



Ever After

TIFA'S ROMANCE FESTIVAL

PRESENTED BY **Rakuten kobo**

NOV 21 – 23, 2025

 TIFA

The Yorkville Royal Sonesta Hotel
220 Bloor St. W.
Toronto, ON M5S 1T8

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Welcome to Ever After,

TIFA's Romance Festival Presented by Rakuten Kobo.

We're thrilled to have you join us from November 21–23, 2025, at The Yorkville Royal Sonesta Hotel in Toronto for a weekend devoted entirely to love stories. Over three unforgettable days, you'll discover panels, readings, and hands-on workshops featuring some of today's most beloved romance authors—spanning everything from westerns to romantasy to cozy holiday tales.

Whether you're a longtime romance reader or just beginning to fall for the genre, there's something here for every kind of romantic. Don't miss our signature events, including the glittering Ever After Ball—a night of candlelight, music, and celebration where dance cards will be filled, fortunes told, and authors honoured in style. You can also indulge in High Tea events on Friday and Sunday, and enjoy a sweet and storyfilled afternoon of cakes and conversation. Explore the mysteries of love and fate with Tarot Workshops, or deepen your craft through our masterclasses and publishing panels. We can't wait to share this celebration of romance, creativity, and connection with you. Your happily-ever-after begins here.



Roland Gulliver,
Artistic Director & CEO
and the TIFA Team

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ACCESSIBILITY

TIFA is committed to providing a welcoming and accessible experience for all. We embrace the principles of dignity, independence, integration and equal opportunity to serve our visitors with disabilities and our community at large. We value a Festival experience that is barrier-free, and all of our venues offer accessible seating. If you have questions, or if finances are an obstacle to your attendance, please email info@festivalofauthors.ca.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge the land we are gathering on is the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. We also acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging, and as we gather to celebrate the power of stories, we recognize that stories and ideas have been shared on this land by diverse First Nations for thousands of years.

BOX OFFICE

With our Pass system, you can access multiple events on a particular day, or for the entire Festival, for one inclusive price. Take in all the readings, signings and workshops at The Yorkville Royal Sonesta Hotel, dance the night away at the Ever After Ball, and enjoy the camaraderie of your fellow readers and writers in our festive atmosphere.

Some events are included with Passes but **require pre-registration**. As you select your passes, don't forget to add the **Intro to Tarot** and the **Tea 101: Taste of Romance** workshops to your itinerary before your check out.

The on-site TIFA Box Office will be located at The Yorkville Royal Sonesta Hotel and open during Festival hours.

After purchasing your pass online, you'll receive a QR code. Present it at the Box Office in person to get your festival badge, which grants access to your events.

MULTI-DAY PASSES

First Love 3-Day Pass

Regular: \$159

Includes access to the Opening Party, the Ever After Ball, Friday High Tea and a Swag Bag + all standard events at the Festival. Only 50 First Love passes available. Excludes Masterclasses.

Ever After 3-Day Pass

Regular: \$159

Includes access to the Ever After Ball, and Sunday High Tea + all standard events at the Festival. Excludes Masterclasses.

Swoon 3-Day Pass

Regular: \$99

Includes access to Friday High Tea + all standard events at the Festival. Excludes Masterclasses and Ever After Ball.

SINGLE-DAY PASSES

Festival Day Pass

November 21, 22 or 23

Regular: \$59
Under 25: \$39

Includes access to High Tea and all standard events on November 21. Excludes Masterclasses and Ever After Ball.

SINGLE TICKETS

Masterclasses

90-minute class
Hands-on learning with an acclaimed expert of the craft.

\$49

Not included with Multi-Day or Single Passes.

Ever After Ball

Add a ticket to the ball onto your 1-day pass, or bring a friend to the ball with a single ticket.

Regular: \$79
Under 25: \$39

Includes access to the Fallen Stars Launch and the Ever After Ball.

BOOK YOUR PASS



BOX OFFICE HOURS

Friday: 3PM - 8PM

Saturday: 10AM - 8PM

Sunday: 10AM - 6PM

FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS



HIGH TEA & PAPER HEARTS WITH CECELIA AHERN

Friday, November 21 at 4:30pm
Willard Room

Included with Friday, First Love, and Swoon Passes
Generously supported by the Global Authors Club

Known for her award winning novels turned feature films, *Love, Rosie* (2004) and *P.S. I Love You* (2003), **Cecelia Ahern** has been more than well received – she has been an award winning author and acclaimed critically as well as by romance readers worldwide. Now Ahern joins Ever After to discuss her trailblazing literary career and its lead up to her most recent novel, *Paper Hearts*. High Tea will consist of finger sandwiches, scones, tartelettes, and tea and coffee. Gluten free options will be available.



