



# A-M MAWHINEY

SPINDRIFTS  
SPELLDRIFTS

SOCIAL WORKER · ACADEMIC · AUTHOR

## MISSION STATEMENT

In my writing, I hope to inspire readers to start taking actions—even small ones—to create a healthy future for our children, youth, and future generations. But we also need to urge and expect political, economic, and social leaders to create winning conditions to improve social and environmental change

### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

After working for five years as a social worker, A-M Mawhiney returned to her hometown, Sudbury, Ontario, to work at the local university. For almost forty years (39.5 to be precise) she held various roles as professor, and several different roles as a senior academic administrator. A-M started writing her debut novel during early part of the Covid pandemic in 2020. *Spindriffts*, was published in 2021. *Spelldriffts*, her second book, was published in 2023.

A-M continues to live in Sudbury, Ontario, and enjoys spending time with family, summers at the cottage, and travelling, all with her partner, Dave.

### PRESENTATION TOPICS

- What World Do You Want to Have In 50 Years from Now? (And How Will You Help Make that Happen?)
- The Writing Process: From Start to Finish
- Building a World Where Everyone Thrives

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### ABOUT THE BOOKS

Racism, climate change, and violence are in the past. But are there secrets lurking in the shadows of the Land of Hope? What truth about the past is being covered up?

When fifteen-year-old Fania returns from Immersion, she is shattered to learn that the next phase of her education is at home with Alicia, her granny. She had hoped for something far grander that would prepare her for an important role with the Earth Project. Their two strong personalities clash as Fania begins to learn more about the past and her family's role in it.

As Fania grows in confidence and power, she starts to wonder exactly what secrets Alicia is keeping in her underground lab. After Fania discovers the truth, she finds her calling: one that has the power to change everything.

Life has changed at Land of Hope in the decades since Earth tipped back to a flourishing biome. People work together, connected through a telepathic network, to keep their planet healthy. Each person develops additional magical powers in their teen years that help them find their place in the community. However, Fania's seventeen-year-old, Saki, is adrift—they don't yet know what their unique abilities are nor how they'll contribute meaningfully to the world.

Everything changes when Saki discovers a long-buried secret and finds herself raising a precocious young dragon named Chiyo. As Saki begins to tap into new powers, some family members foresee an uncertain future for their lands. Darkness creeps into the lands and hearts of their community in the form of strangers who join with a villager intent on destroying everything that is precious, creating conflict among community members. The stakes are high, for those who prevail will determine whether Earth survives.

Sensitively told, richly imagined, and filled with unforgettable characters, *Spelldriffts* follows the next generation of young people after Fania and Nuna's adventures in *Spindriffts*.





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## HIGHLIGHTS

In her role as a professor in the 1980s, A-M was involved in the development of a community-based national accredited Indigenous School of Social Work that was designed by First Nations of the Robinson Treaty Area. It is one of two such programs in Canada and recognized internationally.

In the 1990s, A-M was asked to review social work education in Mauritius and to participate in the development of some on-line social work courses.

In 2022 A-M's debut novel, *Spindriffts*, was short-listed for the 8th annual Rakuten Kobo Emerging Writers Prize in Literary Fiction

## PAST EVENTS

In 1988, A-M Mawhiney attended and presented a paper on children and families at a NATO workshop in Italy. Academic representatives from all NATO countries were in attendance.

A-M Mawhiney attended two international conferences (in Venezuela and Thailand) on distance education where she delivered papers.

## TESTIMONIALS

"An uplifting and beautiful sci fi novel, *Spindriffts* explores how the jarring lessons of catastrophes such as worldwide pandemics and the prospect of utter chaos brought on by such human-made calamities as global warming can potentially forge a more optimistic future."

—P.I. STUART,

AUTHOR OF *THE DROWNED KINGDOM SAGA*

"In *Spindriffts*, A-M Mawhiney has done a brilliant job of presenting a book about a different world, but a world that is very much plausible if we humans do not live right. Her ability to put herself in Fania's shoes and bring out the subtle nuances of the characters is truly powerful..."

—IVY LOGAN,

AUTHOR OF *THE BREACH CHRONICLES*

"I was totally enchanted by the characters in this novel. Each of them has a distinctive personality...*Spelldriffts* by A-M Mawhiney invites readers to a world they don't want to leave. Magic and technological progress co-exist here in perfect synergy!"

—EVE KOGUCE,

AUTHOR OF *THE NEGLECTED MERGE TRILOGY*

"[*Spelldriffts*] is a story well told, with genuine emotion, vivid description, and rich characterization. The themes of family values, place in society, responsibility, and caring for the earth are important considerations for everyone, and these are delivered in a well-paced story that will delight all ages."

—ANNE M. SMITH-NOCHASAK,

AUTHOR OF *THE CANCER OF SHORELINE* AND *THE ICE WIDOW*

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