

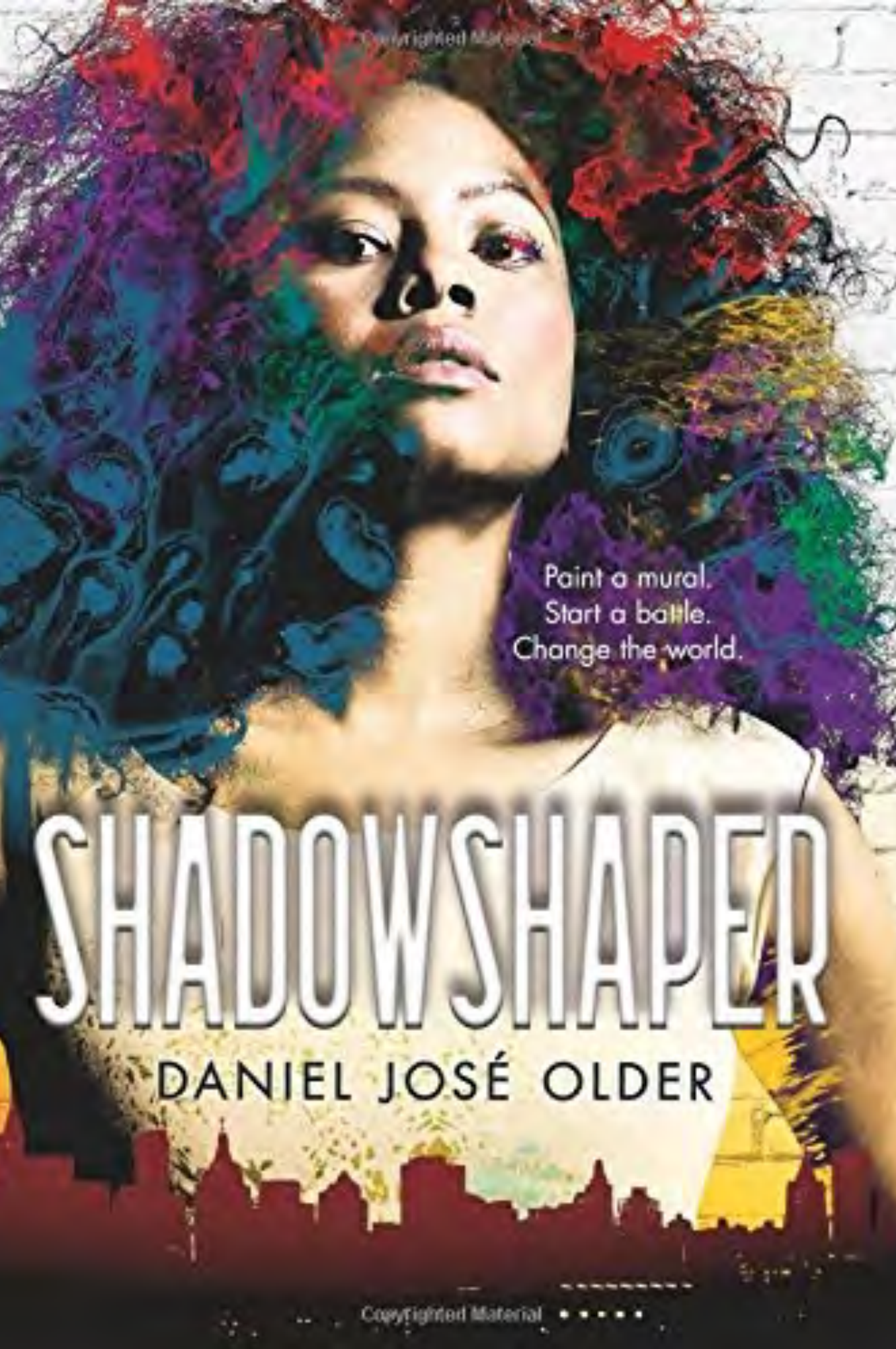
WHY DO WE WE NEED
DIVERSE BOOKS?

*BECAUSE REPRESENTATION
MATTERS*

“When I was nine years old, Star Trek came on, I looked at it and went screaming through the house, ‘Come here, mum, everybody, come quick, come quick, there’s a black lady on television and **she ain’t no maid!**’ I knew right then and there I could be anything I wanted to be.”

–WHOOPI GOLDBERG

Copyrighted Material



Paint a mural.
Start a battle.
Change the world.