MASTERCLASS: WRITING ROMANCE FOR BEGINNERS WITH HOLLY CASSIDY

November 21 at 4:30pm
Mayfair Room

Do you dream of writing hilarious meet-cutes and heart-warming happily ever afters, but don't know where to start? Look no further! Join bestselling author **Holly Cassidy – a.k.a. Hannah Mary McKinnon** – for a Writing Romance for Beginners workshop. Explore the romance genre, discover your audience, develop your characters, and learn about pitfalls to avoid. This 90-minute session includes a Q&A and is packed with practical tips to get you started on your writing journey.



TEA 101: A TASTE OF ROMANCE

Friday, November 21 at 7pm
Mayfair Room

Included with Friday & 3-Day Passes

Discover the art and allure of tea in this enchanting tea tasting workshop led by Certified Tea Sommelier and Monarch Tea Co. founder, **Katie Cyr**. Guests will explore the world of tea while enjoying a guided tasting of three exquisite literary themed blends, each with its own story to tell. Sip from vintage teacups, indulge your senses and learn how to “Sip like a Sommelier”. Attendees will uncover the nuances of aroma and flavour with a romantic twist on the theme of rivals to lovers.



TEA, CAKE AND HEARTBREAK: HOLLY CASSIDY, JENNY COLGAN & FARAH HERON

Saturday, November 22 at 11am
Willard Room

Included with Saturday & 3-Day Passes

Grab a slice of cake, a cup of tea and get into the festive spirit with bestselling authors **Holly Cassidy, Jenny Colgan, and Farah Heron**. These authors will discuss the magic of seasonal storytelling, the joys and challenges of writing holiday romance, and why snowy settings make for the most unforgettable love stories.



SELF-PUBLISHING WITH KOBO WRITING LIFE

Saturday, November 22 at 12pm
Barclay Room

Included with Saturday & 3-Day Passes

Presented by **Rakutenkobo**

Get the inside scoop on self-publishing from **Tara Cremin**, Director of Kobo Writing Life. This in-depth panel with the KWL team will cover everything you need to know to take your romance writing career into your own hands. Learn how Kobo Writing Life empowers authors to publish independently and build sustainable careers in today's digital marketplace.



BLIND DATE WITH A BOOK

Saturday, November 22 at 2pm
Barclay Room

Included with Saturday & 3-Day Passes

Sponsored by **Harlequin**

Sometimes the best love stories begin with a leap into the unknown. At Blind Date with a Book, take a chance on a wrapped mystery title, guided by a few tempting clues, and the masters of romance publishing, Harlequin. Will it be a fiery historical, a swoony contemporary, or a deliciously dark gothic romance? No matter the reveal, the fun is in the surprise, and every book invites you to slide between the covers to embark on your next great love affair.



THE EVER AFTER BALL

Saturday, November 22 from 7–11pm
Willard Room

Included with First Love & Ever After Passes

You are cordially invited to join authors, readers, and romantics gather for a night of candlelight, conviviality, and celebration. The evening begins with a live period dance performance and ends on the disco floor. In between, dance lessons, salon experiences, readings, and magical corners designed for intimate encounters and storybook memories. Dressing up is encouraged! Wear your finest Romantasy inspired fashion or live out your Regency-Bridgerton dreams.

FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS



INTRO TO TAROT: LORI DYLAN

Sunday, November 23 at 4pm
Mayfair

This event is included with the Sunday & 3-Day passes, with pre-registration required

Join **Lori Dyan**, author of *Big Deck Energy*, for an interactive workshop on the basics of tarot. Whether you're brand new to the cards or looking to deepen your intuitive practice, Lori will introduce you to the cards, show you how to connect with your deck, and share simple techniques to start reading with ease.



HIGH TEA AT THE RANCH: BAILEY HANNAH & JULIA MCKAY

Sunday, November 23 at 5:30pm
Willard Room

**Included with Sunday & Ever After Passes
Generously supported by the Global Authors Club**

Join us for high tea with romance authors **Bailey Hannah** and **Julia McKay** (pen name for Marissa Stapley), whose new novels bring love, resilience, and renewal to the rugged beauty of ranch life. High Tea will consist of finger sandwiches, scones, tartelettes, and tea and coffee. Gluten free options will be available.



RAKUTEN KOBO BOOTH

Friday, November 21 – Sunday, November 23
Portman Room

Presented by **Rakuten kobo**

Fall in love with reading all over again at the Rakuten Kobo booth. Explore top-rated eReaders and accessories. Get holiday deals, gift recommendations, and fun swag. Your next meet-cute with a new story is just a tap away!

