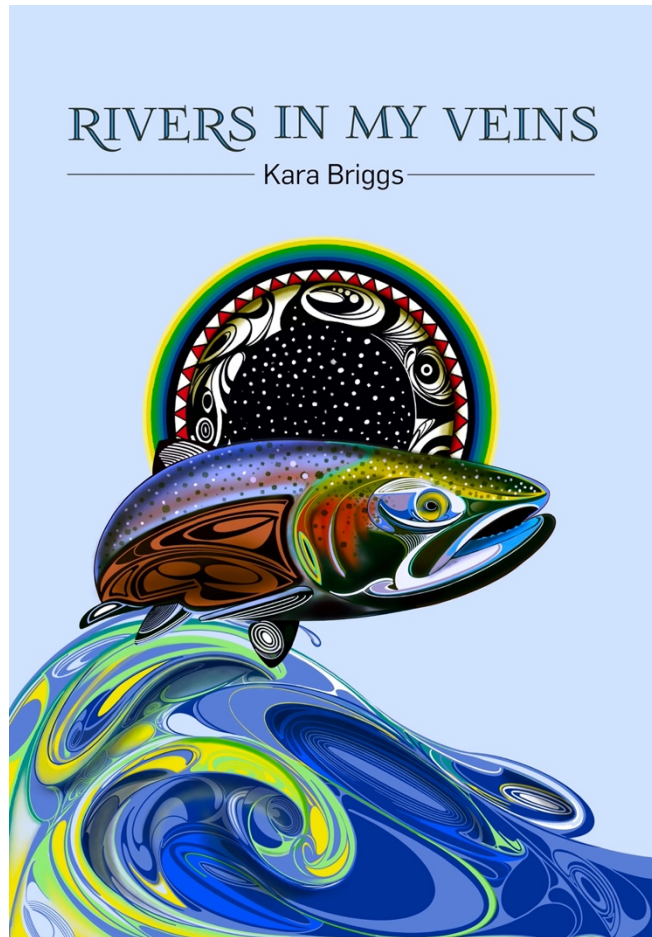


Houston, Texas – July 30, 2024—Press Release: Saint Julian Press is proud to announce Kara Briggs’s new collection – *Rivers in My Veins*, to be published on September 12, 2024. With calm elegance and precise language, *Rivers in My Veins* is a work of lyric courage celebrating our connection to the earth.



With calm elegance, precise language, and the spirit of the Pacific Northwest, Kara Briggs sings her people onto the page. *Rivers in My Veins* is both protest and celebration, a reminder to readers that the Sauk-Suiattle, Wenatchee, Chelan, Entiat, and Skagit peoples are still harvesting, fishing, and remembering. Land we live on land, she writes, calling us to embrace our kinship with the earth.

—Deborah Taffa  
*Whiskey Tender*

*Rivers in My Veins* is a work of lyric courage that celebrates the interconnectivity of the earth and her people while confronting, through unflinching investigative addresses, the false settler-colonial narratives and power structures within these narrative’s problematic etymologies and extractive practices. Kara Briggs’ tenacious spirit and fierce love of the lands, waters, and stories of her Coast Salish people makes *Rivers in my Veins* a powerful debut collection that will become a vital contribution to our shared world’s literary—and deeply alive—landscapes.

—Jennifer Elise Foerster  
Editor – *When the Light of the World Was Subdued  
Our Songs Came Through: A Norton Anthology of  
Native Nations Poetry*

With a journalist’s eye for unflinching truth, Kara Briggs’s *Rivers in My Veins* assembles precise language, lyric verse and innovative form to produce a finely wrought blend of Native perspective poetry. Briggs compels the reader to hold onto familiar narratives of landscape and family while learning more layers of story. At the heart of this collection, a drum of knowledge beats, aiming at nothing less than uplifting the experience of American Indians who are every bit as intellectual and human as the readers of this book. I have known Kara Briggs for many years waiting for this collection to come to light. Now we will be better as a nation for reading *Rivers in My Veins*.

—Suzan Shown Harjo  
Presidential Medal of Freedom Recipient  
Editor – *Nation to Nation: Treaties Between  
the United States and American Indian Nations*

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In groundbreaking forms and language that speak directly to her ancestors, elders, and future generations, Kara Briggs amplifies the legacy of her Sauk-Suiattle and Yakama peoples and of Native American poets writing before her to place her family and tribal histories outside of the parenthesis forever. Reading *Rivers in My Veins* remains a journey in poetry that I will carry in my veins forever. I am grateful; I am humbled, but most importantly, I am eager for the conversations that Briggs' debut river of poetry will provoke in American letters.

—Sandra Yannonie  
*The Glass House and Boats for Women*

The poems in Kara Briggs's debut, *Rivers in My Veins*, awe with their gorgeous imagery and their unparalleled wisdom. They will make you cry, cause you to seethe with anger, and comfort you with their testimony of resilience. Deeply embedded in the culture of the Coast Salish and Interior Salish peoples, *Rivers in My Veins* is spiritual, ascendant, and damning. In some poems, Briggs pierces the reader by bringing home the personal toll caused by devastating colonial acts like the flooding of Celilo Falls, while in others she insightfully meditates on the meanings of fraught terms like "sovereignty" and "apology." The book moves from breathless love poems such as "Ancestor Moon," where the speaker is "turned to mist," to poignant explorations of the tragedy of in-fighting within the speaker's Tribal community. The strikingly lyrical poems in *Rivers in My Veins* beguile with their beauty and at the same time teach you how to live.

—Ann Tweedy  
*The Body's Alphabet and A Registry of Survival*

KARA BRIGGS is a writer and a poet who lives on the Tulalip Reservation in Washington state. She is a Sauk-Suiattle tribal citizen and a descendant of the Yakama Nation. In 2024, she completed her Master of Fine Arts at the Institute of American Indian Arts, where she studied with Navajo poet Esther Belin, with Oglala poet Layli Longsoldier, and with Mvskoke poet Jennifer Elise Foerster. She previously graduated from The Evergreen State College with a Master of Public/Tribal Administration. Her bachelor's degree in English is from Whitworth College in Spokane, her hometown.

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For a *PDF Advance Copy*, contact Ron Starbuck or Kara Briggs.

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