**Press Release**

Author Margaret Panofsky is pleased to announce the August 8, 2017 publication of her first novel, *The Last Shade Tree,* by All Things That Matter Press.

*The Last Shade Tree* is a thought-provoking family epic, written with humor, satire, sensuality, and pathos, promises an ultimately redemptive fantasy ride through some of the ugliest moments of real human history. As principal character Sequoyah asks near the end of the book, “Who can understand the power of love?” To embark on the journey, please see the attractive and richly informative website, [lastshadetree.co](http://lastshadetree.co)m.

Sequoyah Morgan Hummingbird is different, living on the edge of reality where sharing thoughts is as natural as breathing. But he hates everything about himself—his name, his lost childhood in a Cherokee residential school, his tongue-tied shyness. Even worse, the Moon People, an octogenarian pair orbiting high above the 1960s earth, force him to comply with their ruthless repopulation scheme—because they alone have seen WW III destroy humankind. By age twenty Sequoyah hits rock bottom. He pulls through, helped by friends and strangers drawn to the poetry and goodness within him. The Moon People’s lunatic plot succeeds, landing the clan in the far future after the ruined earth has rebounded. Their worries are not over: they face surprising adversaries, unprecedented in literature—until now. Stumbling as often as they prevail, Sequoyah and his new clan make love, babies, and history as they jump across continents and millennia.

The day-to-day action occurs on several fronts simultaneously—from Oklahoma and California to Slovakia, Montreal, and the Arctic. When the principal characters travel back in Time, they are plunged into some of history’s most heinous deportations: of the Japanese after Pearl Harbor, the Jews on their way to Auschwitz, and the Cherokee on the 1838 Trail of Tears. This is a novel with a conscience, presenting scenarios that we neglect today at our peril. There’s plenty of music too, oddly presented, as well as mythology, both ancient and newly minted.

Margaret Panofsky grew up surrounded by Northern California’s live oak trees and golden wild-oat grass, but abandoned what’s left of that idyllic beauty to live in New York City. She is a musician who plays the viola da gamba and is founder and director of New York University’s The Teares of the Muses, a consort of viols. After years of playing Renaissance and Baroque music, she believes that her first novel has a definite musical lilt.

*The Last Shade Tree* may bepurchased on Amazon (either Kindle or paperback) or via All Things That Matter Press at <https://www.createspace.com/7378869>*.*

*“The Last Shade Tree … takes readers on an enlightening journey across time and around the world. The profound narrative, expressive writing, and wholly original concept are sure to intrigue and please a vast audience.” —Alex McIe*

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