

# Megan E. Freeman

author • poet • presenter

*"If you ever get a chance to see Megan present at a conference...always, always take an opportunity to see Megan talk." – Colby Sharp*



Laura Carson Photography

## Full Author Bio

Megan E. Freeman attended an elementary school where poets visited her classroom every week to teach poetry, and she has been a writer ever since. She is the author of the New York Times bestselling novels *AWAY* and *ALONE*, which won the Colorado Book Award, the California, Illinois, Indiana, Japan, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Nebraska, and Vermont children's book awards, is an NCTE Notable Verse Novel, and is included on over two dozen "best of" and state reading lists. Megan is also a Pushcart Prize-nominated poet, and her poetry chapbook, *Lessons on Sleeping Alone*, was published by Liquid Light Press.

An award-winning teacher with decades of classroom experience, Megan taught multiple subjects across the arts and humanities to students K-16, and she is nationally recognized for presenting workshops and speaking to audiences across the country. She studied theater and dramatic literature for many years, earning degrees from Occidental College and the Ohio State University.

Megan is a member of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators, Northern Colorado Writers, Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers, Columbine Poets of Colorado, and Lighthouse Writers Workshop. She is an Impact on Education Award winner, a fellow with the National Writing Project at Colorado State University, a Fund for Teachers fellow, and a member of the Colorado Poets Center. She used to live in northeast Los Angeles, central Ohio, northern Norway, and on Caribbean cruise ships. Now she divides her time between northern Colorado and the Texas Gulf Coast.

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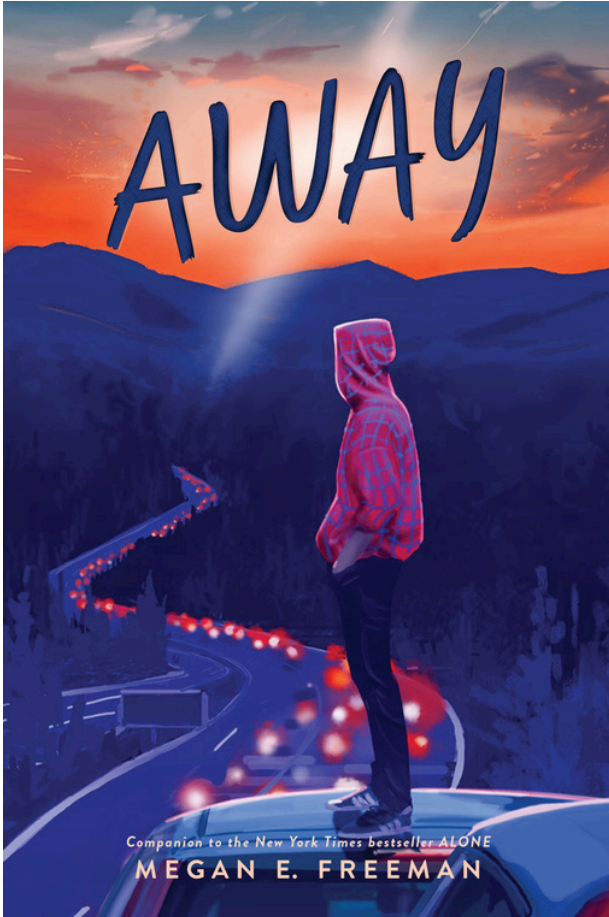
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### School Visits & Events:

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**Learn more at [MeganEFreeman.com](http://MeganEFreeman.com)**

# The long-awaited companion to *ALONE* and instant New York Times Bestseller



Cover art by Pascal Campion



Simon & Schuster

Publisher: Aladdin

ISBN13: 9781665959728

Grades 5 and up

Ages: 10 - 99

**"Wowza! I loved revisiting the world Megan E. Freeman created in *Alone*. This one was a wild ride."**

**- Colby Sharp**

**Learn more at [MeganEFreeman.com](http://MeganEFreeman.com)**

*A group of children investigate the threat that prompted large-scale evacuations in this powerful and dramatic companion novel to the New York Times bestselling *ALONE*.*

