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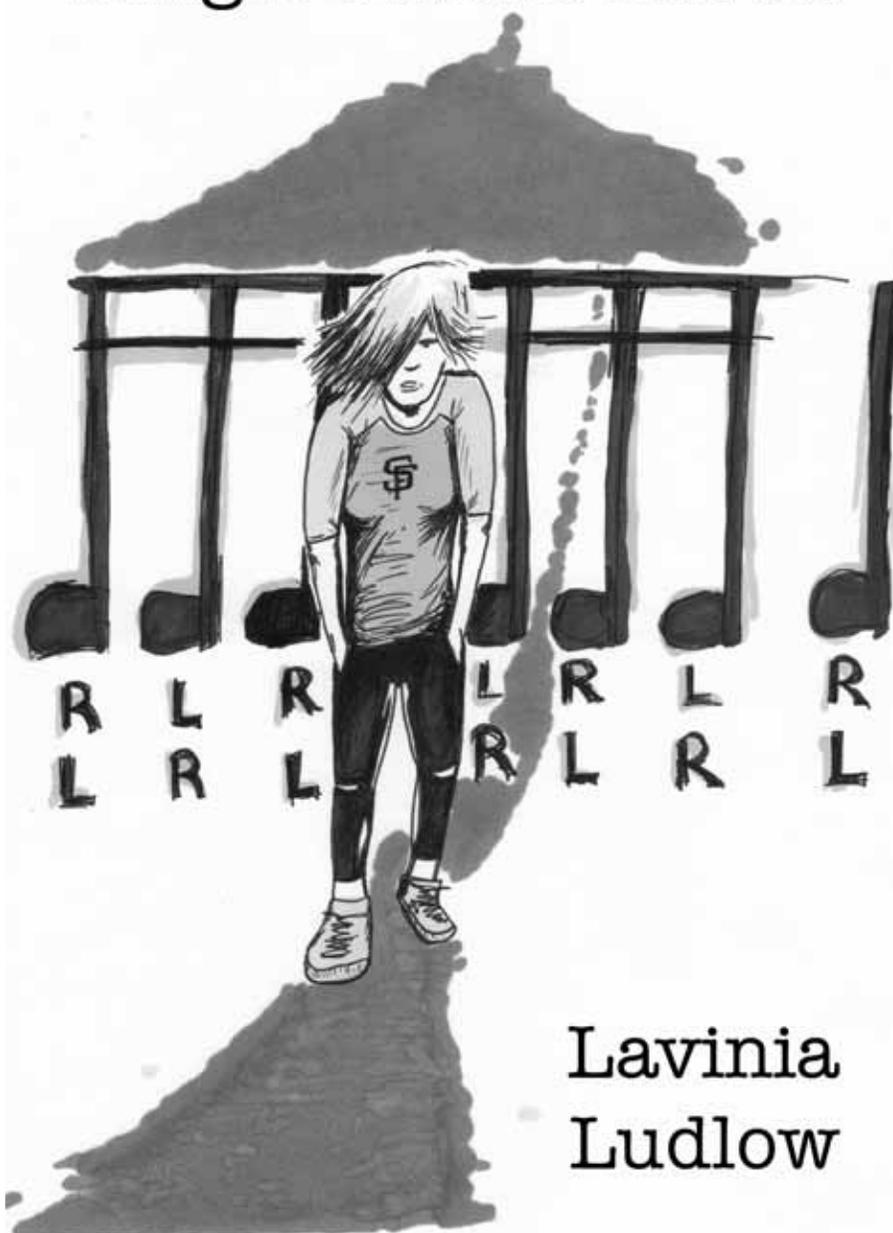
Press Release

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Single Stroke Seven





Generation U(nemployed)

Casperian Books is pleased to announce the release of Lavinia Ludlow's new novel, *Single Stroke Seven*.

In an attention-deficit society still crippled by the aftereffects of the recession, Lilith, a percussive virtuoso—or maybe just a garage band drummer—fights to break into the indie rock scene.

