

The Purchase

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AUTHOR: Linda Spalding
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In 1798, Daniel Dickinson, a young Quaker father and widower, leaves his home in Pennsylvania to establish a new life. He sets out with two horses, a wagon full of belongings, his five children, a 15-year-old orphan wife, and a few land warrants for his future homestead. When Daniel suddenly trades a horse for a young slave, Onesimus, it sets in motion a struggle in his conscience that will taint his life forever, and sets in motion a chain of events that lead to two murders and the family's strange relationship with a runaway slave named Bett.

PREVIOUS PUBLICATIONS:

Who Names the Knife, Mere (with Esta Spalding), The Follow, The Paper Wife, Daughters of Captain Cook

Born and raised in Kansas, LINDA SPALDING immigrated to Canada in 1982 from Hawaii. She is the author of three much earlier novels and two acclaimed works of non-fiction, *The Follow*, which was shortlisted for The Trillium Book Award and the Pearson Writers' Trust Non-Fiction Prize; and, most recently, *Who Named the Knife*. She received the Harbourfront Festival Prize for her contribution to the Canadian literary community. She lives in Toronto, where she is the editor of Brick magazine.

LOCATION: Toronto

- **WINNER: GOVERNOR GENERAL'S PRIZE FOR FICTION (CANADA)**