

Inspired by Lithub's 103 Best Book Covers of 2022 and an interview with Eric G. Wilson about his new book, How to be Weird: An Off-Kilter Guide to Living a One-of-a-Kind Life, in which he mentioned having his students write fake book reviews, I designed seven imaginary book covers.

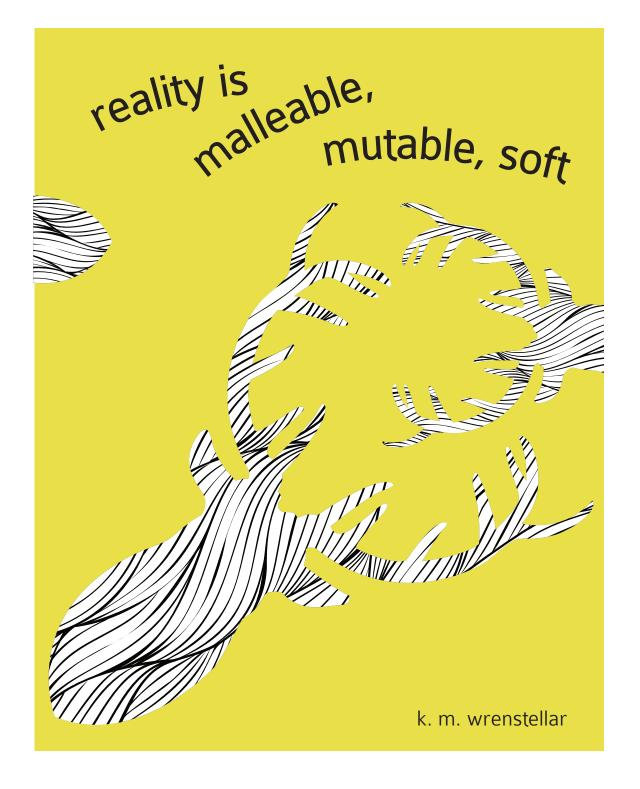
What inspired me about the 103 best book covers was the exciting range of styles. Some resembled old covers from the 60s and 70s that I used to find at the Salvation Army in college. Others were surprisingly simple collages that reminded me of collage art I used to make from the rejected items left in recycling bins at Kinko's back in the 90s. Some of the covers were simple, clean, and beautiful. I was spellbound by the collection.

Initially, I was only going to design a few fake covers for this project. Then I thought about my own response when I was skimming the 103 best book covers, I kept looking up the books to see what they were about. I decided to invent authors and a little blurb about each to satisfy the curious.

Overall this was a fantastically fun, creative experiment.

Title: Author: Description:

7 Imaginary Book Covers Natalie A. Stoner Halofragmentia.com



Reality is Malleable, Mutable, Soft

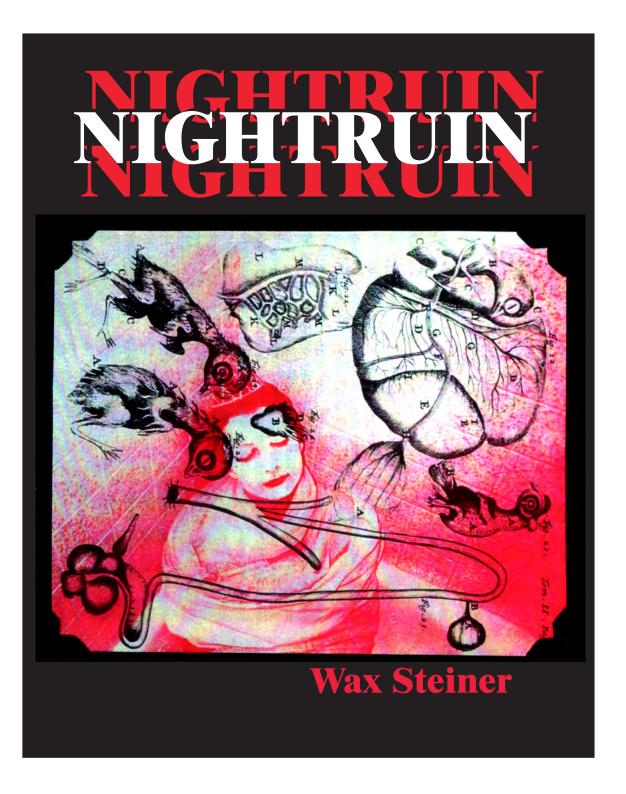
K. M. Wrenstellar

Reality is Malleable. Mutable, Soft is the third volume of Wrenstellar's striking philoso-poetry. Incorporating elements of philosophy into his rich linguistic moodscapes to produce mind-bending propositions pinned to decadent, sensual, verbal tapestries. In this volume, Wrenstellar explores the disintegration of consensus reality and the strange melange of replacements racing into its void. From virtual experiences to bizarre subcultures, Wrenstellar plunges deep and emerges with thought-treasures from imagined future timelines.