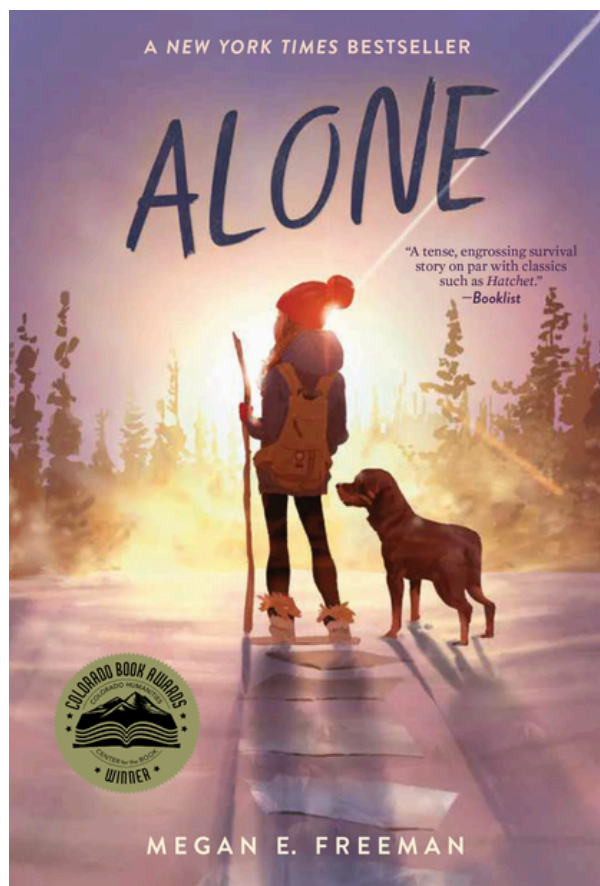
When an imminent threat alert causes a midnight evacuation in Colorado, four kids relocated to the same shelter become unlikely friends. After they stumble onto evidence casting doubt on the legitimacy of the evacuation, they begin an investigation that causes them to question everything and everyone around them.

Through a series of covert and courageous endeavors, the friends uncover the facts behind the "imminent threat" and must decide how—and if—they can expose the truth.

Set in the same universe as Freeman's bestselling novel *ALONE* and told in a variety of poetry and prose forms, *AWAY* is a companion novel sure to please fans of adventure and mystery stories alike.



## "Hatchet for a new age." - Kirkus



Cover art by Pascal Campion

"The novel is gripping and the plot fast-paced... This is a tense, engrossing survival story on par with classics such as Hatchet." - Booklist

"This exciting story of tenacity, determination, and ingenuity is hard to put down, and thank heavens nothing happens to the dog." - NPR


"Realistic fiction fans will appreciate the thoughtful use of language that hints at Maddie's introspection and evolution, and survival buffs will appreciate her creativity as she resolutely addresses each new emergency."

- Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books

Perfect for fans of *Hatchet* and the *I Survived* series, this harrowing middle grade novel-in-verse tells the story of a young girl who wakes up one day to find herself utterly alone in her small Colorado town.