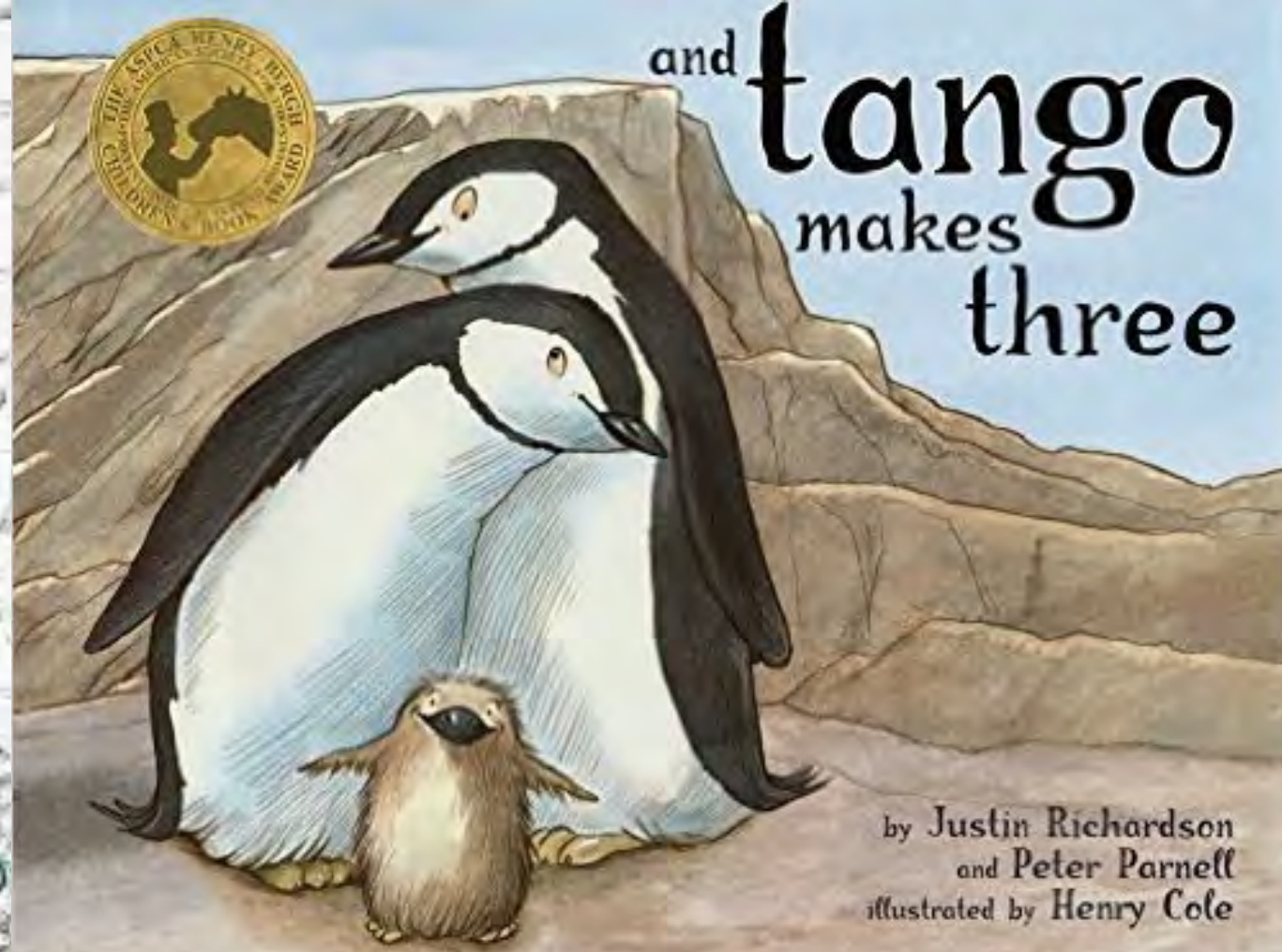
SHADOWSHAPER

DANIEL JOSÉ OLDER

Copyrighted Material



and tango makes three



by Justin Richardson
and Peter Parnell
illustrated by Henry Cole

LAST STOP ON MARKET STREET



WORDS BY
MATT DE LA PEÑA

NARRATED BY
LIZAN MITCHELL

LGBT YOUTH RARELY
SEE THEIR LIVES
POSITIVELY PORTRAYED
IN FICTION OR THE
MEDIA TODAY

male, female, or...

~~NONE~~

~~OF~~

THE

~~ABOVE~~

I. W. GREGORIO

CAN ELLIE SOAR
THROUGH THE AIR
WHEN ALL SHE FEELS LIKE
DOING IS FALLING HARD?

