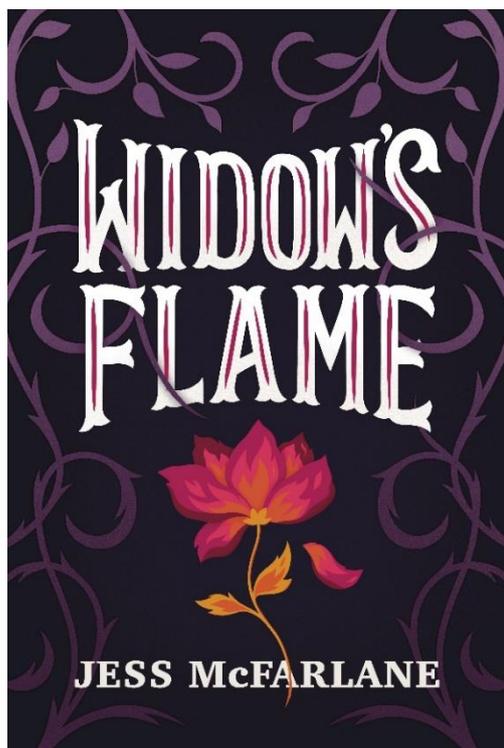


# WIDOW'S FLAME

JESS McFARLANE



ISBN	9781922850034
Publication Date	SEPT 25 2022
Genre	Historical Fiction, Adventure, Western
Format	Paperback
Audience	General
Location	Newcastle, NSW

Price available on our site

## GALWAY CITY, 1898. BLAIR RYAN IS LOST.

Three years ago, her husband, Thomas, was murdered by an outlaw gang in America. Since then, she's become resentful of life in general and a drunk with no purpose.

The sheriff has done nothing to find Thomas' murderer and Blair wants them to pay. When she gets news of a fighter dubbed "The American Outlaw" in a nearby town, she enlists his help in her campaign of revenge.

Together, they go to America to track down the men that murdered her husband.

Blair doesn't trust her companion, Colin McCarthy, but she needs him and this outweighs her concern.

There's a rage inside Blair and killing these men may mean sacrificing her own humanity.

***Can Blair get justice for her husband's murder?***

***Will her sanity be the price to pay?***

***Is she capable of forgiveness?***



## AUTHOR BIO

Jess McFarlane wrote her first novel within a notebook when she was 14. Since then, she has been extremely passionate about writing and it has always been something that has come naturally to her. When Jess isn't writing on her bed with her German Shepherd Sam at her feet, she enjoys playing video games, drawing, exploring new places with her partner, Alec and advocating for disability, chronic illness and mental health awareness on her Instagram and podcast segment.

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## A CONVERSATION WITH THE AUTHOR

### WHY DID YOU WRITE 'WIDOW'S FLAME'? WHAT WERE YOUR INSPIRATIONS?

*I love writing about the human condition, especially about emotions that none of us want to talk about or feel. When the character of Blair Ryan came to mind, I knew she was very conflicted, very damaged. I love flawed characters; I think they hold a lot more life on the page than characters that have "nothing wrong with them". I've always loved the Western genre and so incorporating that was fun, as I definitely took inspiration from Western movies, shows and video games. I feel like revenge stories are generally all over when the main character gets their revenge and there's never any repercussions, even if they've done something just as "evil" as the villain. I wanted to be realistic in the approach. I wanted all the characters, even the bad guys, to go through an evolution that didn't seem impossible to real life standards. I love strong women and Blair is a strong female lead. I've dealt with a lot of grief in my own life, so putting that onto paper was almost a therapy for me, too.*

### HOW HAD YOU DECIDED ON THE BEST CHARACTERS FOR THE BOOK?

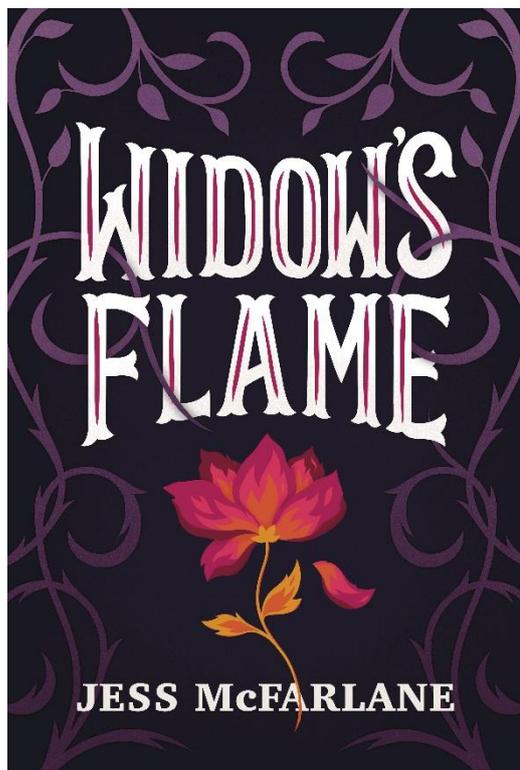
*I needed a flawed female lead. And the male lead needed to be no-nonsense, kind of like an anchor to stop her from drifting off too far. I wanted to show the relationship between two people that had gone through very similar things in life, yet one had dealt with it, and one had not. Showing that juxtaposition helped me push the theme of the book – that we're all human, we're all emotional beings.*

### HOW DO YOU CREATE OR MODEL YOUR CHARACTERS TO FIT THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE STORY AND THE EXPECTATIONS OF THE READERS?

*I generally go off their history. Like with Blair, she's Irish, so she's pale, fair-haired, strong-willed. She has the gall to go and hunt these men down, fuelled by a burning rage. Colin is an ex-outlaw, so he needed to be built well, have scars, but also have a solemn air about him, as he lives with a lot of regret. Being a feminist, and assuming my readers will be as well, I always want a female lead that is relatable and realistic.*

### WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR YOUR FUTURE BOOKS?

*Hopefully get them published, too! I'd love to get an audience of readers I can communicate with. I want to keep writing and have people get excited when I announce that another book is underway. I've got a few ideas for new books too, slowly stewing in the back of my mind.*



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