### New York Times Bestseller

*A Mighty Girl's Best Book of the Year*  
*ALA Best Book for Reluctant Readers*  
*Bank Street Best Book of the Year*  
*California Young Reader Medal*  
*Colorado Book Award Winner*  
*Colorado Children's Book Award List*  
*Crystal Kite Award Finalist*  
*Golden Cowbell Award*  
*Golden Sower Meadowlark Award*  
*Goodreads Choice Award Finalist*  
*High Plains Book Award*  
*Iowa Children's Choice Award List*  
*Just One More Page List*  
*Kentucky Bluegrass Award*  
*Keystone to Reading Book Award List*  
*Lone Star Reading List*  
*Magnolia Book Award*  
*Maine Student Book Award*  
*Massachusetts Children's Book Award*  
*Minnesota Youth Reading Award List*  
*NCTE Notable Verse Novel*  
*Nerdy Book Club Best Book of the Year*  
*New York Times Bestseller List*  
*Reading the West Book Award Finalist*  
*Rebecca Caudill Young Readers Book Award*  
*Rhode Island Middle School Book Award Finalist*  
*Sakura Medal*  
*Sequoyah Masterlist*  
*South Carolina Junior Book Award List*  
*Surrey Book of the Year*  
*Truman Readers Award List*  
*Vermont Golden Dome Award*  
*Volunteer State Book Award List*  
*William Allen White Master List*  
*Young Hoosier Award Winner*

 Simon & Schuster

Publisher: Aladdin  
Length: 416 pages)  
Grades: 5 and up  
Ages: 10 - 99

Learn more at [MeganEFreeman.com](http://MeganEFreeman.com)



## Lessons on Sleeping Alone

Poems by Megan E. Freeman



### Lessons on Sleeping Alone

Poems by Megan E. Freeman



Publisher: Liquid Light Press (December 5, 2015)

Length: 56 pages

ISBN: 9780990926764

Cover art by Chuck Ceraso

*Lessons on Sleeping Alone is a beautiful, vibrant saga of a woman caught between the perfection of mythology and the loneliness of one-night business-meeting hotels...a fulfilling sequence of poems exploring the sensual awareness of the individual trying to find "self" amidst the promise of "kitsch and kinship." It is filled with stark, sometimes shocking imagery that goes direct to the soul where, as Megan writes, "metaphor is fact and symbols are simply accessories we hang around our throats." I recommend it.*

- Jared Smith, Poetry Editor of Turtle Island Quarterly

*There is blood in these poems, and flesh as well. From conception to death, from LA to the Arctic to Colorado, Freeman finds the angles to deal with subjects from Greek tragedy, an email inbox, the operating room, and, yes, sleeping alone. Freeman fearlessly probes that life that sustains life for: "Our chemical selves in all our juicy mess leave trails of truth shimmery as any snail's."*

- Robert King, Founder of the Colorado Poets Center

*In Megan E. Freeman's passionate and intelligent collection of poems, Lessons on Sleeping Alone, the movement is that of coming into the open, of claiming space. Poem by poem, the poet's voice emerges as "individual, recognizable, distinct," words from poet Jane Hirshfield's essay on originality in Nine Gates. The insights that inform this collection come to a hard-won place that is, in an early poem, identified as "You Are Here." But here has become a more deeply owned and different place.*

- Veronica Patterson, Colorado Book Award Winner for Poetry

***A complete list of poetry publications is available at [MeganEFreeman.com](http://MeganEFreeman.com).***

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## Anthologies

Exception/ALL: An Exploration of Normal  
Chiaroscuro: An Anthology of Virtue and Vice  
Fresh Starts  
IMPROV An Anthology of Colorado Poets: Peace, War, Love  
Ink: An Anthology  
Paris and the Poetry Mermaid  
Poems from the Back Forty  
Rise: An Anthology of Change  
Shortest Day, Longest Night  
The Alphabet of the Night  
Vine Leaves Literary Journal: A Collection of Vignettes  
Walt Whitman, Your Beard Full of Butterflies  
Weird Sisters: Lilac City Fairy Tales

