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AUTHOR BIOS

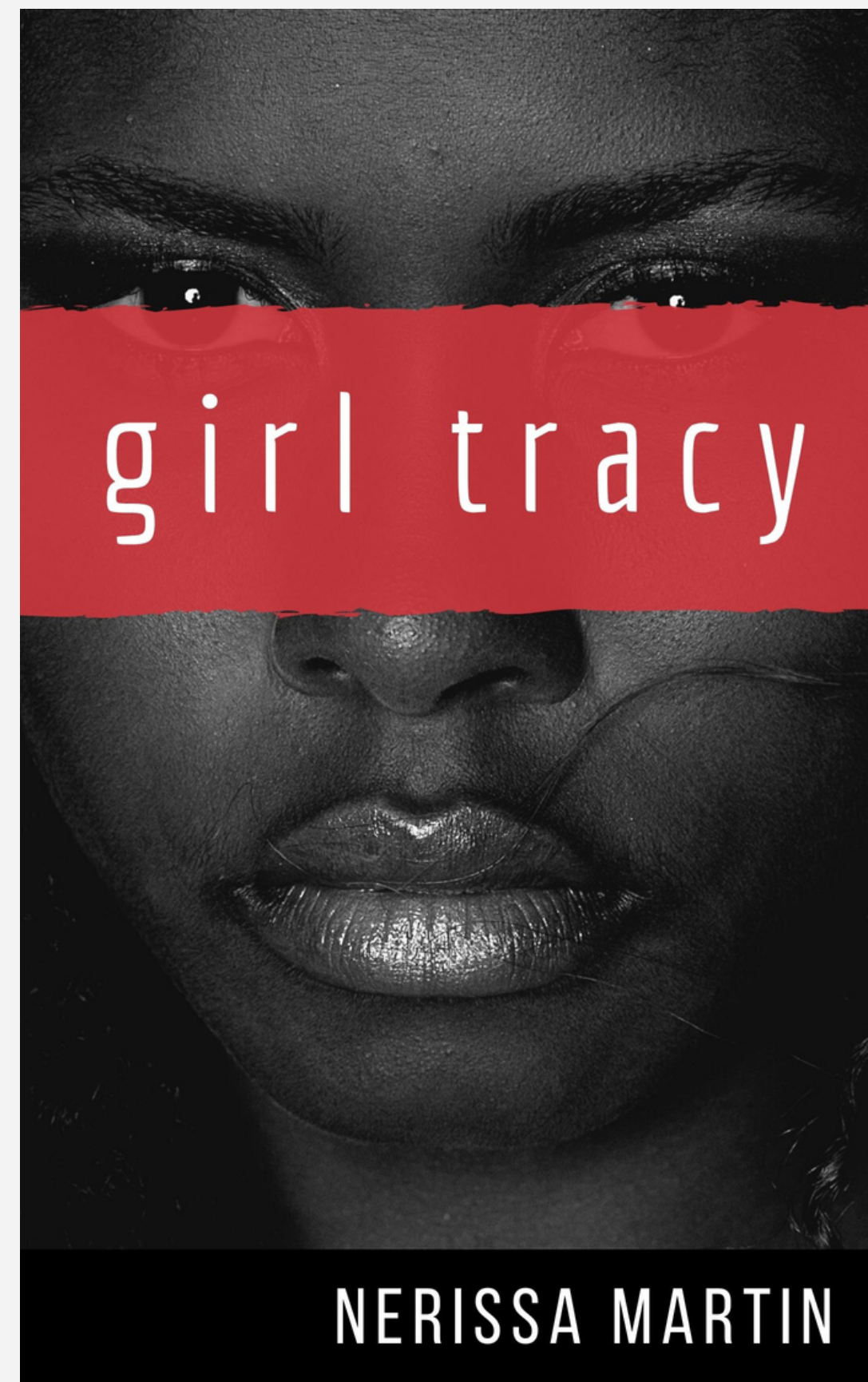
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# Media Kit

Find all images for download at [mediakit.girltracy.com](http://mediakit.girltracy.com)



# AUTHOR BIOS

## TAGLINE

Nerissa Martin: Author, *Girl Tracy*

## SMALL BIO

Nerissa Martin is obsessed with stories about people who strive; either within themselves or to make life better for the people around them. ***Girl Tracy*** is her debut novel.

