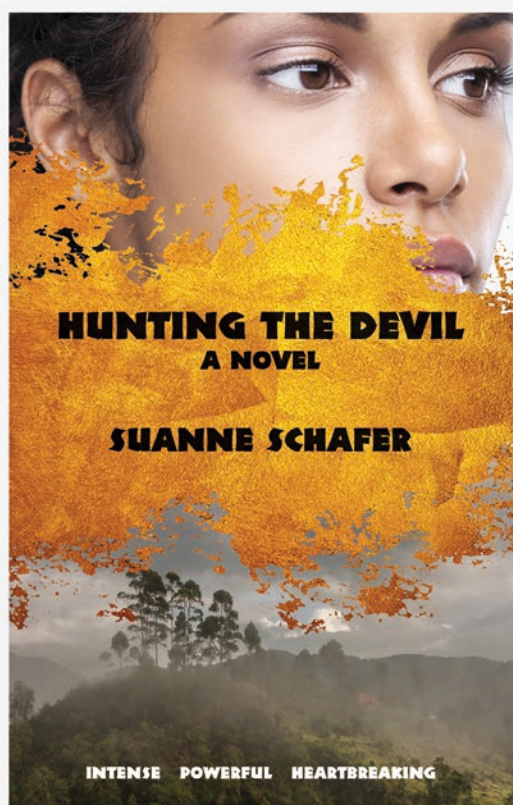


MEDIA KIT

Hunting the Devil

SUANNE
SCHAFFER
the art OF WORDS



Paperback: 300 pages

Publisher: Waldorf Publishing (Sept. 15, 2019)

Language: English

ISBN 10: 1643165976

ISBN 13: 978-1643165974

Categories: Literature & Fiction,
African American Women's Fiction, Suspense
Thrillers, Feminism, Historical Thrillers

Part medical procedural, part global political thriller, part justice/revenge-seeking novel, and part fractured romance, *Hunting the Devil* is a gut-wrenching novel of a doctor pushed to her limits during one of the most grotesque moments in modern world history.

Dr. Jessica Hemings, a biracial American physician, becomes embroiled in the tragic events of the Rwandan genocide. When her children are murdered, she doggedly tracks their killer.

Hunting the Devil explores how war changes Jessica's definition of humanity and, ultimately, what it means to be human.



When Dr. Jessica Hemings volunteers for a medical mission in Rwanda, she becomes entrapped in the maelstrom of Rwandan politics and the enmity between Hutus and Tutsis. Her Tutsi features plunge her into the Rwandan Genocide. Dr. Cyprien Gatera, Jess's superior and a Hutu radical, commandeers her clinic, slaughters her patients and her adopted sons, then forces her to treat his wounded. She escapes and survives three weeks in hiding before finding refuge at Benaco refugee camp in Tanzania.

There, Jess vows revenge. She searches for Gatera with the help of Michel Fournier, a French lawyer-turned-war-correspondent, and Dr. Tom Powell, her long-time lover. When an unknown informant passes information to Jess about her nemesis, she returns to Rwanda, despite warnings from the Belgian Secret Service that Gatera plans to assassinate her. In their final showdown, Jess must decide if revenge is best served cold—or not at all.



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Author's Note: *Hunting the Devil* arose from a trip to Africa with my biracial son. I made the trip considering it a bucket list sort of thing, but he held some vague idea of reconnecting with his African roots. Though he's considered black here in the United States, there he was considered white. The disparity shook up his psyche. I took his unsettled feelings and expanded them into this book, creating a heroine that combined myself (a physician) and my son (biracial) then pushed her to her psychological and physical limits.



Watch the Book Trailer:
<http://bit.ly/HTD-Book-Trailer>



"Hunting the Devil brings genocide forward like a machete whishing from behind you in the night."

—H. Palmer Hall Award-Winning Author Guinotte Wise, *Night Train, Cold Beer*

"A moving journey of self-discovery and empowerment in the face of unimaginable brutality. Your mind and soul will not come away unscathed after reading this book. It will change you. Profoundly." —USA Today Bestselling Author Tara West

"Schafer made me feel like I had a front row view of the atrocities in Rwanda, yet smoothed it by placing it from the viewpoint of a woman who loved the people so dearly. It sparked an interest in a subject I knew little about and compelled me to find out more. Always the hallmark of excellent writing. I look forward to reading more from her!"

