



Stone & Star
Poems in Voices Across Time
By Beatriz Fitzgerald Fernandez

OLD SCRATCH PRESS
oldscratchpress.com

BOOK OVERVIEW

Hook: Beatriz Fitzgerald Fernandez gives voice to the overlooked and the legendary alike, from Ada Lovelace to Maid Marian, discovering that across every century the same desires, losses, and acts of defiance endure.

Short Description: In *Stone & Star: Poems in Voices Across Time*, author Beatriz Fitzgerald Fernandez crosses centuries to explore the human stories that history, literature, art, and legend leave behind, speaking through voices celebrated, overlooked, and imagined.

Book Details

Publisher: Old Scratch Press, an imprint of Current Words Publishing, LLC

Publisher website: oldscratchpress.com

Genre: Poetry — Persona & Historical Poems

Audience: Readers of literary and narrative poetry; readers drawn to history, myth, and reimagined voices

Page count: 86

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Formats: Paperback | eBook | Audiobook

Distribution: Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and major online retailers; IngramSpark
beginning September 1, 2026.

Critical Praise

ANDREA HOLLANDER, author of *And Now, Nowhere But Here*: “a stellar collection”

TAMARAH ROCKWOOD, Bainbridge Island Press: “a poet of formidable range”

MIDWEST BOOK REVIEW, “truly haunting... an extraordinarily perceptive, evocative collection”

VOICES IN THE COLLECTION

Stone & Star speaks through an extraordinary range of personas drawn from history, literature, legend, and imagination. Among the voices readers will encounter:

- Maid Marian, in quiet confinement
- Heloise, pacing the banks of the Seine
- Ada Lovelace, unfurling the reach of her mind
- The last Amazon, standing watch over her sisters

For review copies or requests to excerpt individual poems, contact david@currentwords.com.

AUTHOR



Beatriz Fitzgerald Fernandez was born in Philadelphia to Peruvian and Puerto Rican parents. She grew up in Philadelphia, Spain, and mostly Puerto Rico before relocating to Florida to attend college. During her junior year she established her Florida residency, met her husband, and began working in libraries. She fell in love with all three, and subsequently found no reason to leave any of them.

Spurred on by the luck of winning the Second Annual Writer's Digest Poetry Award, she began writing for publication rather late in life and embarked on a long-distance tutelage under poet Andrea Hollander for several years.

She holds an M.A. in English literature and is the author of three poetry chapbooks:

Shining from a Different Firmament (Finishing Line Press, 2015), which she presented at the Miami International Book Fair; *The Ocean Between Us* (Backbone Press, 2017); and *Simultaneous States* (Bainbridge Island Press, 2025). Her work has been featured and read several times on WLRN, South Florida's NPR station, and has been nominated for the Pushcart Prize in 2015, 2017, 2020, and 2025.

A science fiction reader since she first discovered Andre Norton's *The Zero Stone* at age ten, she recently began writing speculative poetry and science fiction stories and joined the Science Fiction Poetry Association. Two of her short stories have received Honorable Mentions in the Writers of the Future contest.

In 2025, she was accepted as a member of the Old Scratch Press Poetry/Short Form collective, where she serves as a contributing poetry editor of its online literary magazine, *Instant Noodles*.

She has worked in public and academic libraries since her college days and became a university reference librarian after earning her M.L.S. She lives by a lake in Miami, Florida, with her husband, an astrophysics professor, and a necessary number of cats.

More at beatrizffernandez.com | IG: @nebula4291

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE | September 1, 2026

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OLD SCRATCH PRESS ANNOUNCES *STONE & STAR: POEMS IN VOICES ACROSS TIME*

Beatriz Fitzgerald Fernandez's Debut Full-Length Collection Arrives September 1, 2026

LOS ANGELES, CA — Old Scratch Press today will release *Stone & Star: Poems in Voices Across Time*, the debut full-length collection by Beatriz Fitzgerald Fernandez.

Praised by poet Andrea Hollander as “a stellar collection” and described by the Midwest Book Review as “truly haunting,” *Stone & Star* showcases Fernandez as a distinctive voice in contemporary persona poetry.

About the Book

Stone & Star gives voice to figures drawn from history, literature, legend, and imagination, illuminating the intimate human desires, losses, and acts of defiance that endure across centuries. Speaking through an extraordinary range of voices, some celebrated, some overlooked, some imagined, Fernandez enters moments of love and betrayal, courage and confinement, grief, discovery, memory, and longing. Historical figures stand beside literary characters; familiar stories are reconsidered from unexpected perspectives; and voices often relegated to the margins are allowed to speak for themselves.

Woven throughout the collection are recurring images of stone and stars: the enduring and the ephemeral, the earthbound and the infinite. Together, the poems collapse the distance between past and present, revealing that however much the world changes, the deepest currents of human experience remain remarkably familiar.

About the Author

Beatriz Fitzgerald Fernandez was born in Philadelphia to Peruvian and Puerto Rican parents and grew up in Philadelphia, Spain, and Puerto Rico before settling in Florida. She holds an M.A. in English literature and is the author of three poetry chapbooks, most recently *Simultaneous States* (Bainbridge Island Press, 2025). Her work has been featured on South Florida NPR affiliate WLRN and has received four Pushcart Prize nominations. A university reference librarian by profession, she joined Old Scratch Press in 2025 and serves as a contributing poetry editor of its literary magazine, *Instant Noodles*. She lives by a lake in Miami, Florida, with her husband and their cats. Learn more at beatrizffernandez.com.

About Old Scratch Press

Old Scratch Press is a poetry and short-form writers collective dedicated to fostering an appreciation for poetry, short-form prose, and hybrid forms of writing and art, along with opportunities for publication and recognition. The collective provides members with opportunities to publish short collections, contribute to anthologies, and participate in reading the submissions for *Instant Noodles*, a digital literary magazine sponsored by Current Words Publishing. Mentorship sits at the center of the collective's mission, pairing experienced writers with emerging voices and connecting members to readings, workshops, and other educational opportunities. Learn more at oldscratchpress.com.

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MEDIA ASSETS

Available Files:

- Cover (Print and Web)
- Cover Composite (Web)
- Author Photo (Print and Web)

All files can be access via Google Docs [here](#).

PUBLISHER

The Old Scratch Press Poetry and Short Form Collective is dedicated to fostering an appreciation for, and understanding of, poetry, short-form prose, and hybrid forms of writing and art, as well as opportunities for publication and recognition. Founded by publisher and author Dianne Pearce in 2023, the collective provides writers with opportunities to publish short collections, contribute to anthologies, and work as part of the selection committee for submissions to *Instant Noodles*, a digital literary magazine sponsored by Current Words Publishing.

Mentorship is a core part of the collective's mission, allowing experienced writers to support emerging voices by sharing knowledge and resources. Through its growing support network, Old Scratch Press connects members to publishing opportunities as well as invitations to readings, workshops, and other educational events. Members are united in the belief that collaboration, including the work of promoting and managing the press and its authors, is essential to success as an independent author.

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