Don't Tell Me You Told Me Alexandria Sagefleur

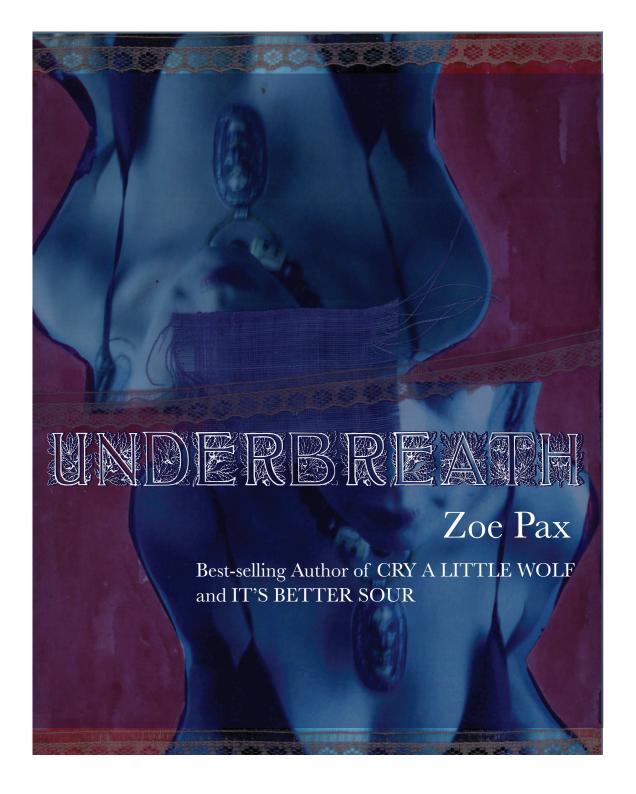
What begins as a typical morning at an independent print shop in dreamy Aptos, California, turns into an insane scavenger hunt with epic stakes. Marjorie and Ransom find a bizarre email containing an S.O.S. and coordinates from their amateur archaeologist boss while opening the shop. A series of unexpected encounters with fantastic characters in astonishing locations ensues as they follow the trail he's left them. Our heroes get scrappy, showcasing oddball skills to solve riddles as they realize they are racing to complete a game that will determine the fate of the California coast.



NightRuin Wax Steiner

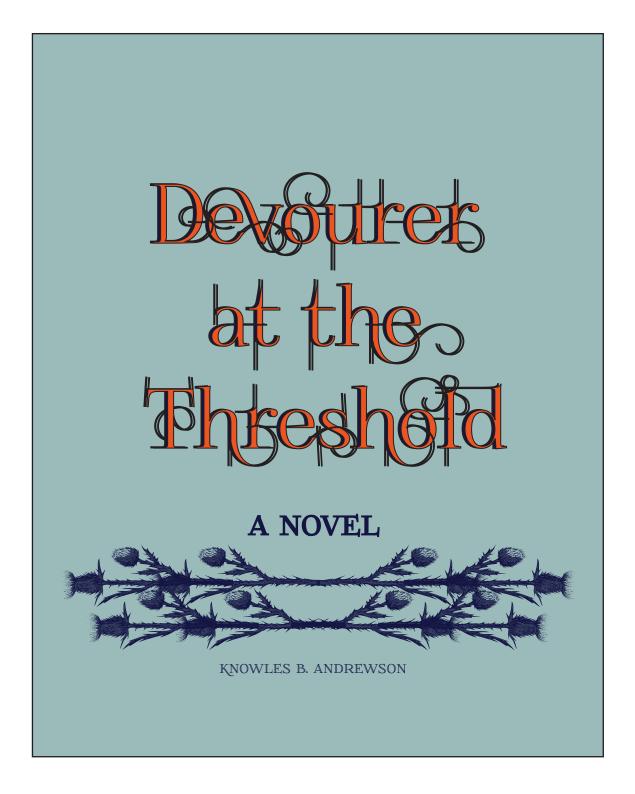
Childhood friends Mandy and Caroline walked to school together for ten solid years. Throughout that mostly idyllic decade, Caroline was the primary and often sole audience for the retelling of Mandy's vivid and terrifying nightmares. In the decade since they graduated, the dreams all but ceased until now. The years since the women have spoken melt away like seconds when Caroline receives a distressed call from Mandy explaining that her dreams are back and oozing into reality. A new, more visceral, and horrifying series of dreams featuring a group of ghouls calling themselves the Nightruin have made Mandy wonder whether she is losing her mind.





