



## Proudflesh

P. J. Worrell

P. J. Worrell understands girls who dream of being wives and mothers in safe cozy homes, then find out that trying hard to secure that life does not necessarily make it happen. In *Proudflesh*, readers will not find heartwarming sentimentality, but mature literary prose with surprising twists and women of intense substance and spirit.

Her work is imbued with the feminism that early literary pioneers like Margaret Laurence and Alice Munro introduced in their fiction and although the individual stories ride off into different horizons, collectively their ideas stress that when faced with a choice between self-fulfillment and goodness, many will sacrifice goodness in order to have their needs met.

Through her social work lens, Worrell knows what it is like to be dependent, mentally ill, or at the end of one's life. She does not shy away from the moist curlicues around men's nipples, tumours, post-menopausal bellies, cat piss, or suicide: she writes close to the bone. Her characters may not be heroically dashing or intrepid, but they stare death in the face without flinching, and this is what makes *Proudflesh* such an important first book.

### SHORT FICTION

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### MARKETING & PUBLICITY

- Readings in Alberta and throughout Saskatchewan, including Swift Current, Regina, Maple Creek, Saskatoon, Prince Albert
- Author website: <http://www.pjworrell.com/>



P. J. Worrell has studied at St. Peter's College (Muenster, SK), The Banff Centre, and the Munster Literature Centre (Cork, Ireland) with Sarah Selecky, Connie Gault, Jessica Grant, Seán Virgo, Lynda Monahan, and Michele

Roberts as mentors. She has enjoyed success in the world of publication and contests. Social work practise in mental health and geriatrics has provided fodder for her realistic stories. She has one foot in Swift Current, SK and the other in a cabin at a northern lake.

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