

**WE LOVE ANDERSON COOPER by R.L. Maizes (July 2019)**

*Acquiring editor: Deb Futter; Material: manuscript; Page count: 176*

In this quirky, humorous, and deeply human short story collection, Pushcart Prize-nominated author R.L. Maizes reminds us that even in our most isolated moments, we are never truly alone. In *We Love Anderson Cooper*, characters are treated as outsiders because of their sexual orientation, racial or religious identity, or simply because they look different. A young man courts the publicity that comes from outing himself at his bar mitzvah. When a painter is shunned because of his appearance, he learns to ink tattoos that come to life. A paranoid Jewish actuary suspects his cat of cheating on him—with his Protestant girlfriend.

In this debut collection, humor complements pathos. Readers will recognize themselves in these stories and in these protagonists, whose backgrounds are vastly different from their own, because we've all been outsiders at some point.

**R.L. Maizes** was born and raised in Queens, New York, and now lives in Boulder, Colorado. Maizes's short stories have aired on National Public Radio and have appeared in the literary magazines *Electric Literature*, *Witness*, *Bellevue Literary Review*, *Slice*, and *Blackbird*, among others. Her essays have been published in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *Lilith*, and elsewhere.

Maizes is an alumna of the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, the Sewanee Writers' Conference, and the Tin House Summer Writer's Workshop. Her work has received Honorable Mention in *Glimmer Train's* Fiction Open contest, has been a finalist in numerous other national contests, and has been nominated for a Pushcart Prize. *We Love Anderson Cooper* is her first book.

**"I can't remember the last time I read an entire book with a smile on my face. But from R.L. Maizes's title, *We Love Anderson Cooper*, until the last story here, I grinned. These stories are funny, yes. But they are also so big hearted and honest that I wanted to thrust them into everyone's hands and make them read this book so we would all be grinning together as we recognized that these oddball characters are really exactly like us."**—Ann Hood, author of *The Knitting Circle* and *The Book That Matters Most*

**"A unique angle of vision—devastating and funny. In her stories, R.L. Maizes probes the fusion of alienation and yearning, the persistence of attachment to animals and to people."**—Ursula Hegi, Author of *Stones from the River* (Book #1 of the Burgdorf Cycle Series)

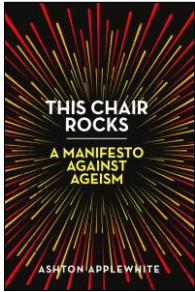
**"I found myself dazzled, moved, and lost in admiration for these unforgettable stories, each one a gem. Where do I sign up for the R.L. Maizes school of brilliantly depicting off-kilter love and loss with unflinching wit and empathy?"**—Elinor Lipman, author of *Good Riddance* and *On Turpentine Lane*

*The author's debut novel will follow in 2020.*

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**THIS CHAIR ROCKS: A Manifesto Against Ageism by Ashton Applewhite (March 2019)**

*Acquiring editor: Jamie Raab; Material: finished copies; Page count: 304*

In our youth obsessed culture, we're bombarded by media images and messages about the despairs and declines of our later years. Wrinkles are embarrassing. Gray hair should be colored. Older minds and bodies are too frail to keep up with the pace of the modern working world. Olders should just step aside for the new generation. Ashton Applewhite once held these beliefs too until she realized where this prejudice comes from and the damage it does.

Lively, funny, and deeply researched, *This Chair Rocks* traces her journey from apprehensive boomer to pro-aging radical, and in the process, debunks myth after myth about late life. Explaining the roots of ageism in history and how it divides and debases, Applewhite examines how ageist stereotypes cripple the way our brains and bodies function, looks at ageism in the workplace and the bedroom, critiques the portrayal of elders as burdens to society, describes what an all-age-friendly world would look like, and offers a rousing call to action. It's time to create a world of age equality by making discrimination on the basis of age as unacceptable as any other kind of bias. Whether you're older or hoping to get there, this book will change the way you see the rest of your life.

Author and activist **Ashton Applewhite** has been recognized by the *New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, National Public Radio, and the American Society on Aging as an expert on ageism. She blogs at This Chair Rocks, speaks widely around the world, has written for *Harper's* and *Playboy*, and is the voice of Yo, Is This Ageist? In 2016, she joined the PBS site Next Avenue's annual list of Fifty Influencers in Aging as their Influencer of the Year.