—Author Camille Di Maio, *The Way of Beauty*

"One of the best books I have read in a very long time. I cannot recommend this book highly enough, but be warned, it is not for the faint-hearted and the haunting scenes faithfully reflect what could and did happen and is still happening in more than one country right now. Hunting the Devil might shock you and shake you out of your daily cotton wool cocoon, but it's true to life, and I applaud the author for bringing the horrendous subject of genocide to light."

—Author Lucinda E. Clarke, *Amie: African Adventure*

"Someone told me Hunting the Devil was a tour-de-force and while I agree, I think that summary needs a few more words. Gut-wrenching. Honest. Powerful. This is a story of a woman who claws her way back from the worst kind of adversity with no explanations and no apologies. Schafer pulled me in and kept me enthralled to the very end."

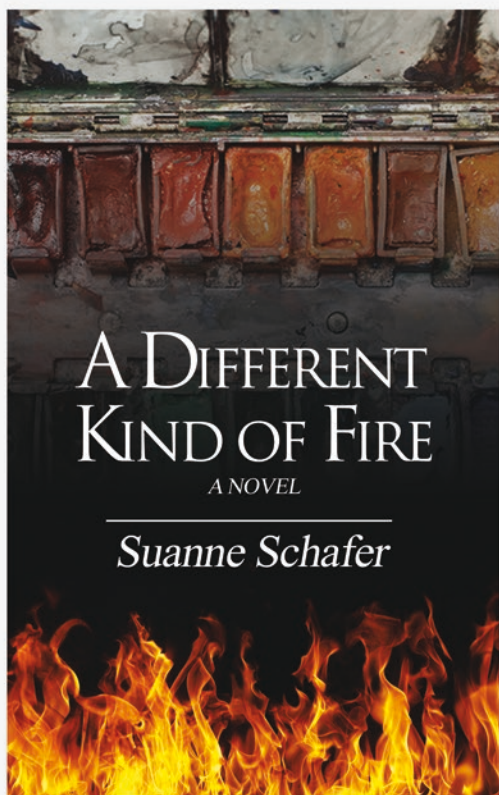
—Author Dianne Freeman, *A Lady's Guide to Etiquette and Murder*



MEDIA KIT

A Different Kind of Fire

SUANNE
SCHAFER
the art OF WORDS



Paperback: 300 pages

Publisher: Waldorf Publishing (Nov. 1, 2018)

Language: English

ISBN 10: 1641368659

ISBN 13: 978-1641368650

Categories: Literature & Fiction,
Women's Fiction, Up-Market Women's Fiction,
Feminism, Historical, Contemporary Women

Feminism meets the Old West
in Suanne Schafer's captivating up-market
women's fiction, *A Different Kind of Fire*.

Texas artist Ruby Schmidt finds herself
torn between her childhood beau, the Italian
nobleman who deserted her, her lifelong love
for another woman, and her dreams of
becoming a renowned artist.



Ruby Schmidt has the talent, the drive, even the guts to enroll in art school, leaving behind her childhood home and the beau she always expected to marry. Her life at the Academy seems heavenly at first, but she soon learns that societal norms in the East are as restrictive as those back home in West Texas. Rebelling against the insipid imagery women are expected to produce, Ruby embraces bohemian life. Her burgeoning sexuality drives her into a life-long love affair with another woman and into the arms of an Italian baron. With the Panic of 1893, the nation spirals into a depression, and Ruby's career takes a similar downward trajectory. After thinking she could have it all, Ruby now wonders how she can salvage the remnants of her life. Pregnant and broke, she returns to Texas rather than join the queues at the neighborhood soup kitchen. Set against the Gilded Age of America, a time when suffragettes fight for reproductive rights and the right to vote, *A Different Kind of Fire* depicts one woman's battle to balance husband, family, career, and ambition. Torn between her childhood sweetheart, her forbidden passion for another woman, the nobleman she had to marry, and becoming a renowned painter, Ruby's choices mold her in ways she could never have foreseen.