F Free Event **P** Pass Required **M** Masterclass Ticket Required

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21

- P** **High Tea & Paper Hearts with Cecelia Ahern**
Generously Supported by the Global Authors Club
4:30 – 5:30pm
Willard Room
- M** **Writing Romance for Beginners with Holly Cassidy**
4:30 – 6pm
Mayfair Room
- P** **Romance Editor Q & A Presented by Rakuten Kobo**
5:30 – 6pm
Barclay Room
- P** **Love & Loathing: Lily Chu & Jenny Holiday**
6 – 7pm
Willard Room
- P** **Fake Dating & Real Feelings: Rebecca Fisseha & Nisha J. Tuli**
7 – 8pm
Barclay Room
- P** **Tea 101: A Taste of Romance**
7 – 8pm
Mayfair Room
Pre-Registration Required

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22

- P** **Tea, Cake and Heartbreak: Holly Cassidy, Jenny Colgan & Farah Heron**
11am – 12pm
Willard Room
- P** **Self-Publishing with Kobo Writing Life**
Presented by Rakuten Kobo
12 – 1pm
Barclay Room
- P** **Young Love: Jackie Khalilieh & M.K. Lobb**
1 – 2pm
Willard Room
- M** **From Kingdoms to Kisses: How to Write Romantasy That Burns Down Worlds with Nisha J. Tuli**
1:30 – 3pm
Mayfair Room
- P** **Blind Date with a Book**
Sponsored by Harlequin
2 – 3pm
Barclay Room
- P** **Love Across Realms: Briar Boleyn & H. Leighton Dickson**
3 – 4pm
Willard Room
- M** **Love Hurts: Crafting Conflict in Romance with Bailey Hannah**
3:30 – 5pm
Mayfair Room
- P** **Passion & Possibility: Kelley Armstrong & Amy Rosen**
4 – 5pm
Barclay Room
- F** **Trope Talk: Melodie Edwards, Jenny Holiday & Emily Ohanjanians**
5:30 – 6pm
Barclay Room
- F** **Booktok Made Me Read It: Briar Boleyn & Lily Chu**
6:30 – 7pm
Barclay Room
- P** **Fallen Stars Launch Party**
Presented in partnership with Random House Canada
7 – 10pm
Mayfair Room
- P** **The Ever After Ball**
7 – 11pm
Willard Room

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23

- P** **Metal Bookmark Making Workshop with Stormboundbooks**
11am – 12:15pm
Mayfair Room
Pre-Registration Required
- P** **Tea, Cake & Ever After: Uzma Jalaluddin & Melodie Edwards**
11am – 12pm
Willard Room
- P** **Tarot Tales: Kristin Cast & Lori Dyan**
12 – 1pm
Barclay Room
- F** **Road to Romance: H. Leighton Dickson, Rebecca Fisseha & Emily Ohanjanians**
1 – 1:30pm
Mayfair Room
- P** **Sports, Passion, & Prose: Amy James & Ellie K. Wilde**
1 – 2pm
Willard Room
- M** **Finishing Your Novel and Beyond with Jenny Colgan**
2 – 3:30pm
Mayfair Room
- P** **Kobo Originals**
Presented by Rakuten Kobo
2 – 3pm
Barclay Room
- P** **Snowflakes & Sparks: Julia McKay & Kristine Winters**
3 – 4pm
Willard Room
- F** **Beyond Happily Ever After: Kristin Cast & Ellie K. Wilde**
4 – 4:30pm
Mayfair Room
- P** **Intro to Tarot: Lori Dyan**
4 – 5pm
Barclay Room
Pre-Registration Required

- F** **Why We Love Romance: Farah Heron, Amy James & Jackie Khalilieh**
5 – 5:30pm
Mayfair Room
- P** **High Tea at the Ranch: Bailey Hannah & Julia McKay**
Generously Supported by the Global Authors Club
5:30 – 6:30pm
Willard Room

All venues listed are located at The Yorkville Royal Sonesta Hotel (220 Bloor Street W).

Bookstore location/hours:

Carlton Room
Friday 4 PM - 8:30 PM
Saturday 10:30 AM - 10 PM
Sunday 10:30 AM - 7 PM

Refreshments:

On-site dining is available at Signatures Restaurant and Proof Bar and Patio, both located on the ground floor.

Ever After Market:

Shop local vendors including The Trove Candle Co. Lawthasewrus Thisstoryaintover

Friday 4:30 PM – 9 PM
Saturday 11AM – 9 PM
Sunday 11AM – 6:30 PM

The Toronto International Festival of Authors gratefully acknowledges the support of the following and individuals:

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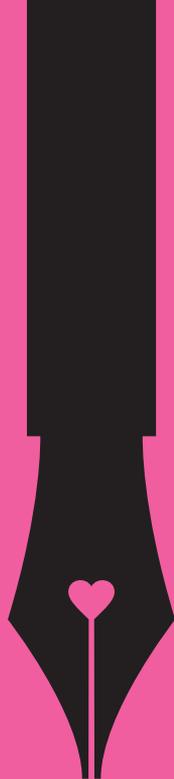
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The Toronto International Festival of Authors (TIFA) is celebrating 50 years of welcoming writers from around the world and inspiring readers through books and stories.

A charitable organization, TIFA presents events year-round, creating unforgettable moments with world-class authors and rising stars. Donate today and be part of the future of storytelling in Toronto. For more information about supporting TIFA, please contact giving@festivalofauthors.ca. Visit our website, sign up for our newsletter, or follow us on social media to join in.



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