

SHORT BIO:

Joy McCullough's debut young adult novel *Blood Water Paint* (Penguin) won the Washington State and Pacific Northwest books awards, as well as honors such as the National Book Award longlist, finalist for the ALA Morris Award, a Publishers Weekly Flying Start and four starred reviews. Her debut middle grade novel, *A Field Guide to Getting Lost* (Simon & Schuster) releases on April 14, 2020, and is a Junior Library Guild Selection.

She writes books and plays from her home in the Seattle area, where she lives with her husband and two children. She studied theater at Northwestern University, fell in love with her husband atop a Guatemalan volcano, and now spends her days surrounded by books and kids and chocolate.

LONGER BIO

Joy McCullough grew up in the San Diego area. She went to college at Northwestern University, where she studied theater and women's studies. Her first full-length play, *fifty cents in the dark*, won the Agnes Nixon Playwriting Award at Northwestern. After college, she spent a year traveling through Latin America, teaching workshops on using theater and improv with kids in Guatemala, El Salvador, Peru, and Chile.

Upon return from Latin America, Joy continued writing plays and began working as a teaching artist for regional theaters in San Diego and then Seattle, where she has lived for the last eighteen years. She has taught playwriting for San Diego's Old Globe Theater and La Jolla Playhouse, and Seattle's ACT Theater. As a playwright, her work has been developed and produced in San Diego, Chicago, New York, and Seattle. Most recently, her plays *Blood Water Paint* (2019) and *Smoke & Dust* (2018) were produced by Macha Theatre Works, both under the direction of Amy Poisson.

Joy's young adult novel *Blood Water Paint* (Dutton/Penguin) is an adaptation of her own original play. It was published in 2018 and won the Washington State and Pacific Northwest books awards, as well as such honors as the National Book Award longlist, finalist for the ALA Morris Award, a Publishers Weekly Flying Start and four starred reviews. Her second young adult novel is coming in 2021.

Her debut middle grade novel, *A Field Guide to Getting Lost* (Simon & Schuster) releases on April 14, 2020, and is a Junior Library Guild Selection. Her second middle grade novel, *Across the Pond* (S & S) releases in 2021. She is also a contributor to the YA Shakespeare-inspired anthology *That Way Madness Lies* (Flatiron Books), which will release in 2021.

BLOOD WATER PAINT COPY:

"Haunting ... teems with raw emotion, and McCullough deftly captures the experience of learning to behave in a male-driven society and then breaking outside of it."—*The New Yorker*

A William C. Morris Debut Award Finalist
2018 National Book Award Longlist
Washington State Book Award winner

Her mother died when she was twelve, and suddenly Artemisia Gentileschi had a stark choice: a life as a nun in a convent or a life grinding pigment for her father's paint.

She chose paint.

By the time she was seventeen, Artemisia did more than grind pigment. She was one of Rome's most talented painters, even if no one knew her name. But Rome in 1610 was a city where men took what they wanted from women, and in the aftermath of rape Artemisia faced another terrible choice: a life of silence or a life of truth, no matter the cost.

*He will not consume
my every thought.
I am a painter.
I will paint.*

Joy McCullough's bold novel in verse is a portrait of an artist as a young woman, filled with the soaring highs of creative inspiration and the devastating setbacks of a system built to break her. McCullough weaves Artemisia's heartbreaking story with the stories of the ancient heroines, Susanna and Judith, who become not only the subjects of two of Artemisia's most famous paintings but sources of strength as she battles to paint a woman's timeless truth in the face of unspeakable and all-too-familiar violence.

*I will show you
what a woman can do.*

*"A captivating and impressive."—*Booklist*, starred review
*"Belongs on every YA shelf."—*SLJ*, starred review
*"Haunting."—*Publishers Weekly*, starred review
*"Luminous."—*Shelf Awareness*, starred review

FIELD GUIDE COPY

A girl with a passion for science and a boy who dreams of writing fantasy novels must figure out how to get along now that their parents are dating in this lively, endearing novel.

Sutton is having robot problems. Her mini-bot is supposed to be able to get through a maze in under a minute, but she must have gotten something wrong in the coding. Which is frustrating for a science-minded girl like Sutton—almost as frustrating as the fact that her mother probably won't be home in time for Sutton's tenth birthday.

Luis spends his days writing thrilling stories about brave kids, but there's only so much inspiration you can find when you're stuck inside all day. He's allergic to bees, afraid of dogs, and has an overprotective mom to boot. So Luis can only dream of daring adventures in the wild.

Sutton and Luis couldn't be more different from each other. Except now that their parents are dating, these two have to find some common ground. Will they be able to navigate their way down a path they never planned on exploring?