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PERSONAL BIO:

Writer, author, travel photographer, fire-starter. I am also just a Texas girl who's seen the world... My second novel, *Hunting the Devil*, joined *A Different Kind of Fire* on September 15, 2019.

OFFICIAL BIO:

Suanne Schafer, born in West Texas at the height of the Cold War, finds it ironic that grade school drills for tornadoes and nuclear war were the same: hide beneath your desk and kiss your rear-end goodbye. Now a retired family-practice physician whose only child has fledged the nest, her pioneer ancestors and world travels fuel her imagination.

She originally planned to write romances, but either as a consequence of a series of failed relationships or a genetic distrust of happily-ever-after, her heroines are strong women who battle tough environments and intersect with men who might—or might not—love them.

"With rare artistry, Schafer paints a life both creative and cursed in *A Different Kind of Fire*."

—Willa Blair, Award-winning Amazon and Barnes & Noble #1 bestselling author of *His Highland Love*, *Highland Troth*, and *Highland Seer*

"Ruby Louise Schmidt is a splendid and fearless heroine you'll be rooting for every step of the way."

—Wendy Tokunaga, author of *Postcards from Tokyo*

"The saga of a young woman determined to follow her dream, whatever obstacles cross her path."

—MJ Fredrick, author of *A Texas Kind of Love*, *Smitten in a Small Town*, a two-time Epic Awards winner and a four-time RWA Golden Heart finalist



"I was amazed by Suanne Schafer's poetic and laconic turns of phrase. She has the gift of being simultaneously ornate and succinct, which is no easy task."

—Joshua Mohr, author of *Sirens*, *Termite Parade* (a *New York Times* Editors' Choice best-seller), *Some Things that Meant the World to Me* (a 2009 *O Magazine* Top 10 Read and *SF Chronicle* best-seller)

"If you love historical novels about women who throw off the shackles of feminine convention, then this book is for you."

In spare but sensuous prose reminiscent of Cormac McCarthy and E. Annie Proulx, Schafer brings Ruby Schmidt to life—a woman who doesn't belong in the late nineteenth century but gradually finds her place in the twentieth. You can't help but root for Ruby as she grows from Texas farm girl, to a freethinker and lover of men and women in Philadelphia, and finally into a consummate artist. This is a powerful and deeply satisfying read."

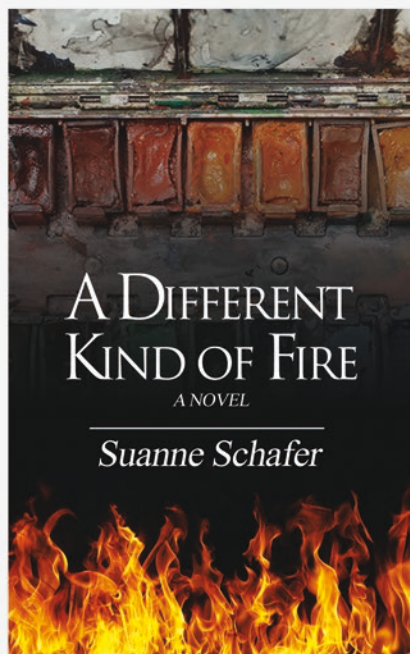
—Helena Echlin, co-author of *Sparked* and author of *Gone*



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FOR FANS OF...

Portrait of a Conspiracy,

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Madame Picasso by Anne Girard

ASIN: B01K16HPB4

"Suanne Schafer's *A Different Kind of Fire* is a powerful story of a Gilded Age artist who brooks convention both in her art and her love. Read this book: It has both the depth of emotion of a modernist novel and the epic scope of a historical saga."

—Alicia Rasley, author of *The Year She Fell*, Amazon bestseller



"Readers can't help rooting for the fierce and very real Ruby Schmidt as she travels from Texas to art school, falls passionately in love, and finally returns home to the farm, this time as a wife, mother and painter. Schafer has created an unforgettable character who belongs in the grand literary tradition of heroines who survive against all odds."

