CAVE OF SECRETS Named 2024 *Foreword* INDIES Book of the Year Awards Finalist in Two Categories

Steamy, suspenseful romance with hints of magical realism explores Scottish ancestry, Jewish identity and finding love in the 21st century.

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HUNTINGTON WOODS, Mich.— Scotia Road Books is pleased to announce that *CAVE OF SECRETS* has been recognized as a finalist in the 27th annual *Foreword*INDIES Book of the Year Awards in two categories—Romance Fiction and LGBTQ+ Fiction.

A contemporary literary romance with hints of magical realism, ***CAVE OF SECRETS*** is a story of family heritage, intergenerational trauma, and finding the courage to be honest with ourselves—and those who love us. The novel features four protagonists and takes place in the Scottish Highlands and southeast Michigan, including generations of star-crossed lovers whose secrets are finally laid to rest thanks to a scrappy young archivist named Eve.

The second novel and tenth book by Lynne Golodner, CAVE OF SECRETS rushed to #1 on Amazon in Jewish Fiction, British & Irish Literature and Gay Fiction upon its release. It sold thousands of copies in its first two months and continues to be a favorite among readers. A former journalist and current marketing expert, Golodner is now the author of 11 books with a third novel (and 12th book) coming out in June. Her collection of essays, FOREST WALK ON A FRIDAY, was released in January.

As part of its mission to discover, review, and share the best books from university and independent publishers, *Foreword* Magazine, Inc. hosts an annual awards program each year. Finalists represent the best books published in 2024.

The complete list of Finalists can be found at: https://www.forewordreviews.com/awards/finalists/2024/

“This year’s submissions have truly impressed me with their depth and diversity. Each finalist stands as a testament to the remarkable talent and vision within the independent publishing world. The INDIES not only celebrates these exceptional literary works but also plays a pivotal role in connecting them with librarians and booksellers, ensuring that a rich variety of voices continues to thrive in the world.” said Christopher Nesbit, INDIES Award Director.

“I’m beyond thrilled to be recognized in two categories by this prestigious and selective award,” Golodner said.

Winners in each genre, along with Editor’s Choice Prize winners and *Foreword*’s Indie Publisher of the Year, will be announced in June 2025.

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Since 1998, *Foreword Reviews* has provided trade book reviews of the best titles from independent presses. In print and online, its FOLIO award-winning design and editorial content make the magazine a favorite among librarians, booksellers, and readers—an excellent resource when it comes to purchasing books. *Foreword* INDIES and the *Foreword*Clarion Reviews service complement our online content and print magazine, helping to showcase independent authors and presses.

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CAVE OF SECRETS SYNOPSIS

“I have counted the days until you would return to my waiting arms, my insistent kisses.

But now I know you never will…”

On a rainy hike by Loch Lomond, Eve Waldman stumbles upon a perfectly preserved journal in a hidden cave. The time-worn lettering details the illicit affair of two Jewish lovers that sent a shiver of shame through a Scottish family — and echoes down the bloodlines.

Born of Highland aristocracy, Mac Monteith prefers to spend his days behind the bar of the family pub, rather than live the life his parents desired for him. Then Eve walks through the door, stirring more than Mac’s long-dormant heart.

When Eve traces the cave documents to the Monteith line, scandals and secrets spill out from all sides. Eve remains committed to the truth, but when being truthful means hurting the man she loves, she is forced to make a bigger choice: righting the wrongs of the past, or building the future she’s yearned for.

A contemporary romance with hints of magical realism, ***Cave of Secrets*** *is about family heritage, intergenerational trauma, and finding the courage to be honest with ourselves — and those who love us.*

PRAISE FOR *CAVE OF SECRETS*

CAVE OF SECRETS transports readers on a timeless journey to Scotland in a captivating tale of love, identity, and legacy. Family history and expectations force characters to make difficult choices. Sprinkled with secrets and a touch of magical realism, this novel is a must-read.

— **Merle R. Saferstein,** author of *Living and Leaving My Legacy, Vols. I and II*

A masterful blend of suspense, romance, and self-discovery, ***CAVE OF SECRETS*** is the tale of an intrepid young archivist's pursuit of history, unveiling a secret love affair and a powerful family's hidden Jewish roots. Golodner's gorgeous prose and skillful narration will bring you to the edge of your seat, yearning for the next revelation. A must-read for anyone craving a story that explores the layers of identity and the enduring power of love.

— **Lisa Williamson Rosenberg,** author of *Embers on the Wind*

Tackling the topics of antisemitism and homophobia, ***CAVE OF SECRETS*** is an engaging, thought-provoking read, illustrating the power of courage to unveil past secrets, make tough choices, and live an authentic life against all odds. Golodner exquisitely crafts a layered story full of heart, wisdom, and hard truths, and explores the journey of self-discovery and the deep need for human connection. A touching tale of love, loss, and the fortitude to pave a new path forward.

— **Annie Cathryn,** award-winning author of *The Friendship Breakup*

A journey to unravel the history of a romance reveals deep secrets that a family has kept hidden. ***CAVE OF SECRETS*** addresses forbidden love of the past and brings to light the struggles of love and relationships today along with the search for acceptance. Lynne Golodner's writing encompasses the feelings and emotions of each character in a way that allows you to empathize with all of them.

— **Michelle Glogovac,** award-winning author of *How to Get On Podcasts*

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Lynne Golodner is the award-winning author of 12 bestselling books, a former Fulbright specialist, a writing coach and a marketing entrepreneur. With a BA from the University of Michigan, an MFA from Goddard College and a Certificate in Entrepreneurship from the Goldman Sachs 10K Small Businesses program at Wayne State University, Golodner is the mother of four young adults and lives in Huntington Woods, Mich., with her husband, Dan. Learn more at lynnegolodner.com.

ABOUT SCOTIA ROAD BOOKS

Scotia Road Books was founded in 2023 by Lynne Golodner, who is a member of the Independent Book Publishers Association, the Midwest Independent Publishing Association and Michigan Writers as well as an author, writing coach and marketing entrepreneur who had eight books published by small presses before creating her own imprint. A hybrid press for rebel authors, Scotia Road Books vets submissions according to the hybrid publishing standards set out by the IBPA. Women over 40 with strong voices that need to be heard can submit contemporary, historical and literary fiction, narrative memoir and essay collections for consideration at scotiaroadbooks.com.