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“With this profoundly moving, compelling tale of a woman who is on the verge of losing everything, Rachael Herron will break your heart and then mend it again, leaving you stronger than before. Reading *Splinters of Light* is a bit like watching a trapeze artist dance nimbly across a high wire: you’re left gasping in wonder at her grace and daring. And, when the artist makes it safely to the other side, you cheer and want to see her do it all over again.”

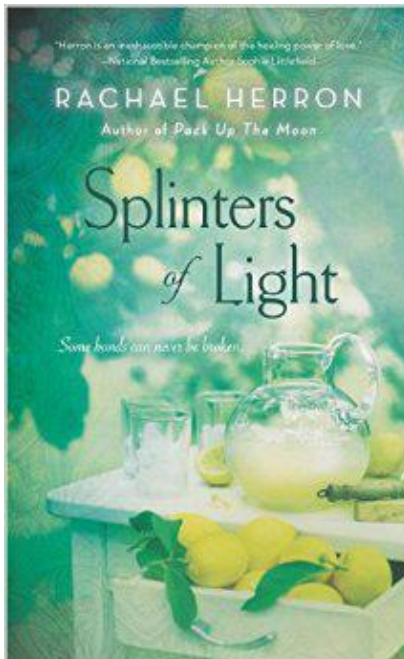
-Holly Robinson, author of Beach Plum Island

“Beautifully written and heartbreakingly real, *Splinters of Light* is a compelling examination of how the bonds between women—sisters, mothers, daughters—are tested by tragedy. The Glass family women will have you smiling in recognition and then grieving, laughing and (consider yourself warned) sobbing along with them right up to the heartfelt ending.”

-L. Alison Heller, author of The Never Never Sisters

SPLINTERS OF LIGHT

RACHAEL HERRON



Ten years ago, Nora Glass started writing essays about being a single mother of a six-year-old daughter. Her weekly column made her a household name, and over the years, her fans have watched Ellie grow from a toddler to a teenager.

But now Nora is facing a problem that can't be overcome. Diagnosed with a devastating disease that will eventually take away who she is, she is scared for herself, but even more frightened about what this will mean for her sixteen-year-old daughter.

Nora has no choice but to let go of her hard-won image as a competent, self-assured woman, and turn to the one person who has always relied on her: her twin sister, Mariana. Nora and Mariana couldn't be more different from one another, and they've always had a complicated relationship. But now the two sisters will have to summon the strength to help them all get through a future none of them could have ever imagined, while uncovering the joy and beauty that was always underneath.

ABOUT RACHAEL



Rachael Herron is the internationally bestselling author of the novel *Pack Up the Moon*, the five book Cypress Hollow romance series, and the memoir, *A Life in Stitches*. She received her MFA in writing from Mills College, and when she's not busy writing, she's a 911 fire/medical dispatcher for a Bay Area fire department. *Splinters of Light*, her next mainstream standalone, will be out in March 2015 from Penguin. She lives with her wife, Lala, in Oakland, California, where they have more animals and instruments than are probably advisable. Rachael is struggling to learn the accordion and can probably play along with you on the ukulele. She's a New Zealander as well as an American. She's been known to knit.



TALKING POINTS:

- The power of mother-daughter relationships in writing
- How Rachael's day job as a 911 dispatcher inspires—and adds depth to—her novels
- Writing What You Don't Know: How Rachael Herron writes about the challenges of nuclear families as a childless lesbian
- The rise in conversation about early-onset Alzheimer's Disease, as seen in the Golden Globes Award-winning film *STILL ALICE*



SPLINTERS OF LIGHT

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www.RachaelHerron.com