



www.kelliemparker.com

Kellie M. Parker

YOUNG ADULT AUTHOR

PRESS KIT

About Kellie



Kellie M. Parker grew up traveling the United States and Europe as a US military brat. She attended high schools in three states and was too nerdy to ever sit at the cool kids' table. With books as her most reliable companion, it was only a matter of time before she decided to write one herself. She has college degrees in biology and nautical archaeology but has always found her sense of adventure most satisfied by a great story.

Kellie lives in west Michigan with her husband and four kids. She writes about brave, smart teens trying to figure out who they are and where they belong. When she's not plotting her next fictional murder, she can be found baking, gardening, tackling DIY home projects, and reading to her kids.

Thin Air is her debut YA novel. Learn more about Kellie at www.kelliemparker.com.

SHORTENED BIO

Kellie M. Parker is an award-winning writer of YA fantasy and thrillers. She has college degrees in biology and nautical archaeology, but she's always found her sense of adventure most satisfied by a great story. When not writing, Kellie can be found teaching her four children, camping, baking, and gardening. She lives with her family in west Michigan.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Twitter: [@kelliemparker](https://twitter.com/kelliemparker)

Instagram: [@kelliemparker](https://www.instagram.com/kelliemparker)

Facebook: [@kelliemichelleparker](https://www.facebook.com/kelliemichelleparker)

Pinterest: [@kelliemichellep](https://www.pinterest.com/kelliemichellep)

Substack: <https://kelliemparker.substack.com/>

Website: <https://www.kelliemparker.com>



THIN AIR

Eight hours. Twelve contestants. A flight none of them might survive. A flight to Paris full of teenagers seeking opportunity turns deadly in this suspenseful, locked-door YA thriller. Perfect for fans of Diana Urban, Karen McManus, and Jessica Goodman.



Seventeen-year-old boarding school student Emily Walters is selected for an opportunity of a lifetime—she'll compete abroad for a cash prize that will cover not only tuition to the college of her choice, but will lift her mother and her out of poverty.

But almost from the moment she and 11 other contestants board a private jet to Europe, Emily realizes somebody is willing to do anything to win. Between keeping an eye on her best friend's flirty boyfriend and hiding her own dark secrets, she's not sure how she'll survive the contest, much less the flight. Especially when people start dying...

As loyalties shift and secrets are revealed, Emily must figure out who to trust, and who's trying to kill them all, before she becomes the next victim.

ISBNs: 978-0593526002 (hardcover), 978-0593526026 (ebook), 978-0593745427 (audio), 978-0593526019 (paperback)

Praise for Thin Air

“Horror, the ugly side of competitiveness, and palpable fear permeate Parker’s claustrophobic thriller. The read is **truly original**, making the most of its inescapable airplane setting. Filled with twists and dread, **this novel will thrill those curious about the dark side of human nature and what it means to be a survivor.**”

Booklist

“**A fun page-turner.** Emily’s first-person narration establishes her as a sympathetic and flawed protagonist. The initial chapter quickly sets the **taut line of tension that’s maintained throughout**, with each chapter opening with a time stamp marking the plane’s progress across the Atlantic. The fast pace will keep readers engaged, particularly fans of locked-room mysteries.”

Kirkus

“**Emily’s empathetic first-person narration**, rendered in assured prose, is a steadfast vehicle that drives readers from one suspenseful scare to the next. There are no snakes on this plane, but **the dangers are real in this ticking-clock thriller** by Parker.”

Publishers Weekly

“**Stow your tray tables and adjust your seat backs.** This is no ordinary murder mystery. *Thin Air* takes off at the speed of sound... You’ll need an oxygen mask of your own as the twists leave you gasping and every page-turn propels you closer to an ending you’ll never see coming. **A fast-paced, claustrophobic thrill ride** of a story that’s perfect for reading on vacation...unless, of course, you’re flying there.”

Ginny Myers Sain, NYT bestselling author of Dark and Shallow Lies

“**Kellie M. Parker’s *Thin Air* is an unputdownable thrill ride** that grabs you by the throat and doesn’t let go until the very end. It kept me up long past my bedtime—readers be warned that **you won’t want to put this one down.**”

Stacy Stokes, author of Remember Me Gone

Media Buzz

HONORS

- Amazon.com Best YA Book of October 2023 and Editor's Pick
- Mystery Tribune: [25 Best Crime, Mystery And Thriller Books of October 2023](#) (mysterytribune.com).
- Book Riot: [New October 2023 YA Releases](#) (bookriot.com).

INTERVIEWS

- The Big Thrill interview: [Thin Air with Kellie M. Parker – THE BIG THRILL](#)
- Young Entertainment Magazine Author interview: [YEM Author Interview: Kellie M. Parker speaks about where the idea for her book "Thin Air" came from – Young Entertainment](#) (youngentertainmentmag.com).
- YA Books Central interview: [Author Chat with Kellie M. Parker \(THIN AIR\) – YA Books Central](#)
- Literary Rambles interview: [Literary Rambles: Debut Author Interview: Kellie M. Parker Interview and Thin Air Giveaway and IWSG Post](#)
- Book Crushin' interview: [Author Interview: Thin Air by Kellie M. Parker – BookCrushin](#)

PODCASTS & TV

- Exploring the Blank Page podcast: [048: Kellie M. Parker – Exploring the Blank Page | Podcast on Spotify](#)
- Utopia State of Mind YA Contemporary Debut Panel: [Last YA Contemporary 2023 Debut Panel! \(youtube.com\)](#)
- Chatty Bookshelf interview for AMI: [Kelly and Ramya: Thin Air by Kellie M. Parker on Apple Podcasts](#)

IN-PERSON APPEARANCES

- Book Launch event at Schuler Books Grand Rapids with Erin A. Craig, October 24, 2023
- School visit, Grandville High School, October 24, 2023
- Upcoming: Columbus Book Festival featured author, July 13-14, 2024

Book Cover



Cover design by Jessica Jenkins,
art by Nicole Rifkin.

Author Photos

Photo credit: Amanda Kamppinen



POTENTIAL INTERVIEW TOPICS

- Themes from *Thin Air* -- pressure on today's teens to be high achievers; taking responsibility for one's actions and finding one's agency/ voice; family homelessness as an underrecognized issue; second chances and forgiveness
- *Thin Air* as a pandemic story -- written in 2020, the book exudes the claustrophobic fear of harm or death many people felt during the pandemic
- Kellie's author journey from military kid to scientist to homeschool mom to published author, and how her life experiences have led her to write about resilient, brave teens trying to figure out where they belong
- Why teens need books written for them rather than for adult readers who enjoy YA books, and the value of flawed main characters

PANEL AND WORKSHOP TOPICS

- Writing suspense and mystery stories
- Creating authentic teen characters
- The ins and outs of querying and traditional publishing
- Romantic subplots in YA books
- Self-editing: ways to make your story shine
- Craft basics: setting, deep POV, and story structure
- Creative writing basics for teens



kellie@kelliemparker.com
www.kelliemparker.com



FURTHER INQUIRIES

Literary agent: Ali Herring, Spencerhill Associates

aherring@spencerhillassociates.com

Publicist: Sierra Pregosin, PRH

spregosin@penguinrandomhouse.com

Kellie