



## HEIDI WICKS IS BEST KIND.

Heidi Wicks has profiled local theatre, film, and music for *The Telegram*, *The Independent*, and CBC Radio. Through creative writing study at Memorial University, she has written plays, short stories, film scripts, collaborated on two podcast series, and found her writing family in the form of the Naked Parade Writing Collective writing group. Currently completing Memorial's Masters of Arts (Creative Writing) program, her creative thesis is a novel titled *Melt*, which she read from at the 2018 SPARKS Literary Festival, and which she hopes will be published in the not-too-distant future.

**MATTHEW HOLLETT:** How does creative non-fiction differ from journalism?

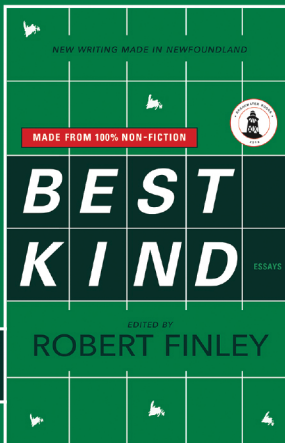
They're nearly opposite ends of the literary spectrum. Both require empathy and storytelling. Journalistic integrity necessitates truth, fact, current events and knowledge. Creative non-fiction is a more ethically fluid genre, some might say. Although it does stem from real life events, it still relies on imagination, elaboration, a narrative arc with story elements such as character, setting, conflict, and Jesus knows what else. There is the permission to create exaggerated, caricatured, swayed versions of real people and circumstances. The word 'fiction' sidles its way in there for a reason.

**JOHN ROBINSON BLACKMORE:** What is your most embarrassing moment?

Let's just say it involves London, the temp agency Office Angels, my skin flushing as gray as one side of their logo, a crazed dash to the loo, and a Saint in the guise of a cockney taxi driver who rescued me with a banana

**MICHELLE PORTER:** What do you do when the characters in your non-fiction work frustrate you by being obstinate, messy, and complicated, like real people? Do you edit them out?

Oh, hell no. Keep those obstinate friggers in there. I wouldn't edit them out for all the tonton dough in Tilt House. The most tortured, the most annoying, the most obnoxious, are the most entertaining, substantial, possibly the most lovable characters (and people). They make reading (and life) the most poignant.



**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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