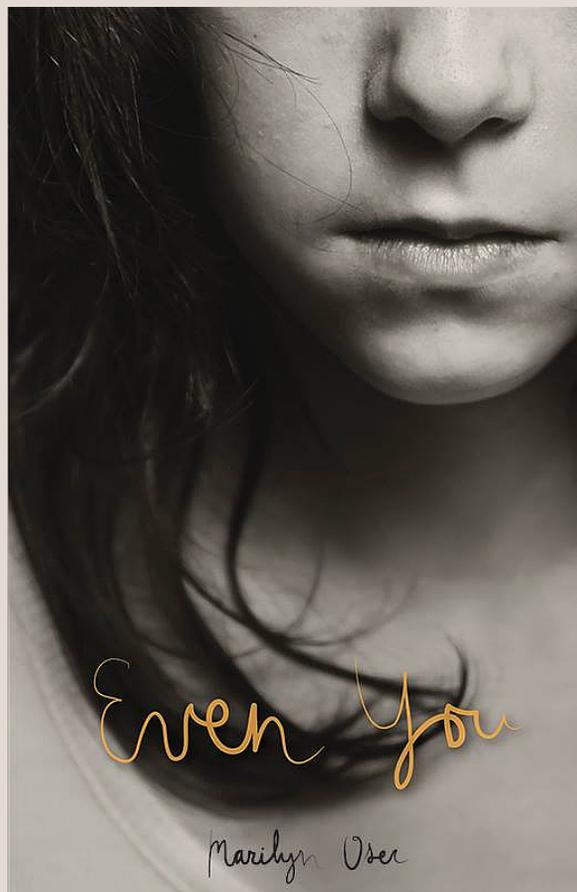


SEPTEMBER

EVEN YOU

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BY MARILYN OSER



FOR MEDIA INQUIRIES PLEASE
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About *Even You*

In the wake of the SCOTUS decision on same-sex marriage comes a stunning portrait of a long-term same-sex relationship and how it unravels.

Claire Bramany, plump and fiftyish, is not what you'd call impetuous. She's capable, reliable and steady. Her twenty-three year partnership with Jessie Friedman has been joyous at its best—and mostly it has been at its best. But when a sudden accident in Brooklyn in 1995 takes Jessie's life, Claire's world implodes in crushing grief. And worse is soon to come: while cleaning out Jessie's desk, Claire finds hidden journals that tell long-buried secrets of Jessie's western girlhood.

Jessie's account of Tulsa in 1944 appears innocent and playful, at first. Her days are peopled with quirky characters— especially Uncle Jimmy, an honest-to-goodness teenage hero just back from war-torn Europe. He's Jessie's favorite, until the afternoon he makes his move on nine-year-old Jessie.

No secrets, secrets kill: this was the promise Claire and Jessie had made to each other. But in all their time together, Claire never heard of Jessie's uncle Jimmy, nor of any sexual violation. Shattered, yearning to reconnect with the lover she thought she knew, Claire heads out to Oklahoma to find this man.

Is the story in the journals true? If so, has Claire any other course than to avenge Jimmy's hideous crimes...?

A novel based on true events, *Even You* speaks movingly of a time to love, a time to mourn, and a time to let go.

*"I'll take you anywhere, do anything for you.
Only please, please don't say goodbye."*

-From *Even You*

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About the Author



Marilyn Oser’s multi-faceted life is eclectic and adventuresome. She's done archaeology in France, dog sledding in Minnesota, woodworking in her own garage—and that’s just for fun. she has taught English, history and Judaics, and has raised funds for arts, environmental and community organizations.

But what she loves best is writing.

She is the author of the novels *Playing for Keeps*, and *Rivka's War*, a favorite of readers and critics alike—as well as the blog “Streets of Israel” and several short stories and guidebooks. Always wise and heartfelt, often wry, Marilyn’s beautifully-crafted prose is ageless.

A Ph.D. in language and literature, She is also a recipient of the University of Michigan’s prestigious Avery Hopwood Prize for excellence in writing.

Marilyn lives in New York’s Hudson Valley and on Long Island. She loves reading 19th century fiction, 17th century poetry and just about anything else that’s well written.

For more information about Marilyn Oser visit her website. For up-to-date information, visit her social media sites.

Facebook-- <https://www.facebook.com/MarilynOserAuthor>

Twitter-- <https://twitter.com/MarilynOser>

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Author Q&A

What was your inspiration for writing this book?

Semi-autobiographical, *EVEN YOU* was begun by my partner, who died in 2003, leaving about a hundred draft pages of Jessie's first-person narrative. She thought Jessie's story couldn't stand alone, without some sort of framing tale; it's one of life's ironies that my grief at her death provided the material for just such a frame.

In your opinion, what is the wider context of your book and what do you hope your audience will take away as the larger message?

We humans are an optimistic bunch, a powerful quality that has helped us survive. We see bad things happen to others every day, yet are surprised when they happen to us. We like to be in love, yet rarely anticipate loss, whether through hurt feelings or disease or—worst—death. This is a book about love and loss—and human resiliency. It finds its specifics in the issues of sexual orientation and sexual predation, but the secrets and grief that result are universal. What matters is forgiveness, a messy but crucial business for us all.

What struggles did you come across while writing this book?

My partner and I often wrote together. I thought the story she had to tell was engaging and important, and I didn't want to see it die with her. She had told me a great deal about her childhood years in Tulsa—including her violation by a beloved uncle. In traveling to Tulsa, though, and in retracing some of her steps, I found inconsistencies that led to my own confusion as to what was factual in her narrative, what fiction, and what faulty memory. Part of my struggle involved trying to stay true to her vision while creating a work that had, in the end, to be my own.

Even You Meta-Data

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