

Author biography (full)



Kristina McMorris is a *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author published by Sourcebooks Landmark, Kensington Books, HarperCollins, and Penguin Random House. Her novels have garnered more than two dozen prestigious awards and nominations, including the IMPAC Dublin Literary Award, RWA's RITA® Award, and a Goodreads Choice Award for Best Historical Fiction.

At age nine, she began creatively expressing herself when she embarked on a five-year stint as the host of an Emmy® and Ollie award-winning kids' television program. Being half Japanese, Kristina jokes that she discovered a genetic kinship with the camera early in life and continued to nurture that relationship by acting in many independent and major films while living in Los Angeles. Later, as the owner of a wedding/event planning company, she served as the six-year host of the WB's weekly program *Weddings Portland Style*.

Kristina's extensive experience in media and events led her to becoming a professional emcee and contributing writer for *Portland Bride & Groom* magazine. Her previous writing background also includes ten years of directing public relations for an international conglomerate.

In 2001, deciding sleep was highly overrated, she compiled hundreds of her grandmother's favorite recipes for a holiday gift that quickly evolved into a self-published cookbook. With proceeds benefiting the Food Bank, *Grandma Jean's Rainy Day Recipes* sold at such stores as Borders and was recurrently featured in regional media. It was while gathering information for the book's biographical section when Kristina happened across the letters her grandfather mailed to his "sweetheart" during his wartime naval service—a collection that years later inspired McMorris to pen her first novel, a WWII love story titled *Letters from Home*.

Since her debut released in 2011, Kristina's published works have expanded to include the novels *Sold on a Monday* (coming Sept. 2018, Sourcebooks), *The Edge of Lost*, *The Pieces We Keep*, and *Bridge of Scarlet Leaves*, in addition to her novellas in the anthologies *A Winter Wonderland* and *Grand Central*. Rights to her books have also been sold to numerous foreign publishers, Readers Digest, Doubleday, the Literary Guild, and more.

A frequent guest speaker and workshop presenter, McMorris holds a B.S. in International Marketing from Pepperdine University. For her diverse achievements, she has been named one of Portland's "Forty Under 40" by *The Business Journal*. She lives with her husband and two sons in Oregon, where she is still sleep deprived but eagerly working on her next novel.

Website: www.KristinaMcMorris.com

(see the Media page for a sample of previous articles and TV guest appearances)

Sample video interview (2 min.): www.tinyurl.com/TEOL-video