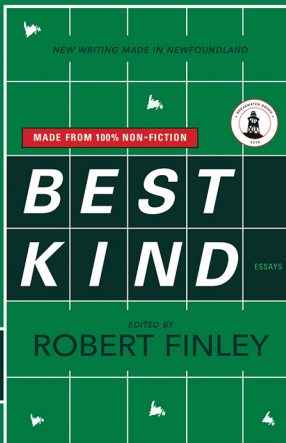
MATTHEW HOLLETT: Do you prefer to write about very recent experiences, or to write about things that you remember? Why?

I like to settle into a remembered feeling: a quality of light, of atmosphere, of spirit. It helps me to write about experiences that feel significant soon after they happen, so I don't forget the details, but then I like to let those details marinate and consolidate before I try to shape them. That period of settling makes space for connections with other events or feelings to become more clear, too.

best kind *adjective (Nfld)* excellent, a superlative state of being.

The cover and back-cover design of *Best Kind* are an homage to the former Newfoundland Margarine Company.

Amy Donovan has an MA in social anthropology from Dalhousie University and is currently working on a novel as part of her MA in creative writing at Memorial University. Her creative work often considers nonhuman perspectives and climate change. Amy's poetry has appeared in *Riddle Fence* magazine. She lives in Ingonish, Nova Scotia



ISBN 978-1-55081-716-4 | \$19.95

YOUR BOOKS ARE HERE | WWW.BREAKWATERBOOKS.COM