**"This Chair Rocks is radical, exuberant, and full of all sorts of facts that erase many of the myths and beliefs about late life. As Applewhite defines and describes ageism, new ways of seeing and being in the world emerge, empowering everyone to see things as they really are."**—Laurie Anderson, artist

**"Wow. This book totally rocks. It arrived on a day when I was in deep confusion and sadness about my age Everything about it, from my invisibility to my neck. Within four or five wise, passionate pages, I had found insight, illumination, and inspiration. I never use the word empower, but this book has empowered me."**—Anne Lamott, *New York Times* bestselling author

**"Her humor, high-energy writing, and emphasis on positive ways to view and experience age contribute to making this a valuable resource, an agent for social change, and an enjoyable read."**—*Publishers Weekly* (starred review)

**"[This Chair Rocks] provides a positive view of aging that is sorely missing in today's popular culture. Appealing to a wide audience, it might even serve as a spark for positive social change."**—*Library Journal* (starred review)

Foreign sales: **Italy**/Corbaccio (via the author), **Korea**/Signonsa (via the author), **Slovenia**/Eno (via the author), **Taiwan**/Ecus Publishing, **UK**/Melville House

**YOU CAN ONLY YELL AT ME FOR ONE THING AT A TIME: Rules for Couples by Patricia Marx and Roz Chast (January 2020)**

*Acquiring editor: Deb Futter; Material: early .pdf due June; Page count: 112*

Everyone knows the tired, clichéd advice for a healthy relationship: Never go to bed angry. The couple that plays together, stays together. Distance makes the heart grow fonder. Sexual favors in exchange for cleaning up the cat vomit is a good and fair trade. Okay, maybe not that last one. In *You Can Only Yell at Me for One Thing at a Time: Rules for Couples*, the authors of *Why Don't You Write My Eulogy Now So I Can Correct It* share their fresh, new romance tips that will make you laugh, make you feel seen, and remind you why your relationship is better than everyone else's. These nuggets of advice include: *If you must breathe, don't breathe so loudly. It is easier to stay inside and wait for the snow to melt than to fight about who should shovel. Queen-sized beds, king-sized blankets.* And many more.

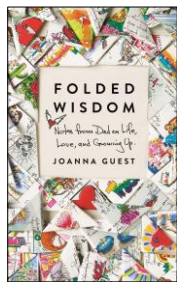
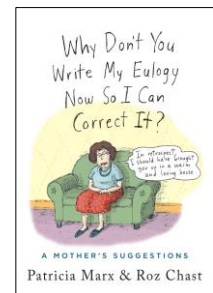
*You Can Only Yell at Me for One Thing at a Time* is the perfect gift for your significant other, your friendly anti-Valentine's Day crusader, or anyone in your life who wants to laugh about the absurdity of love.

**Patricia Marx** has been contributing to *The New Yorker* since 1989. She is a former writer for "Saturday Night Live" and "Rugrats," and is the author of several books, including *Let's Be Less Stupid, Him Her Him Again The End of Him*, and *Starting from Happy*. Marx was the first woman elected to the *Harvard Lampoon*. She has taught screenwriting and humor writing at Princeton, New York University, and Stonybrook University. She was the recipient of a 2015 Guggenheim Fellowship.

**Roz Chast** has loved to draw cartoons since she was a child growing up in Brooklyn. She attended Rhode Island School of Design, majoring in Painting because it seemed more artistic. However, soon after graduating, she reverted to type and began drawing cartoons once again. She is the author of the #1 *New York Times* bestselling memoir *Can't We Talk About Something More Pleasant?*

**Also available:** *Why Don't You Write My Eulogy Now So I Can Correct It (2019)*

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**FOLDED WISDOM: Notes from Dad on Life, Love, and Growing Up by Joanna Guest (May 2019)**

*Acquiring editor: Deb Futter; Material: early .pdf; Page count: 128*

For her entire childhood, Joanna's father, an artist by training, had a morning ritual: wake up early, walk the dog, and sit down at the kitchen table with two blank sheets of paper and plenty of colored markers. On those pages, every morning, he would craft a note to young Joanna and her brother Theo. Over the years, these beautifully illustrated and heartwarming notes morphed from word games and puzzles for five-year-olds to thoughtful guidance, advice, and reflections for teens approaching adulthood. Each morning, without fail, her father would have a note waiting for his two children. Now, with more than 3,500 of her father's colorful, vibrant, touching notes in hand, Joanna has chosen the most poignant and collected them into this beautiful book. With the illustrated notes throughout, the book is organized by themes such as forgiveness, love, friendship, teamwork, and more. These notes are full of messages we all need to hear. Heartfelt and full of possibility for the future, the notes are timeless and relevant reminders of our common humanity. They hold lessons that are easily applicable to each of our lives.

**Joanna Guest** is a proud daughter who enjoys talking loudly and often about her family. She left a career in politics to focus on *Folded Wisdom*. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Family Studies and Human Development from the University of Arizona, and a Master's of Public Policy from Georgetown University. *Folded Wisdom* is her first book and she looks forward to someday plagiarizing her dad's sentiments to her own children.

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