## MEDIUM BIO

Nerissa Martin is obsessed with stories about people who strive; either within themselves or to make life better for the people around them. She received a Bachelors in English and Political Science from York University, and a Graduate Certificate in Corporate Communications from Seneca College. ***Girl Tracy*** is her debut novel.

## LARGE BIO

Nerissa Martin is obsessed with stories about people who strive; either within themselves or to make life better for the people around them. She received a Bachelors in English and Political Science from York University, and a Graduate Certificate in Corporate Communications from Seneca College. She started to read as a way to escape, and pass the time when unable to fall asleep at night. She started to write after being taught how in school. Today she continues to read to collect the experience of words, and she writes to try and tell stories of how change happens. Nerissa's work has appeared in Sway Magazine and Now Toronto. ***Girl Tracy*** is her debut novel.

# DETAILS

- **Title** : Girl Tracy
- **Author** : Nerissa Martin
- **Genre / Price / # of pages** : Women's Fiction / \$4.99 (US, CAD) / 336 pages
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# GIRL TRACY

## SYNOPSIS

### TAGLINE

Once Tracy brings her sex worker alter-ego Gemini outside, there is no going back.

### PITCH

A woman pursues her dream of changing her life and becoming a sex worker, with the help of an alter-ego and the perfect wig.

### 50-WORD

Tracy needs money now. She's pounding the pavement, but her résumé is full of lies she can't keep straight. And it's hard to concentrate at job interviews with an alter-ego she can't keep quiet. After the last disastrous interview, Tracy takes Gemini and the perfect wig, and starts again.

### BLURB

Tracy June Leonard needs money now.

She's sending out applications and doing what she's supposed to, but her résumé is full of lies that she can't keep straight.

And it's hard to concentrate at the interviews with an alter-ego—

*thats me, Gemini excuse you*

that won't shut up. It's been years since Toronto legalized sex work. And after the last disastrous job interview, Tracy takes weeks to prepare to become a contractor at Rosado House.

With her alter ego and the perfect wig, she plans to leave everything behind and start again. But Gemini has their limits. And when Tracy's worlds collide in the worst possible way she will discover just how much she'll need to sacrifice for the security and the life she wants.

# FULL SYNOPSIS

Manufacturing on plastic bags has ended worldwide. Amazon is now the largest homebuilder in North America. All drugs are legal in Canada. If you want to put poison in your body, the argument goes, that's your choice. Girl Tracy is set in the slight future, some years after the Canadian federal government has given provinces jurisdiction to legalize sex work. Ontario votes 'yes', and Toronto's brothel system is the first of its kind to show up in under the new legislation. Vocal groups fight to stop the changes, but are unsuccessful. Middle-class progressive types see the changes as positive—a sign of social progress in the city. Most people don't care. They're thinking about jobs, rising taxes and the cost of living, problems that governments and tech monopolies remedy with band-aid solutions.

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**Tracy June Leonard** is an unemployed, single, mid-thirties with no kids and a limp career in public relations. Since sex work was legalized and showed up in Toronto, her focus at work became a little scattered. During the day she maintained a clean, corporate image. At first she could talk about the legalization of sex work at the office; everyone was talking about it. But legalization did nothing to change the stigma against sex workers. Tracy's conservative Christian family never discussed it except to prove a point about Godlessness in society. Her friends refer to sex workers as "them" and "they", same with the people she worked with, so Tracy learned to keep quiet about a part of her that was coming out. At night she fantasized herself as **Gemini**, an alter-ego who lives the life Tracy wants to live, and through which she could imagine what it would be like to be a sex worker.