—Malena Watrous, author of *If You Follow Me* and co-author of *Sparked*



"In Ruby Schmidt, Suanne Schafer has created a remarkable heroine, one who faces the challenges of time and convention with a vivid spirit and a sense of emotional adventure. It's a pleasure to follow her as she pursues her art, explores her loves and determines to live life on no terms but her own."

—Angela Pneuman, author of *Lay It on My Heart* and *Home Remedies*



"Writer Suanne Schafer spins a unique tale of a turn-of-the-twentieth century Texas heroine and her way of artistic expression. Her paintings shock her contemporaries and the love she's drawn to shocks herself. *A Different Kind of Fire* depicts the journey of a determined woman to meet life on her own terms."

—Pamela Morsi, *USA Today* Bestselling Author of *The Cotton Queen* and *Bitsy's Bait & BBQ*



Q&A

A Different Kind of Fire

SUANNE
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The Women's Life Class
Alice Barber Stephens
Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts

Q: Why did you decide to write *A Different Kind of Fire*?

A: My pioneer ancestors provided the inspiration. My grandmother went off to the Chicago Art Institute while my grandfather remained in West Texas, vowing he'd never marry unless he married her. That formed the core of *A Different Kind of Fire*. Though inspired by this family story, *A Different Kind of Fire* is not a history of my family as Ruby soon took on a life of her own, and I realized I wanted to focus on the female point of view, not the dual points of view so common in romances.

Q: What makes your main character(s) unique or worth caring about?

A: Ruby is a headstrong woman who pursues her dreams and struggles for self-expression at a time when women struggled to change their place in the world. She encounters suffragettes, the Free Love movement, bohemian life—all of which shape her destiny.



Q: What inspired you to write?

A: During a recent midlife crisis, I rediscovered my long-lost love—Tarzan. Tired of juggling roles as mother, wife, and physician, I yearned to rekindle my creativity. Burnout, coupled with the deaths of five loved ones in five years, made me nostalgic for hot summer days on my grandparents' ranch. Their glassed-in back porch held a wall of shelves laden with everything from Henry Wadsworth Longfellow to Pearl S. Buck to Zane Grey. Back then, reading Edgar Rice Burroughs' *Tarzan* transported me about as far from West Texas as a girl could get. To recapture those magical moments, I took a week's vacation and re-read all the *Tarzan* books. After days immersed in the jungle with a quasi-naked apeman, I emerged, came to my senses, and decided to become an author. Fortunately, I found the [Stanford On-Line Creative Writing Certificate program](#) which saved me years of learning the craft.



Q: What's the story behind the title?

A: I liked the play between real fire and the creative fire and the fire of romantic passion. At one point, Bismarck says to Ruby, "I wish you had the same fire for me as you do for art," and she replies, "I do...it's just a different kind of fire."

Q: What's harder, writing that first sentence or the last sentence of your book?

A: For me, the first sentence is the most difficult, getting it in a form that will suck a reader into the rest of the book.

Q: What are you working on right now?

A: *Hunting the Devil*, a novel about a biracial American physician entangled in the 1994 Rwandan genocide.



Q&A

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Pinterest.com/suanneschaferauthor

its-suanneschafer-author.tumblr.com

Instagram.com/suanneschafer

Linkedin.com/in/suanne-schafer-564b5331

Q: Who are your favorite authors?

A: There are so many. Khaled Hosseini for *The Kite Runner*; Larry McMurtry for *Lonesome Dove*; Daniel Silva for his *Gabriel Allon* spy series; Emily Strelow, a new author, for *The Wild Birds*; anything by Tracy Chevalier or Susan Vreeland; Carmen Maria Machado's stunning *Her Body and Other Parties*; Dawn Tripp for *Georgia*, a novelization of Georgia O'Keeffe's life; Diana Gabaldon's *Outlander* series; *Ahab's Wife* by Sena Jeter Naslund...

Q: What are you currently reading right now?

A: Kimmery Martin's *The Queen of Hearts*, a medical drama superimposed on the lifelong friendship of two women.



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