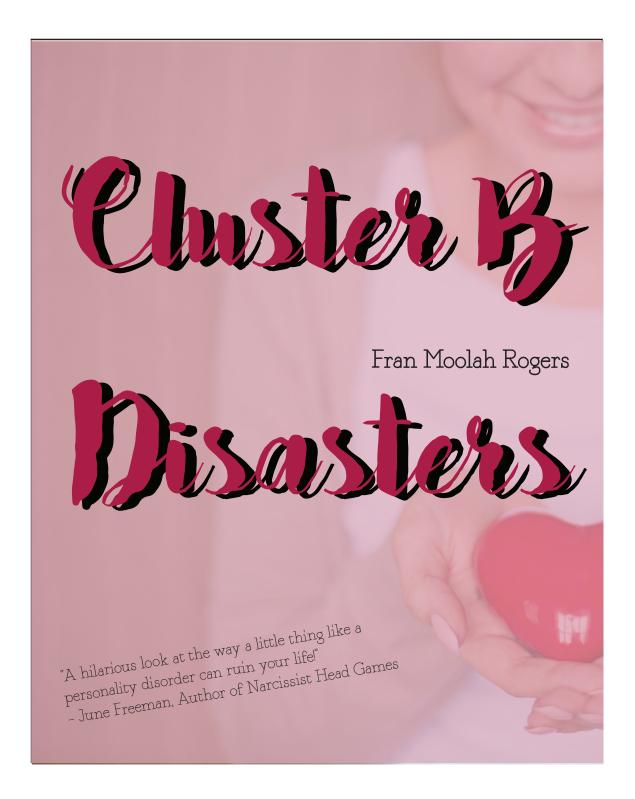
Underbreath Zoe Pax

Underbreath is the chilling tale of a mysterious condition that moves like a virus through a small town in Northern Canada, gradually distorting the moods and behaviors of each victim. The afflicted change in ways that are obvious to those close to them but difficult to define or substantiate. This novel reads like a series of vignettes about the psychological horrors of living with partners and family members who have become strangers, building up to a disturbing crescendo that will make the reader question how reality is defined.



Devourer at the Threshold Knowles B. Andrewson

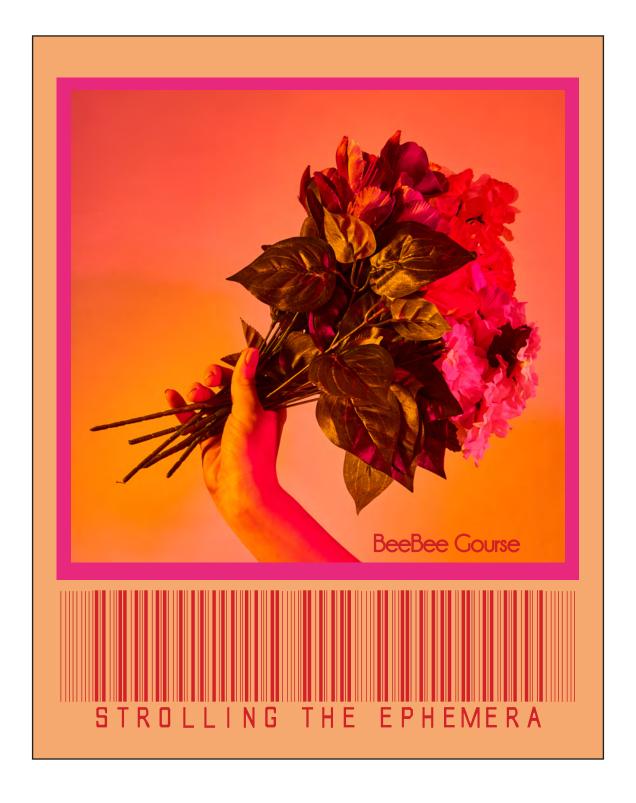
While walking one ordinary Sunday afternoon, Joaquin notices a barely perceptible path carved into the woods. At the end of the trail, he sees a log that has been cut away with a dirty jar inserted snugly into the cavity. His inquisitiveness gets the better of him, and he follows the obscured little pathway turning the log over to study the jar more closely. He feels the prickly sensation of someone watching him and looks up to see a trail cam pointed at the log. Joaquin flees immediately. What he experiences next is the strangest, darkest terror imaginable. What was in the jar? Will curiosity kill this cat?



Cluster B Disasters

Fran Moolah Rogers

It's been said that a personality disorder is something that one is as opposed to a mental health condition that one has. Personality disorders are pervasive patterns of behavior that impacted individuals don't often outgrow. This book explores the unique challenges of life with a personality disorder. Part psychology textbook, part self-help book, and 100% hilarious, Rogers chronicles the interactions of a highly unusual family with three members diagnosed with Cluster B personality disorders. This might sound like a tragedy, but somehow they find humor in their issues and speak frankly and hilariously about life with their personality disorders. You'll fall in love with this family and laugh at the quirks of their personalities as they move forward together.



Strolling The Ephemera BeeBee Gourse

Six months into life in the big city, Jean wasn't sure when things would start feeling magical. There had been ambitious dreams of publishing and art shows, but Jean quickly recognized that those were the dreams of all the denizens of the metropolis. Expectations of beautiful people dressed in fantastic clothing and full of inspiration and attitude faded in the merciless nights waiting tables. The reality didn't match the fantasy. The work was hard, and the people harder. Only the dead of the night brought Jean the release of The Ephemera, a strange virtual space where everyone wore a ghost suit and no one disclosed details about their lives in meat space - not name, gender, or race. In this peculiar liminal space, Jean's true voice emerged.

