

About *Body Trade*

On November 8, 1972, bush pilot Marten Hartwell, who'd been pressed into service for an emergency medical evacuation from the High Arctic, crashed near Great Bear Lake, NWT. On board were Neemee Nulliyolk, a pregnant young Inuk woman, David Kootook, an Inuk boy with acute appendicitis, and their nurse, Judy Hill. Judy died on impact, Neemee the first night, but David and Hartwell survived, although Hartwell's ankles and feet were shattered. After 7 days, the government called the search off, but after David Haley, the father of Hartwell's girlfriend, novelist Susan Haley, went to the media, the search resumed. By the time Hartwell was rescued 31 days later, his passengers had all perished. The event was seared into the Canadian consciousness by the inquest, which revealed the terrible choices Hartwell was forced to make in order to survive.

Against this real-life backdrop, Margaret Macpherson's new novel follows two young Canadian girls on an ill-conceived road trip through California, Mexico and Central America. The story takes a life-defining twist when their search for freedom and adventure brings them into contact with predators of the Central American sex trafficking trade. Trapped deep in the jungles of newly independent Belize, the women must consider

a different type of choice in order to ensure their own survival. Their journey into dangerous and unknown territory is punctuated with scenes from the Hartwell crash, underlining the novel's themes of survival, betrayal, epiphany and hope. A compelling work of literary fiction, *Body Trade* lays bare the power and consequences of the free love era, at the same time as it reveals the more nuanced intimacies of race and cultural consumption, friendship and trust, sexual politics and sexual manipulation, moral choice, and independence.

Ask yourself what you would give when everything but your body was gone... and then read this book.



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Trailer Trip Online...

See the book trailer for *Body Trade* at:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xlN7oTU6rC0>

There's Something About Margaret

Margaret Macpherson is a writer and teacher who grew up in Yellowknife, Northwest Territories. She holds a MFA in Creative Writing from UBC and has worked as an essayist and journalist in Halifax, Bermuda and Vancouver.

Body Trade is Margaret's seventh book. She is a published poet and the author of four non-fiction books including the award-winning *Nellie McClung: Voice for the Voiceless*. Margaret's first short story collection, *Perilous Departures*, and her first novel, *Released*, were both nominated for Manitoba's Mary Scorer Best Book by a Manitoba Publisher award.



Unlike some writers, Margaret loves people and it shows. She really connects with audiences, wherever she finds them, be it at a festival, a launching, a book club or a classroom.

Margaret's Hardware Corner

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| 2011 Winner | Writers Guild of Alberta, James H. Gray Award for Short Nonfiction |
| 2010 Winner | Edmonton Story Slam Society Slam-Off |
| 2010 Finalist | Alberta Views Short Story Competition |
| 2007 Finalist | Mary Scorer Award for Best Book by a Manitoba Publisher, for <i>Released</i> |
| 2006 Winner | CBC Poetry Face-Off Edmonton |
| 2006 Finalist | CBC National Poetry Face-Off |
| 2004 Finalist | Mary Scorer Award for Best Book by a Manitoba Publisher, for <i>Perilous Departures</i> |
| 2004 Winner | Canadian Authors Association, Exporting Alberta Award, for <i>Nellie McClung: Voice for the Voiceless</i> |
| 2002 Winner | Writers Guild of Alberta, Jon Whyte Memorial Essay Award |

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