

FORTHCOMING APRIL 11, 2016

**TO LOVE THE COMING END
BY LEANNE DUNIC**

A novel in ninety-four micro-chapters. Dunic's poetic prose tosses between contemporary Singapore and post-Tohoku Japan, collapsing intimate and seismic desolation.

Love is remembered as a jungle of flora and fauna cleaved by tectonic shock and human fault. A restless narrator stirs between Singapore, Fukushima, and Vancouver with prose that engulfs like radioactive mist. Personal, geographic, political, and cultural environments take on one another's qualities, culminating volcanically in the Tohoku earthquake that shatters Japan.



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ABOUT LEANNE DUNIC

Leanne Dunic is the daughter of a Chinese mother and Croatian father. Born in Canada, she grew up on Vancouver Island, British Columbia. After opening fashion boutiques in Vancouver, Leanne sold her stores to focus on writing. In 2011 she attended Simon Fraser University's Writing Studio and is currently an MFA candidate at the University of British Columbia, the second person in the program's history to be accepted without a Bachelor's degree.

She has published fiction, poetry, and non-fiction in various magazines and anthologies in Asia, North America, and the UK, and has published chapbooks with Leaf Press, Onzieme, and Bitterzoet. Recently, Leanne was shortlisted for the Asian-Canadian Emerging Writer Award. In 2015 she won the Alice Munro Short Story Contest.

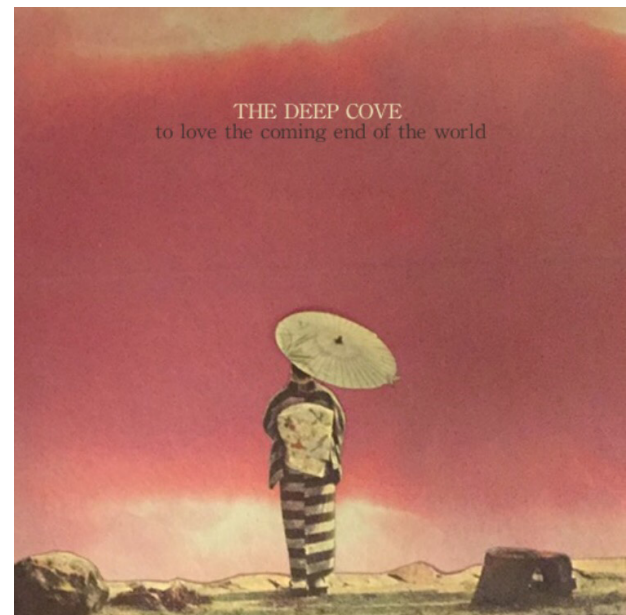
Leanne is the Artistic Director for the Powell Street Festival, an annual Japanese-Canadian cultural celebration in Vancouver. She regularly reads in Vancouver and while abroad, and presented last year at the Word Festival in Vancouver, in conjunction with Ricepaper Magazine.

Being of mixed race, Leanne's work explores identity via culturally diverse narratives. Environment is interpreted through dreamlike images in which fiction and reality meet, where time and memory reveal the complex co-existence of tradition and modernity. She is intrigued by the elements of what makes one masculine/feminine, by the dualities within oneself, and aims for her stories to subvert expectations.

A truly multi-disciplinary artist, Leanne is the singer/guitarist for the band The Deep Cove, where she finds another outlet for her writing skills. Her debut album, *To Love The Coming End Of The World*, will be released in 2016. Her visual art has been displayed in galleries in Japan and Singapore, and locally at Vancouver's Nikkei Centre and the B.C. Maritime Museum.

Leanne's work is greatly informed by music and her time in Asia, as well as her experience working with the Wildlife Rescue Association of BC. Growing up on Vancouver Island inspired a fascination with nature, landscapes and oceans, while the possibility of earthquakes or tsunamis loomed in her consciousness. Having lived in both Singapore and Japan, and several times as an artist-in-residence, Leanne's instinct for narrative drew connections in vulnerabilities, behaviours, and fears between the three countries.

To Love the Coming End will be released in 2017 with Chin Music Press (United States), BookThug (Canada), and Math Paper Press (Singapore). Leanne currently lives in Vancouver.



MARKETING AND PUBLICITY

- Co-op available | Advance reader copies | Advance digital reader copies
- Social media campaign on Chin Music Press's platforms (Twitter, FB, Blog)
- Promotion on author's personal website/social media platforms (www.leannedunic.com) and author's band's website (www.thedeeppcove.com)
- Co-release with The Deep Cove's Debut Album *To Love the Coming End*
- National 4-City Tour with author appearances at AWP (Washington DC) , Mixed Remixed Festival (LA), Powell Festival (Vancouver)



PRAISE

“Dunic’s prose is spare, and at the same time, lush and vivid... [she] packs the space between what the narrator tells us and what the reader perceives with a situational irony that makes the hairs on the back of the neck stand at attention... a bold and exciting new voice.”

—Lisa Moore, author of *Alligator*, winner of the Commonwealth Writer’s Prize Best Book Award

AUTHOR’S STATEMENT: LEANNE DUNIC ON *TO LOVE THE COMING END*

The themes of the book are subtly complex. They touch on how human emotions may parallel geographical trauma, historically and presently.

An unnamed narrator, a disillusioned author obsessed with natural disasters and ‘the curse of 11,’ reflects on their own personal earthquake—the loss of a loved one. The story travels between Singapore, Canada, and Japan, where landscapes and emotion are linked through the narrator’s wry observations and experiences.

To Love the Coming End is experimental yet playful, demonstrating a love for language that echoes Marguerite Duras and Ruth Ozeki. The prose is an unusual interweaving of cultures and vulnerabilities, fears and terrains, myths and mysteries. Running throughout, an imagined film script tracks human brutalities as they erupt into geological violence.

The story is distilled to less than a hundred chapters in which each one occupies a single page. This structure gives the language potency while providing space for reflection. From Yukio Mishima to Malcolm Gladwell, from pristine cityscapes to foreboding volcanoes and devastating ruptures, *To Love the Coming End* is a dreamlike narrative that reminds readers of our multi-planed and fragile connections and disconnections.