

Descent

Arria Deepwater

One-liner: a work of fabulist fiction that centers the lives and protection of those living in sick, disabled, and other marginalized bodies.

Description

Arria Deepwater's *Descent* is a modern fairy tale, revealing the vulnerability and strength that come with living in an unconventional body, especially for those living within the experience of disabilities, chronic illness, hyper-medicalization, objectification and 2SLGBTQIA+ identities. Within it, the reader is invited to become an observer to isolation, violation and the magic of secret joy. *Descent* moves through entangled connections and dissolving boundaries between humanity and the natural world as it seeks to weave a spell of protection around those whose bodies do not conform, for whom existence is a radical act of rebellion and creativity.

Exploring intimacy, fluidity, and grief, Deepwater brings an eco-feminist speculative twist to the growing canon of writers with marginalized identities. Deepwater considers the deliciously fractured reality of living in a queer disabled body and how we all might find wholeness, safety, and joyful defiance within spiritual healing.

Descent is the winner of Omnidawn's 2022 Fabulist Fiction Contest, chosen by Michelle Ruiz Keil.

Arria Deepwater is a writer and spiritual practitioner living in the unceded Omàmiwinini Territory, known as Eastern Ontario, Canada