

Author Duncan W. Alderson Explores the "Hidden Houston" with Novel Set in 1920's Texas

Book tour comes to Houston, Dallas, San Antonio & Austin

Magnolia City by Duncan Alderson

Within Duncan W. Alderson's epic debut novel, the roar of the 1920s is heard for the first time in a female voice, sounding from the Lone Star State. *Magnolia City* is a stirring saga set along the wide boulevards of pre-Depression era Houston, a city of established cotton kings and newly rich oil barons, in which a strong and willful woman will do whatever it takes to make her dreams come true.

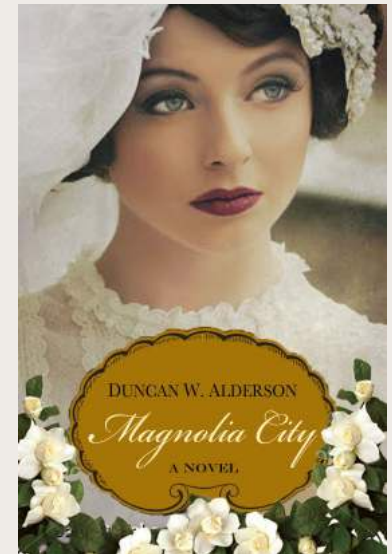
Inspired by photos he found of his mother dressed as a flapper during this era, Alderson weaves the tale of young Hetty Allen caught between her affluent family's conservative roots and the passionate flame of the roaring '20s. Descended from the founders of Houston, Hetty is torn between her family's expectations for her to marry the oil baron's son, Lamar, and her own instincts about Garret, the poor yet mysterious man she's just met at the No-Tsu-Oh Carnival.

Lamar offers a lavish life of social acceptance in high society, but newcomer Garret could give her the life of excitement she so desires. As Hetty forges her path, she defies racial and legal boundaries alike. Embracing her identity as a mestiza, befriending contrabandistas and becoming a businesswoman of oil, Hetty's adventure plunges her into the geographic, economic and social heart of Texas.

Alderson spent ten years researching real people and events from history to evoke the turmoil and drama that ripple through the history of the Lone Star State. *Magnolia City* is a story of love, greed, jealousy, and redemption, brought to life through the eyes of its unforgettable heroine.

About the Author

Duncan W. Alderson was born in Houston, Texas where he began his career writing fashion advertising at Sakowitz. He then escaped Texas to become an expat in England. He researched his Master's Thesis in the Reading Room of the British Museum. Returning to North America, Duncan taught for 12 years at the Toronto Waldorf School, then founded the Rabbit Hill Writers' Studio in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, where he hosted creative writing workshops for adults. He still lives in Pennsylvania with his wife.



BOOK DETAILS

April 2014
Duncan W. Alderson
Kensington Publishing
Trade Paper
978-0758292759
448 pages
\$15.00

DuncanAlderson.com
@DuncanWalderson

PR  THE BOOK

Texas event schedule:

Thurs. April 3, 2014 @ 7pm

BOOKS-A-MILLION

3000 Grapevine Mills Pkwy / Grapevine, TX

Tues. April 8, 2014 @ 7pm

BOOKS-A-MILLION

5347 W. Loop 1604 N. / San Antonio, TX

Thurs. April 10, 2014 @ 7pm

BRAZOS BOOKSTORE

2421 Bissonnet Street / Houston, TX

Sat. April 12, 2014 @ 2pm

BLUE WILLOW BOOKSHOP

14532 Memorial Drive / Houston, TX

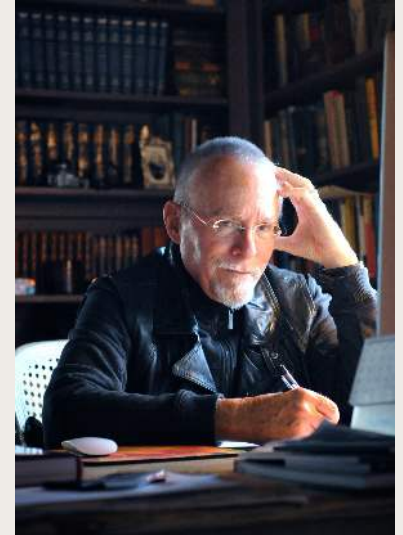
Praise

“Masterfully written, this story of oil, love, and family will grab you by the heart and not let you go.” —**Maria V. Snyder, New York Times best-selling author**

“*Magnolia City* is a compelling and evocative portrait of Houston in the 1920s. In turns thrilling, heartbreaking and uplifting, you will not want to put this book down until you’ve seen Hetty through all her trials and triumphs.” —**Rebecca Kanner, author of *Sinners and the Sea***

“Duncan Alderson deftly brings to life a lost and fascinating time and place, Texas in the early years of the twentieth century. *Magnolia City* is a page-turner from the start.” —**Holly Chamberlin, author of *The Beach Quilt***

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