



Breaking Night Press

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AMPUTEE AUTHOR FIGHTS FOR INDUSTRY-WIDE CHANGE

RICE LAKE, WISCONSIN—“*Could you make [the character] less disabled?*”

That insensitive—and yes, verbatim—remark came from a major publisher in response to Katie Mettner’s latest manuscript. It wasn’t the first time the prolific mother-of-three had received offensive feedback, either. Having penned over forty romance novels featuring characters with disabilities and health conditions, she’s faced adversity getting her work traditionally published for the past decade.

“I write love stories that reflect real life,” Mettner says, gesturing to her prosthetic leg, “because love isn’t easy, but it’s always worth it. Unfortunately, most publishers only want to see characters with disabilities if they’re overcoming them to inspire the masses. In today’s fiction market, that’s how our validity is earned.”

Thankfully, Mettner’s determination finally led her to Breaking Night Press—an independent publisher that specializes in #ownvoices and niche genres. Not only were they thrilled to sign a two-book deal with Mettner, they asked to partner in elevating her advocacy platform. To learn more about people-first language and the importance of accurately portraying people with disabilities in fiction, please visit:

www.breakingnightpress.com/resources.htm

Look for the first in Mettner’s new series, *Butterflies and Hazel Eyes*, on April 22, 2021.

About the book: Never one to linger, computer security expert Charity Puck doesn’t expect to be romanced by the small-town charm of her latest job. But when her RV rolls into Plentiful, Wisconsin, nestled along the breathtaking shores of Lake Superior, she’s convinced nothing could be more alluring—until she gazes into the delectable hazel eyes of her new client.

Underestimated due to the crutches on his arms and braces on his legs, CEO and researcher Gulliver Winsome doesn’t expect his job to put his life in danger. But as he rushes to bring an eco-friendly pesticide to market, in an attempt to save the pollinators, he finds himself the target of a sinister plot—uncovered by the tiny blonde dynamo he hired to fix his servers.

Someone is trying to steal Gulliver’s research, and they’ll stop at nothing to bury the evidence. With feelings in bloom and the would-be couple’s lives in peril, it’s up to Charity to decipher the clues before they both end up in the Lady of the Lake’s cold-water castle.

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Katie Mettner is available for interviews and appearances. For booking, or to request a review copy, please contact publicity@breakingnightpress.com.