



EVA CROCKER IS BEST KIND.

Eva Crocker is the author of the short-story collection *Barrelling Forward*, which was a finalist for the NLCU Fresh Fish Award for Emerging Writers and the Alistair MacLeod Award for Short Fiction. She is a winner of the Canadian Authors Association Emerging Authors Award. She lives in St. John's with her cats, Pretzel and Poptart.

ROBERT FINLEY: How is an essay like a potato patch?

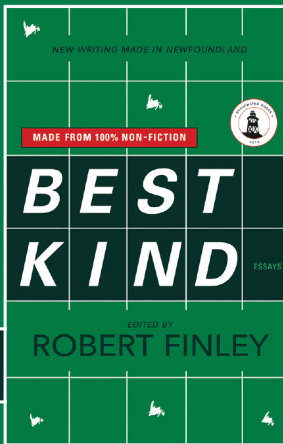
To be honest, I don't know a lot about potato patches. I want to say something about hauling something substantial and sustaining out of the muck. I want to be like, reading an essay is like crouching and hauling on a bunch of leaves and, if you're lucky, feeling a potato-like nugget of truth come sliding out of the dirt. But I just Google image searched potato patch and I have no idea how it feels to tug on a potato green, so I feel like a bit of a poser.

HEIDI WICKS: Do the people you write about in your non-fiction work ever get upset with you for writing about them?

In creative non-fiction, I'm very careful to either only write about people from my personal life in a way I think they would appreciate or to disguise them. No one has ever told me they were upset by the way I portrayed them – knock on wood.

AMY DONOVAN: When you're writing about something that happened in the past, what helps you to access those past moments and narrate them in a way that brings your reader to that moment?

I'm a big believer in trying to bring imaginary worlds to life through specificity. Even if I'm writing about a place and time or experience my reader wouldn't be familiar with, I hope to bring them to the moment I'm describing through precise sensory details. How did things look and feel? What colour exactly was the dog's fur? Was the smell from the fridge stale in a fishy way or was it more that farty old broccoli smell?



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.

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