

PRESS RELEASE

Acclaimed Author Draws from Foster Parent Experience for Powerful New Novel

The Way It Should Be by Christina Suzann Nelson

Minneapolis, MN—Women’s fiction author Christina Suzann Nelson has been praised for her “heartbreaking and uplifting” story lines (*Booklist*) and crafting a “tension-filled tour de force of suspense and human emotions” (*Library Journal*). Through her latest novel, releasing February 2, she touches on a subject close to her own heart and life: foster care, the role of faith communities in serving families in need, and the effects of addiction.

In *The Way It Should Be*, Zara Mahoney’s life is upended by her estranged sister, Eve, and Zara must take custody of her children. Eve’s struggles lead her to Tiff Bradley, who’s determined to help despite the past hurts the relationship triggers. As their lives intersect, each woman struggles to find the hope they—and those they love—desperately need.

As a mom of six, four of whom were adopted through the Oregon foster care system, Nelson has experienced firsthand the challenges of working with the legal system, the consequences of drug and alcohol misuse, and dynamics between adoptive and biological parents.

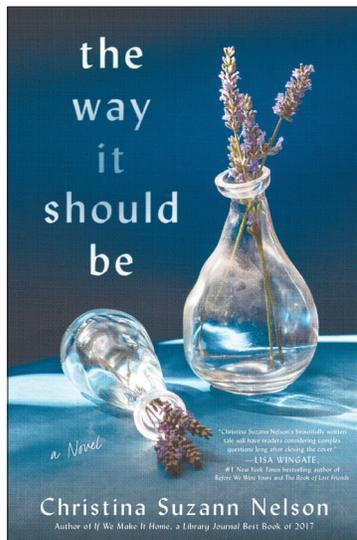
In addition, Nelson is a board member of the nonprofit Every Child Linn-Benton, which provides resources to support vulnerable children and the foster parents who care for them. Her heart is to raise awareness about the needs surrounding children and youth in foster care and to come alongside the families who provide for them.

Early readers have called *The Way It Should Be* “an uplifting read, despite the heaviness of the topic” and expressed admiration for the way Nelson tackles difficult subjects like abuse, homelessness, and interpersonal family conflict in a way that’s both authentic and full of grace and hope.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:



CBA bestselling author **Christina Suzann Nelson** writes stories that focus on changing legacies from dysfunction to hope. Her novel *More Than We Remember* received starred reviews from both *Publishers Weekly* and *Booklist*, and her debut novel was named a *Library Journal* Best Book of 2017 and a Foreword INDIES 2017 Book of the Year. Christina is a member of Oregon Christian Writers and ACFW, where she has served as the northwest zone director. She lives in Oregon’s gorgeous Willamette Valley with her husband of 26 years and their children. Find her online at christinasuzannnelson.com.



The Way It Should Be

by Christina Suzann Nelson

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“Christina Suzann Nelson’s beautifully written tale of the complicated nature of family, the power of faith, and the ultimate cost of self-sacrifice for those we love will have readers considering complex questions long after closing the cover.”

—Lisa Wingate, #1 New York Times bestselling author of *Before We Were Yours* and *The Book of Lost Friends*

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