

REBECCA ROOK

AUTHOR OF YOUNG ADULT
FANTASY, THRILLER, AND
HORROR.



ABOUT

Rebecca Rook designs tabletop games, manages a little free library dedicated to sequential art and comics, and lives in the Pacific Northwest with two wonderful dogs. She writes young adult fiction in the fantasy, thriller, and horror genres, and is the author of the award-winning Americana contemporary YA fantasy, *The Penance of Valentine Cash*.

A 2021-2022 Hugo House Fellow in Seattle, WA, she also attended the 2021 Tin House YA Fiction Workshop in Portland, OR. Prior to this, she completed the wonderful Yearlong Workshop for Young Adult and Middle Grade Fiction at Hugo House.

INTERVIEW TOPICS

- Writing process, schedule, and other author details.
- Inspiration for current novel (historical medical facilities) and forthcoming books.
- Writers with disabilities and how lived experiences informs the creative process.
- Value of multiple modalities for creative processes.

CONTACT



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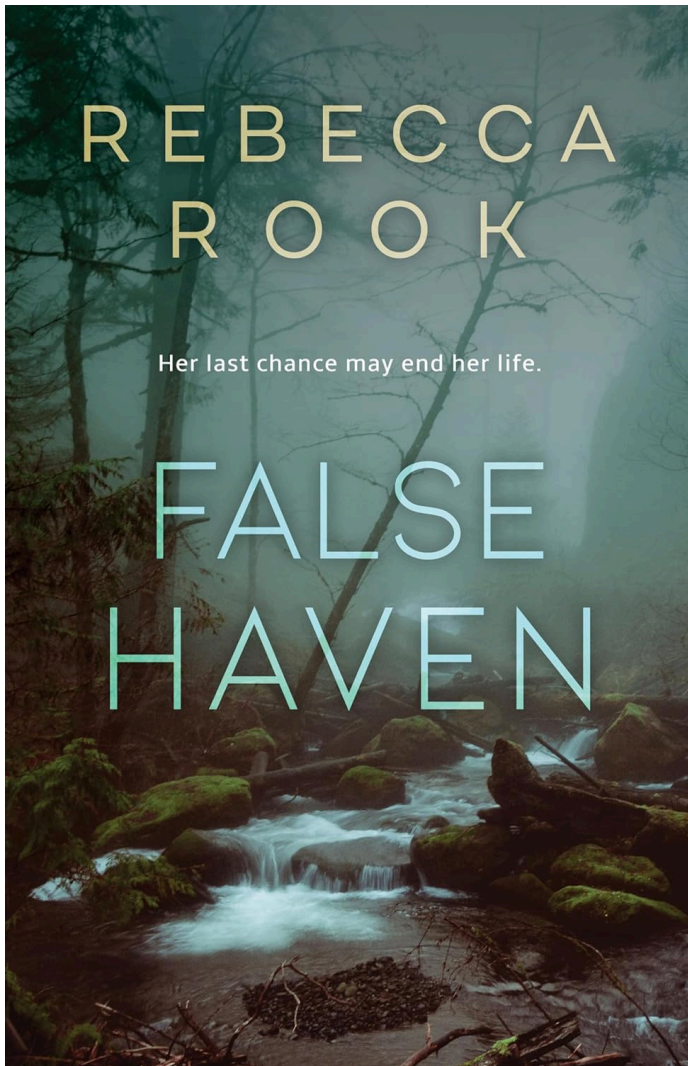
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FALSE HAVEN: A PARANORMAL HORROR



Vivienne Barston's life has fallen apart.

With her mother recently dead, her father disappears into his grief – leaving Viv to deal with her sadness and anger alone. Viv turns to destructive behaviors like petty vandalism, but after a disturbing stint in a juvenile detention center frightens her, Viv agrees to a court mandated service opportunity designed to expunge her record. The deal: work for six weeks with a trail conservation crew in the rural woods of southern Oregon, and she'll be free with a clean slate. She knows it's her last chance.

When Viv arrives at the small town of Hard Luck, Oregon, she meets her motley crewmates, all with troubles of their own. The unusual group travels to Grafton Stake, a remote and derelict former asylum with a haunted history—and now Viv must face the ghosts of the past while fighting for her future.

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At A Glance...

Audience & Genre: Young Adult (15+), Paranormal Horror.

Notable Fact: Inspired by the real life events and locations in the Pacific Northwest, such as Starvation Heights and Northern State Hospital.

Themes: Second chances, found family, paranormal occurrences, historical treatment of people with disabilities.

Additional Features: Playlist, Book Club Questions, Excerpt of Forthcoming Novel, Author's Note with Recommended Reading.

BOOK DETAILS

- Paperback ISBN: 979-8-9894253-2-7 (Price: \$16.00).
- E-Book ISBN: 979-8-9894253-3-4 (Price: \$4.99).
- Availability: Amazon.
- ASIN: B0CNDX3SBY.
- Publisher: Hellebore House; 1st edition (February 13, 2024).
- Publication Date: February 13, 2024.
- Language: English.
- Print length: 245 pages.

PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Xpresso Book Tour (www.xpressobooktours.com).
- Bewitching Book Tours.
- RABT Book Tours & PR.
- Goodreads Giveaway: February 2-16, 2024.
- Book Launch / Reading: TBD, Forthcoming.

INSPIRATION FOR *FALSE HAVEN*

Starvation Heights & Northern State Hospital

As a person with a disability (deaf / HoH), I often can't help but wonder what would have happened to me if I had been born in a different era. I wrote *False Haven* after I learned about the horrific abuses and neglect that occurred in historic medical institutions. While Grafton Stake within the novel is not a real place, and the scenes in this novel are fantastical, some of them draw inspiration from very real historical events and locations: Starvation Heights and Northern State Hospital, both in Washington State.

Starvation Heights is the common nickname for a twentieth century rest home run by an abusive doctor named Linda Hazzard, who used dubious and outright harmful methods on several clients, the most common technique being starvation under the guise of improved health.

The other location that inspired *False Haven* is The Northern State Hospital in Sedro-Woolley, Washington State. This abandoned psychiatric facility contains a graveyard with over a thousand burials – and no names. Only a few have initials or numbers. Shrouded in secrecy for decades, the records of patient deaths finally became available in 2023.

Given the horrendous reports of abuse, neglect, and the erasure of patient records, these haunted locales lent themselves very easily to the horror genre and to my story specifically.