

PRESS RELEASE

Another Carolina Coast Novel Meets the Ocean Breeze

Heavy Weather: A Story of Love and Loss and Family

It takes a town to save a child. That town is Beaufort.

Annie Mac's estranged husband vows that nothing will stop him from getting his baby girl. Not Annie Mac and certainly not that boy of hers.

Only four blocks away, Hannah Morgan lives in comfort with her husband and dog, making pottery and waiting for her best friend to come home. When she discovers the two children cowering in the bushes and their mama left for dead, it doesn't take her long to set her coterie of do-gooders to some extra-strength do-gooding. Add in Clay, a lonely police lieutenant yanked out of his comfort zone and into the heart of this small family, and who knows what will happen?

From the author of *Becalmed* comes this latest tale of the Carolina coast, introducing some new characters to love—and to loathe.

Heavy Weather (Sleepy Creek Press, 2015, ISBN 978-0986141607, \$13.95, <http://www.normandiefischer.com/#!heavy-weather/c230f>) “grew out of my desire to know what happened to one of the sidekicks in *Becalmed*,” says author Normandie Fischer. “I already knew she'd lost two babies at birth, so how would she react when her best friend sailed back into town, heavily pregnant? From this question grew the rest of the story, which took on a life of its own when Hannah rescued two children hiding under and bush and found their mama left for dead. Now it wasn't just Hannah's story, but also Annie Mac's. And, of course, because it was a Beaufort story, Hannah involved her girlfriends in the rescue effort and dragged Lieutenant Clay Dougherty (we also met him in *Becalmed*) into the fray.”

Writing from the perspective of a wife abuser proved Normandie's greatest challenge as she tried to uncover the lies he told himself that allowed him to continue in his obsessions. Based on the comments from readers who seem to think her crazed villain “deliciously awful,” she succeeded at least in humanizing him.

Heavy Weather is a story of loss and pain and guilt—and of recovery through love—as the characters discover that family can include folk with no blood ties at all.

In manuscript form, *Heavy Weather* won the 2011 Marlene for Strong Romantic Elements from the Washington, DC, RWA. It received a critique from *NY Times* bestselling author Gemma Halliday: *Really nice read! You are awesometastic at creating a really beautiful, vivid description. Gorgeous language without feeling forced, which is really hard to do. Your characters felt very fleshed out and real, and I felt right along with them. Seriously impressive.*

This is Normandie's third book, following *Becalmed* and *Sailing out of Darkness*, each of which has won an award or two. Find out more about these on her website, www.normandiefischer.com, or on her Amazon author page, <http://www.amazon.com/Normandie-Fischer/e/B00BSIF2NI/>

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About the Author:



Normandie Fischer studied sculpture in Italy for several years before receiving a BA, summa cum laude with special honors in English. She began editing professionally in the seventies in Washington, DC, and is the former Executive Editor of Wayside Press, the general market imprint of Written World Communications. Her stories have garnered numerous awards across the country, and her first Carolina Coast novel, *Becalmed*, was released by Lighthouse Publishing of the Carolinas in July of 2013. Her second, *Heavy Weather*, made its debut in March of 2015. A lifelong sailor, she and her husband spent a number of years on board their 50-foot ketch, *Sea Venture*, in the Sea of Cortez, Mexico. When they're not cruising East Coast waters with Normandie's elderly mother, the three of them can be found at home near Beaufort, NC.

About the Book:



Series: Carolina Coast Stories

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"In *Heavy Weather*, Normandie Fisher has created a coastal Carolina setting so palpable you can almost smell the plough mud, as well as a cast of characters so touchingly authentic you'll want to invite them over for a barbecue. Fisher takes the reader on an emotional journey that is both heartfelt and richly written as her characters stumble, sometimes grudgingly, toward healing and forgiveness. A deep and lovely story about the unshakable bonds of friendship and the healing power of love."

~Barbara Davis, acclaimed author of *Summer at Hideaway Key* and other books

"*Heavy Weather* is like a tall glass of sweet tea: utterly refreshing, quintessentially Southern, and perfect for the beach. Normandie Fischer tells this story of loss and acceptance, shame and forgiveness, with skill, warmth and compassion, and makes you wish every troubled soul had the folks in Beaufort to lift them up."

~ Sonja Yoerg, author of *House Broken*

Review Copies and Media Interviews: For a review copy of *Heavy Weather* or for an interview with Normandie Fischer, please contact Robin at Fresh Voices PR (info@freshvoicespr.com) or contact Normandie directly at normandiefischer@gmail.com (252-649-0252). When requesting a review copy, please specify whether you'd like print or e-book.