

PUBLICATION DATE:

MAY 2019

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14.95 (paperback) 9.99 (eBook)

220 pp. 5.5×8.5

“Memoirist Dede Montgomery has the uncanny ability to create the quality of presence inside story. This time, it’s through her fiction. Whether at the Columbia River shoreline with a man struggling to gather up a bottle with a note inside or in a restaurant with a waitress witnessing a meeting that will change lives, we are there, moved by these characters, cheering them on and celebrating how interconnected we humans are. *Beyond the Ripples* will capture your heart.”

—Jane Kirkpatrick, Award-winning author of *Everything She Didn’t Say*.

Preorder on IndieBound or Amazon.

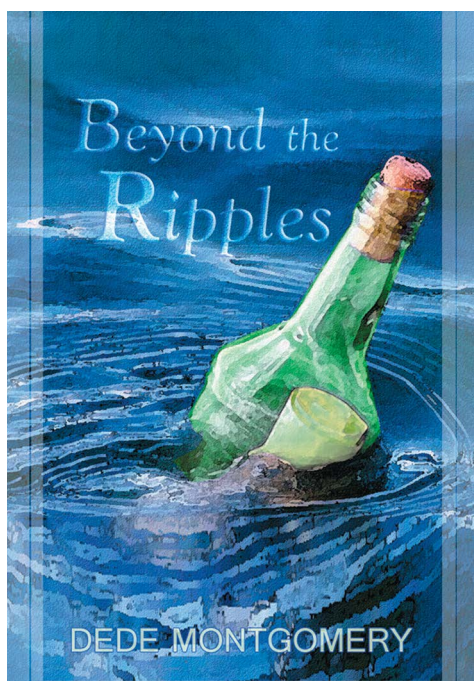


Bedazzled Ink is dedicated to literary fiction, nonfiction, and children’s books that celebrate the unique and under-represented voices of women and books about women that appeal to all readers.

All of Dede Montgomery’s Books with Bedazzled Ink

How might a small decision you make, an action you take, a phone call you initiate— change your path? Impact other lives?

Months after spying a bottle wedged into a fallen cottonwood snag in the Columbia River, Ernest pulls it from the river. The bottle’s note connects Ernest, an old man living in a tiny Oregon town, to teenage Annie, provoking a mysterious and sudden friendship between Ernest’s daughter Amelia with Sarah, the daughter of the most recent resident of the home Annie once occupied. The two middle-aged women’s quest to learn more about Annie and her secret introduces readers to stories about family members through backstory, and introduces new characters, all connected through the finding of the bottle. Together, Amelia and Sarah explore their unfinished business with their mothers, intimate relationships, and regrets over life choices as they embark on their personal searches for something bigger in their very different lives.



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FIC061000 FICTION/Literary
FIC014000 FICTION/Historical
FIC045020 FICTION/Family Life



“A moving, heartfelt journey through the lives of a cast of characters fatefully joined by a note in a bottle set adrift in the Willamette River. The characters — the young girl who launched the bottle, a kind octogenarian who finds it, his successful daughter who feels inexplicably unfulfilled, a salesclerk struggling to rise above an abusive husband and a controlling mother, and a burned-out teacher searching for meaning — all live and breathe with human authenticity. This beautiful book is a story of love, friendship, and growth, and a meditation on the abiding need we all have for human connection.”

—Warren C. Easley, author of *Moving Targets*, book 6 in the Cal Claxton Oregon Mysteries

An old fisherman, a letter, an unlikely friendship and the big rivers of Oregon—the Willamette and Columbia, inspired this fictionalized multi-story, threaded from the stories of a bygone era and rippling with the power of synchronicity that occurs whenever someone finds a message in a bottle. An enduring, reflective, and soulful read for a winter’s night.

—Jenny Forrester, author of *Narrow River, Wide Sky: A Memoir*

Dede Montgomery is a 6th generation Oregonian whose family ties have instilled in her a deep connection to the land, and curiosity about life in early Oregon and the stories, good and bad, that lay there. In her 2017 memoir, *My Music Man*, Dede explores the jumbled path of forgiveness, reconciliation, courage and gratitude, through the memories and stories stirred after her father’s death. Dede’s first novel, *Beyond the Ripples*, will be released in May 2019. Dede was a 2019 Oregon State Capitol Foundation Speaker Series presenter, sharing *My Music Man* stories on Oregon’s February 14 Birthday.

During the day (except when she escapes to scribble new writing ideas), Dede works at Oregon Health & Science University in worker safety, health and well-being research and education. She also manages the blog, *Oregon and the Workplace*.

Dede lives with her husband in West Linn, Oregon where she is active with the West Linn Historical Society, and never tires of exploring the banks and ripples of the Willamette River.