

My **LIFE** ON THE SLUSH PILE

MY SISTER IS MY MUM

A META-MEMOIR



BY **LINDSAY** WINCHERAUK

MY LIFE ON THE SLUSH PILE



A story about finding yourself after accidentally discovering your life started with a lie.

Not every day do you meet someone who watched both of his parents die from The Big C and laid them to rest, only to discover sixteen years later that they weren't his parents after all!

It's like being reborn as a whole different person.

ABOUT A BOY



*A boy is born in a secret place. A dark place. A sad place.
His Mother is his Sister. Making her his Sister + his Mother.
His Father is his Grandfather.*

His Grandmother is just his Grandmother.

His Brothers used to be just Brothers. But then it is discovered they might be Uncles as well.

That turned them into Brunkles.

His Sisters used to be just Sisters. But then it is discovered they might be Aunts as well.

That turned them into Sisaunts.

The boy is never meant to know the truth because his birth brings with it, shame.

How could any of them be, okay?

Especially, the boy and his Grandmother?

MY LIFE ON THE SLUSH PILE

A META-MEMOIR

- DEDICATION
- PREFACE

FOUNDATION

IT STARTED WITH A LIE → DAY 1: 16 JULY 1960 → SHAME → NAME DAY: 13 JULY 1963 →
HOME SWEET HOME → CHILDHOOD MEMORIES: 11 SEPTEMBER 1965 → NO CURFEW →
TV TRAYS → SPAGHETTI → MY FATHER'S FAMILY: JULY 1970 → PUPPY LOVE →
MONEY FIGHTS - YEAR 7

DEVELOPMENT

HIGH SCHOOL → DRIVING LESSONS → THE BIONIC WOMAN: 1976-1978 →
VICE WORLD PART 1: SPEED → GRIDIRON PURSUITS →

HELL + ESCAPE + MORE HELL + LOVE

THE BIG C: KNOCK. KNOCK. FUCKING KNOCK. → VICE WORLD PART 2: BOOZE →
VICE WORLD PART 3: SEX → HELL'S INFERNO: 1980-1985 →
LOVE INTERLUDE: CUPID'S ARROWS → UNTIL WE MET AGAIN... →
THE DAY MY DAD DIED → AFTERMATH: 17 JULY-SEPTEMBER 1986 →
KNOCK. KNOCK. IS YOUR MOTHER HOME? →
I'M NEVER GOING TO COME HOME AGAIN, AM I? →
AFTERMATH: 12 DECEMBER-MARCH 1988 → LOVE & LOSS → MORE NAPSHKINS →
CORRIE & VERN'S WEDDING DAY → SIMPLY IRRESISTIBLE → 31 OCTOBER 1989 →
THINKING INSIDE THE BOX: WAXING POSITIVE IN A CONFUSING WORLD

WHO AM I GOING TO BECOME?

GOODBYE BERNICE + SADIE → WELCOME TO VANCOUVER: 14 FEBRUARY 1990 →
ROAD RASH → LET'S MEET GAIL → HOTELIERS + MANUEL NORIEGA →
FRIENDS + SURGERY + FRIENDS + MORE SURGERY → NO BLOOD. NO FOUL. →

DEDICATIONS

MORE SURGERY + HELLO KITTY → CHASING NEON → WALLY + DANIELLE →
COCAINE OFF A HOOKER'S TITS → WAYNE → UNRAVEL → ANUS →
RUSSIANS, CLOWNS & DRAG QUEENS → **NEW FLATMATE + CONCUSSION PROTOCOL** →

↑ FUCKED UP ↓
↓ FUCKED UP ↑

↑ CAN I TAKE YOU HIGHER ↑ → ~~FRESH~~ TRASH → PEOPLE MATTER →
TOUCHED BY AN ANGEL → FAREWELL + EVIL + CRACK WHORE →
PASSPORT: 19 JULY 2003

↓ COLLAPSE ↓
↑ COLLAPSE ↑

NEXT STOPS → DEATH OF ROMANCE → ↓ BOTTOM ↓ →

PICKING UP THE PIECES
PICKING UP THE PIECES

↑ UP ↑ → HALFWAY HOME →

ESCAPING THROUGH TRAVEL
ESCAPING THROUGH TRAVEL

MONTREAL → ESCAPE TO NEW YORK → TODAY + THAT PLACE → LONDON CALLING →
AMSTERDAM →

SAVE ME
SAVE ME

CHOCOLATE LABRADOR → TURN →

BACK ON THE ROAD
BACK ON THE ROAD

VENICE + FLORENCE → FLORENCE + MONACO + MONTE CARLO + NICE → SITGES, SPAIN
→ BRIVE-LA-GAILLARDE FRANCE → GAY PARIS → LONDON PART DEUX →

BREAKING
BREAKING

GOODBYE 2003 →

DEDICATIONS
DEDICATIONS

SQUARE PEGS. ROUND HOLES.
2004RE PEGS? ROUND HOLES?

