



a poetry book by *Melissa L. Beal MD*
"Healing Poetry for Living in the Moment"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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"In Her Eyes" A Poetry Book from the Pen of a Survivor

Salem, OR -- Life's path gets a little bumpy for most people, with occasional switchbacks and partly sunny skies. But, for Dr. Melissa Beal, until now, life has been an uphill struggle, with storms momentous enough to wash the trail away - and her with it. She was raped for years by her grandfather as a child, had a near death experience and broke both legs while mountain climbing at 20, confronted her alcohol dependency in 2004, and then was diagnosed with ovarian cancer in 2006. After her father's death in 1997 and an intensive alcohol rehabilitation program, doors were opened to Melissa's introspective and creative self. And so, when she was diagnosed with ovarian cancer and started treatment, she was reflective, open and ready to allow her poetry to flow. Through the course of her successful battle with cancer, Melissa penned poems that illuminated moments in her life with beauty and reverence.

In Her Eyes digs deeply, sifting through struggle, touching reverent love and revealing nature's luminescence. **In Her Eyes** is the discovery of life as it unfolds in the mind. Undulating between the rifts and swells of life, this book of poetry is a revelation of life's experiences and an inspiration to those who read it.

Book Launch events are planned in December for **In Her Eyes** and are free to the public.

[In Other Words](#) - Women's Books & Resources

December 3 @ 6:30pm

8 N. Killingsworth Street, Portland, OR 97211

A portion of book sales generated from this event will benefit [Portland Women's Crisis Line](#). Joining Melissa is poetry musician [Paula Sinclair](#).

[Tea Party Bookshop](#)

December 1 @ 6:30pm

420 Ferry St. SE, Salem, OR 97301

A portion of book sales generated from this event will benefit the [Salem Cancer Institute](#) within the Salem Hospital Fund. Joining Melissa is poetry musician [Paula Sinclair](#) and well-known Salem poet [John Edge](#) who is also fighting cancer.

About Melissa L. Beal MD

Presently, Melissa lives comfortably in Salem, Oregon. Retiring from 18 years of service at Pacific Pathology Associates, Inc. in December 2008, Melissa is looking forward to the opportunities of creative freedom ahead. **In Her Eyes** is Melissa's first book of poetry. For more information about Melissa and this book, please visit www.melissabeal.com.

Bleeding Heart

The world is coming up blooms.

Bleeding heart.

Hyacinth.

Forsythia.

Names, like old-fashioned tunes,

not heard much any more.

The ancients are awakening.

Healing circle.

Fire pit.

Prayer.

Activities, like long-forgotten dances,

awaiting our participation.

Raising our voices

in unison, we shape the future

with our words.

In Her Eyes is available locally at [In Other Words](#), [Tea Party Bookshop](#) and [Powell's Books](#).
The book is available online at: www.iUniverse.com, www.bn.com, and www.amazon.com

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ISBN: 978-0-595-49978-6 · 6 x 9 · Hardcover · 194 pages · \$26.95

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Photos of the author, cover and graphic:

http://www.melissabeal.com/mbeal_web/press/press_downloads.asp

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