## Honors & Awards

California Young Readers Medal Winner - *ALONE*  
Colorado Book Award Winner - *ALONE*  
Colorado Book Award Winner - *Rise, An Anthology of Change*  
High Plains Book Award Winner - *ALONE*  
Kentucky Bluegrass Award Winner - *ALONE*  
Magnolia Book Award Winner - *ALONE*  
Maine Student Book Award Winner - *ALONE*  
Massachusetts Children's Book Award Winner - *ALONE*  
NCTE Notable Verse Novel - *ALONE*  
Nerdy Book Club Best Book - *ALONE*  
New York Times Bestseller List - *AWAY & ALONE*  
Pushcart Prize nominee - (multiple)  
Rebecca Caudill Young Readers Book Award Winner - *ALONE*  
Sakura Medal - *ALONE*  
Vermont Golden Dome Book Award Winner - *ALONE*  
YALSA Best Book for Reluctant Readers - *ALONE*  
Young Hoosier Book Award Winner - *ALONE*

## Commissions & Collaborations

"Music's Music" - composition by Steven Sametz, commissioned by the Los Angeles Master Chorale  
"crow pose"- composition by Thomas Edward Morgan, commissioned by Ars Nova Singers  
Women Artists and Poets: A Collaboration - Lone Tree Arts Center  
Encounters: How the Light Gets In - multi-media collaboration, Artworks Loveland  
Muse and Music - poetry and music collaboration, Where the Books Go  
Line Casting - multi-media collaboration, Artworks Loveland

## Literary Journals

Anti-Heroic Chic  
Ashé Journal  
deLuge Literary and Art Journal  
Déraciné Literary Magazine  
Dying Dahlia Review  
Every Day Poems  
Five:2:One Magazine  
Foliate Oak Literary Magazine  
Listen: A Seeker's Resource  
Literary Mama  
Riggwelter  
Scarlet Leaf Review  
Sheila-Na-Gig  
Stoneboat Literary Journal  
The Manhattanville Review  
The Rockford Review  
The Sunlight Press  
The Turnip Truck(s)  
Turtle Island Quarterly  
Visitant Literary Magazine  
Visitant Literary Magazine  
Wild Musette Journal

**See a complete list, including interviews and articles, at [MeganEFreeman.com](http://MeganEFreeman.com)**

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## Author Visits

A National Writing Project teacher, Megan taught multiple subjects over a thirty year career in education, working with students K-16 and mentoring teachers at all phases of their careers. She loves doing author visits and speaking to audiences of all sizes, and she teaches workshops for children and adults.

- Assemblies
- Classroom Visits
- Virtual Visits
- Author Q&As
- Signed Bookplates
- Readings and Book Signings
- Custom Events & Presentations
- One Book, One School
- Book Club Visits
- Keynote Speeches
- Workshops for Students
- Workshops for Teachers
- Workshops for Writers
- Autographed Copies



Laura Carson Photography

## Conferences & Festivals

1455 Literary Arts Summer Festival  
American Association of School Librarians  
American Booksellers Association  
American Libraries Association  
Artworks Loveland  
Association of American University Women  
Association of Illinois School Librarians  
Bud Werner Memorial Library  
California Association of Teachers of English  
Colorado Council of the International Reading Association  
Colorado Language Arts Society Regional Conferences  
Colorado League of Charter Schools' Annual Conferences  
Colorado Teen Literature Conference  
Escondido Public Library  
Florida Association of Media Educators  
Indiana Library Conference  
Michigan Reading Association  
Mountain Words Literary Festival  
National Council of Teachers of English  
National Association of Gifted Children

National Alliance for Public Charter Schools  
Ohio Young Authors' Conference  
Rocky Mountain/Plains Social Studies Conference  
San Diego Public Library  
San Diego Union Tribune Festival of the Book  
San Marcos Promise Future Fair  
Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators  
Steamboat Writers Conference  
Sterling Correctional Facility  
Texas Library Association  
The Loveland Museum  
The Tucson Festival of Books  
Virginia State Literacy Association  
Where the Books Go  
Wilkinson Public Library  
Writing Heights Conference  
WORD Literary Arts Festival  
World Read Aloud Day  
WriteOnCon

**Video clips and more information are available at [MeganEFreeman.com](http://MeganEFreeman.com).**