After a disastrous job interview and weeks of watching her bank account balance go down while her credit card balances went up, Tracy decides to make the jump and bring Gemini to life as a contractor at Rosado House, a high-end brothel located in downtown Toronto.

Tracy and Gemini find a way to work together as clients start booking appointments in Scheduler, an app that manages payments, profiles, and security. Tracy makes friends with her new co-workers, and moves in with **Charlene**, another contractor at Rosado.

Things change quickly when Tracy meets client 26: **Michael Francis Booker**. Charlene—and Gemini—warn her about crossing lines, but a quick whirlwind romance ensues, with Mike booking three appointments in less than a week, and Tracy putting her alter-ego aside to show him what she looks like without the wig. They go out on a real date, from a bar to an after-hours club, to a 24-hour diner. Tracy doesn't get home until the sun rises.

But almost immediately after exchanging phone numbers with Mike, she receives a phone call from a strange number. When she answers, the call disconnects. They call again, and this time Tracy listens to a woman (**Jasmin**) tell her that Mike is married, to her. She demands to know why Mike has Tracy's phone number but Tracy hangs up. Text messages flood in to Tracy's phone until she's able to block the number completely.

Something about Mike changes. He stops booking appointments, stops texting. A new contractor, **Elsie**, starts at Rosado and immediately Tracy fears Mike has moved on.

In a desperate attempt to find out what is going on with him, Tracy goes back to the archived texts. In the messages from the phone number she blocked, she finds an image showing a woman with a bruise on her back. A follow-up message from Jasmin reads:

How do you feel knowing your client is an abuser?

Tracy is triggered. As a child, she watched her mother, **Verna**, be abused at the hands of a husband (**Vincent**). Though her instinct tells her to re-establish boundaries and mind her business, Tracy works to convince the woman that it's better to leave Mike while he's at an appointment instead of trying to threaten her to stop seeing him. Though Jasmin does not appreciate Tracy's advice to end the relationship.

Weeks pass, and when Mike books another appointment with Tracy, she goes back to Jasmin to try and convince her to take this time away from him to leave. Jasmin quickly agrees while he's scheduled to be at Rosado House, and Tracy gives Jasmin all the information she needs to know.

## FULL SYNOPSIS

While Tracy is getting ready for the appointment with Mike in a private room at Rosado House, Jasmin shows up with her phone in her hand, and her camera on. A confrontation ensues when Mike arrives. **Bob**, Rosado House security, and **Diane**, the house manager, forcibly remove Jasmin and Mike from the house.

Weeks pass. Tracy tries to restore trust with her manager and coworkers. She speaks to Verna again, who she'd been avoiding, and makes a plan to stop hiding her present from her past.

But before she can figure everything out, a YouTube video stops everything: 'The escort my husband was seeing tried to break up our marriage'. Jasmin is Jami V, a social media influencer whose most popular content is about finding true love, make-up, weddings, pregnancy and family.

Her and her husband are getting a divorce, Jasmin says in the video. And to tell the full story, she uses the footage she recorded of Tracy, her face clean of Gemini makeup, and says that the confrontation at Rosado House was what triggered her to file for a divorce. Because of Jasmin's popularity, and legalized sex work constantly in national media spotlight, the video quickly goes viral.



Tracy negotiates with **Madrigal**, the owner of Rosado House, to keep her position while she falls back on her public relations experience to manage the impact. In response Tracy fully owns who she was and who she is now in a video. She can't hide anymore, but now she is more concerned with undoing the damage done. Finally being free takes a backseat to this responsibility.

Meanwhile, Toronto elections are heating up. **Nancy O'Brien**, a mayoral candidate who is a staunch opponent of the brothel system, sees what happened with Tracy at Rosado House as much more serious, and Tracy's personal fight turns political. As life at Rosado comes back together, Tracy must confront that her personal life is still in pieces. She gets the community and family she's always wanted with her new coworkers turned friends and sisters, but though Tracy is now able to stop running from who she was, the novel ends on her struggling with a looming dark cloud of trauma and confusion about love.