With a band of misguided lost boys, an ego-slaughtering day job at a bottling plant, and the Silicon Valley's inflated cost of living to contend with, Lilith flounders at keeping herself and her friends from dissolving into obsolescence and numbing consumerism.

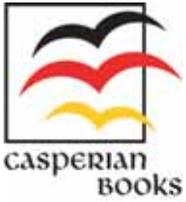
A sex, drugs, and rock 'n' roll tale too impoverished to afford any sex, drugs, or rock 'n' roll, *Single Stroke Seven* sheds light on the independent artists of a shipwrecked generation coming of age in perilous economic conditions.

Single Stroke Seven goes on sale nationwide March 2016.



Author:	Lavinia Ludlow
Publisher:	Casperian Books
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For further information or to arrange an interview with the author, please e-mail publicity@casperianbooks.com.



Interview with Lavinia Ludlow

Q: The opening line on the back page is “Meet Generation U(nemployment).” Why the pun on cohort naming conventions?

A: *Single Stroke Seven* spotlights a demographic of artists belonging to the “Peter Pan Generation,” a cohort that has delayed the pursuit of life milestones that make up the American Dream: buying a house, starting a family, attaining financial security, and planning for retirement. Some have chosen to suspend this conventional path for other ambitions while others have no choice but to postpone those life events in a recession-torn economy. Told through the eyes of a starving musician, a drummer, Lilith spends more time bulldogging eviction, hunger, and medical bills than she does on her career in music.

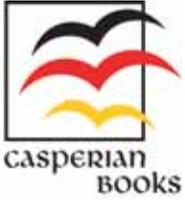
Q: What was your inspiration for this novel?

A: I wrote most of *Single Stroke Seven* in the dead of night, after working swing shift as an office assistant in a packaging plant. The hardest thing about the job, on top of the commute, dismal pay, paranoia of being fired over a technicality, and general miseries that accompany any job, was dealing with employees who looked to me for salvation not knowing that my financial and personal issues were just as big, if not bigger than theirs. I felt powerless to help them with their issues when I hadn’t the slightest inkling on how to fix my own.

I have witnessed the way my generation struggles to find work after graduation, during the recession, and even today. There’s something wrong with the system if a college degree leaves many in a sea of debt, and comes without guarantee or hope of finding work in their chosen field after graduation.

Recession aside, many of my friends in the San Francisco Bay Area are rounding their tenth year of living with their parents after college, and some are even married with kids. With health care costs on the rise, their grandparents moved into the house, resulting in four generations cohabiting under one roof because that was the only way to survive in a region with such an inflated cost of living.

I also wanted to bring forth a story about a drummer, whose role is often overlooked or viewed as auxiliary. In *Single Stroke Seven*, Lilith not only battles against brutal economic circumstances, but she fights to have a voice among her family, friends, and community.



About the Author

Lavinia Ludlow is a musician and writer.

Her debut novel, *alt.punk*, published by Casperian Books in 2011, explored the ragged edge of art, society, and sanity, viciously skewering the politics of rebellion.

Her short fiction has been published in *Pear Noir!*, *Curbside Splendor Semi-Annual Journal*, and *The Molotov Cocktail*, and her critical reviews of indie lit have appeared in *Small Press Reviews*, *The Collagist*, *The Nervous Breakdown*, *Entropy Magazine*, and *American Book Review*.

When not traveling for work, she divides her time between San Francisco and London.

Single Stroke Seven is her second novel.

About Casperian Books

Casperian Books is an independent publishing company located in Sacramento, California. We publish a wide variety of fiction, including genre, mainstream, literary, and experimental works, by a variety of writers, both first-time authors and seasoned professionals, who share our vision.

We are ardent supporters of small business and creative guerrilla movements, whether they be in publishing, music, or film, and we believe in diverse voices, different viewpoints, and departures from the status quo. Most of all, we believe in good books.