



Channel Surfing in the Sea of Happiness by Guy Babineau

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Rights available: World ex-Canada; Audio, film, television

An iconoclastic romp through the end of the twentieth century.

Channel Surfing in the Sea of Happiness is a funny, poignant, and provocative collection of short stories about 2SLGBTQ+ characters in the 1970s, '80s, and '90s. They are astonishingly relevant today. A gay teenager comes out in high school in the seventies. A lesbian puppeteer becomes an activist in the early years of the AIDS epidemic. A transgender sex worker retaliates when women keep going missing from Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. A sister comes to terms with her brother's death from AIDS. Three connected tales follow two queer con artists as they travel across the U.S. in a series of ridiculous get-rich-quick schemes. Finding themselves adrift in an increasingly absurdist, media-saturated world, the vivid, strong-willed characters explore the possibilities and power of hope, humanity, and humour.

First published in 1998 in a limited edition, the collection has been revised and rewritten, including three new stories.

Channel Surfing in the Sea of Happiness explores how the human heart stays afloat in a society that is entertaining, informing, and networking itself to death.

The Author

Guy Babineau is a writer, freelance journalist, and educator in fashion marketing and communications. His fiction, articles, and reviews have appeared in *The Globe and Mail*, *Descant*, *The Georgia Straight*, *Xtra!*, *Xtra! West*, *Vancouver Magazine*, *The Vancouver Sun*, and more. He is the recipient of a Vancouver Fashion Week Award for Journalism and a Vancouver LGBTQ+ Community Award for Writer of the Year. He loves photography and working out, is a superfan of *RuPaul's Drag Race*, and is passionate about sustainable fashion. He was born in Toronto, Ontario and now lives in Victoria, British Columbia.

Praise for previous edition:

"... a brilliant eye for physical detail and psychological observation ... page-turning plotlines and moments that demand reflection, even reading aloud, to better appreciate the poetry or ideas expressed ... Guy Babineau brings considerable talent and experience to this, his first collection. His wit, style, keen intelligence, and fluid storytelling skills make him a writer to watch, and *Channel Surfing in the Sea of Happiness* a collection well worth reading."

— *Quill & Quire*



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Sarah Cooper • s.cooper@cormorantbooks.com • 416-925-8887 (ext.7)