WHERE ARE YOU, FATHER? → MADELINE → PEN PAL → A LITTLE NIGGER →
LET THE TRUTH SET YOU FREE → ~~BABY BROTHER~~ → HELLO FATHER → HAPPY BIRTHDAY
→ **A LOT OF PEOPLE WERE ADOPTED** → DEAR FAMILY → SCREENWRITER MICHAEL →
SELL YOUR STORY → WALKING PNEUMONIA → FREE TICKETS →
ENTER THE CONDUCTOR → I DROVE A DEAD MAN TO WORK → JOHNNY FOX →
MY DRIVE WITH A DEAD MAN: → CONTINUED → GOD'S NEW RECRUIT: 7 MAY 2006 →
STAY AWAY FROM THE MOORS → WHO'D PLAY ME? → READING THE SIGNS →
GREATNESS + THE THING + FOX MULDER → I HEARD YOU MIGHT BE MY FATHER →

HOMECOMING. START MAKING SENSE.
HOWECOMING? START MAKING SENSE?

MIRROR, MIRROR ON THE WALL → THE LAST KEYSTROKES →

LOSE ENDS
LOSE ENDS?

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS → AUTHOR'S NOTE → DEDICATIONS PART 2 →
ARE YOU STILL HERE? → APPENDAGE →

WHO I'VE BECOME (FOR NOW)
WHO I, VE BECOME (FOR NOW)

- LINDSAY WINCHERAUK
-

WHO IS LINDSAY WINCHERAUK?

Lindsay Wincherauk is a fearless writer. He has published two books and has had more than eighteen OPEDs appear in major commuter newspapers. Lindsay wasn't born with a silver spoon in his mouth. His father (who wasn't his father) worked as a mechanic. His mother (who wasn't his mother) worked as an excellent chef in a diner. In fact, his birth was in a secret place where | society deemed | unfit mothers were sent to give birth in isolation – shading families from shame. If the babies survived being born, usually, they were sold to wealthy Americans or adopted out to farm families.

Lindsay's life began with a lie.

Despite Lindsay's perilous beginnings, starting with deception, Lindsay knew no better and went through life excelling at things, usually in two-year stints. Be that athletics (hall of fame, record holding, one-eyed quarterback), scholastically, career-wise (generating more than \$70 million in revenue for one company), socially, + without question: creatively!

Lindsay's challenging beginning instilled in Lindsay heaping doses of compassion and empathy. Lindsay's life starting out as a lie gave him a keen sense to spot BS from miles away. It also provided him with a dry sense of humour and an understanding those born with silver spoons in their mouths will never be self-aware enough to understand (or admit) their good fortune.

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During Lindsay's work career, he was well-liked by all coworkers. Lindsay was also well respected by his diverse collection of clients, developing several fantastic friendships, primarily because Lindsay is known for his unflinching integrity and ability to hold conversations on most topics.

Lindsay's life mantra is:

The most valuable part of life is the fabulous people we meet during our journeys. If you treat people with respect (leaving judgment at the door), and more importantly, by opening doors for those less fortunate or who can't speak up for themselves, you are living a good, compassionate life. Making money at all costs is not the only thing mattering. Life can be difficult + devastatingly unfair.

Lindsay believes sharing vulnerability is what makes us human. Lindsay will never shy away from being honest about his pain.

Lindsay also believes we must stand up for ourselves, + more importantly, for those who are too burdened by the injustices of life, they can't find the strength to stand up for themselves.

SOME THINGS LINDSAY IS MOST PROUD OF ARE WHEN:

- A sixty-year-old employee of his, who had entered a point of life where life had become more struggle than joy (it happens to all of us as we age), said to Lindsay, “I must thank you. I’ve listened to how you treat people, + by listening, I’ve learned so much about compassion and patience. Thank you. I consider you a great friend.”
- Another employee who was struggling with addiction thanked Lindsay for his kindness, presenting Lindsay with a Christmas card from him and his girlfriend. Tucked inside the card: lottery tickets.

LINDSAY WINCHERAUK, compassionate, empathetic, well-read, kind, blessed with unflinching integrity, humour in balance, loved by coworkers + friends alike.

Lindsay will always stick up for the underdog. Lindsay understands there are countless older people suffering job loss because COVID gave some companies an opportunity to – Lindsay thinks it is essential to draw attention to this life-threatening issue by being the voice for those too broken to speak up for themselves.

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Lindsay is currently pitching four manuscripts to publishers and literary agencies. One of the manuscripts (he can’t talk about) will blow the roof off the predatory practices of – Lindsay is writing relentlessly and is also pitching OPEDs and short stories, fiction, + non to literary magazines around the globe.

Lindsay has appeared on Breakfast Television, radio programs in Montreal, + several others in the Vancouver area. Lindsay has also been a featured guest on CKNW + CBC, both on several occasions. And Lindsay was a vital witness of a Hate Crime. This led to the first Hate Crime conviction in Canadian legal history, resulting in him being a speaker at an Enough is Enough Rally (anti-violence rally) with dignitaries, politicians, law enforcement, and community leaders in front of a crowd of approximately five thousand.

Lindsay was the **#1 MIXED-TAPE DJ** at the **UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN** for most of the nineteen-eighties, a fact bringing him joy.

Lindsay resides in Vancouver.