GRAVITY



JULIANN
RICH



SYMPTOMS
OF
BEING
HUMAN

BOY OR GIRL? YES.

JEFF GARVIN

THE ONGOING REFORMATION OF MICAHA JOHNSON



SEAN KENNEDY

PEOPLE OF COLOR ARE
OFTEN MISREPRESENTED OR
RELEGATED TO BE THE
COMIC RELIEF, BEST FRIEND,
LIFE LESSON OR "TOKEN"
SUPPORTING CHARACTER IN
MANY WORKS TODAY.

tankborn

karen sandler



A NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER

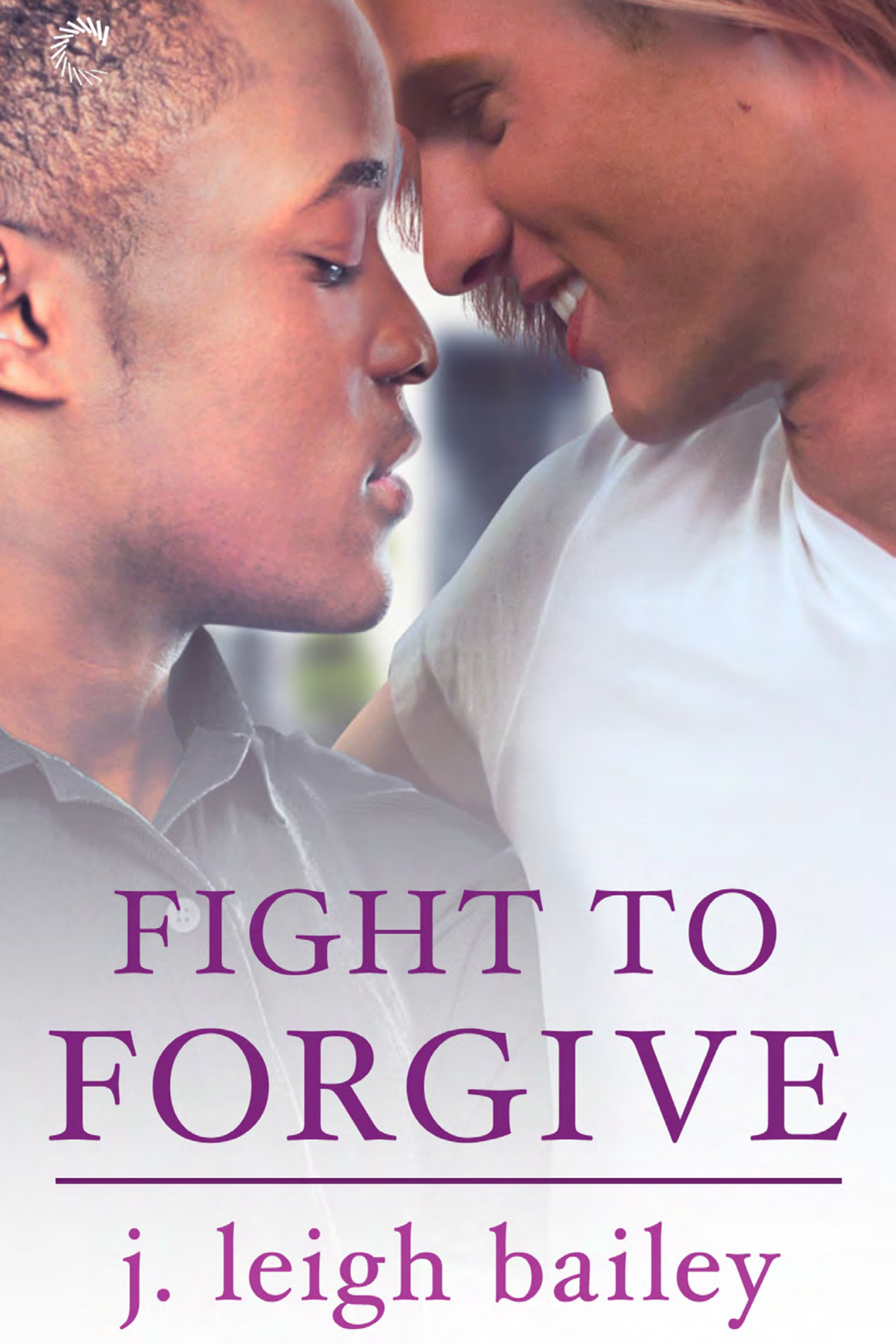
The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian



A NOVEL BY

SHERMAN ALEXIE

ART BY ELLEN FORNEY



FIGHT TO FORGIVE

j. leigh bailey

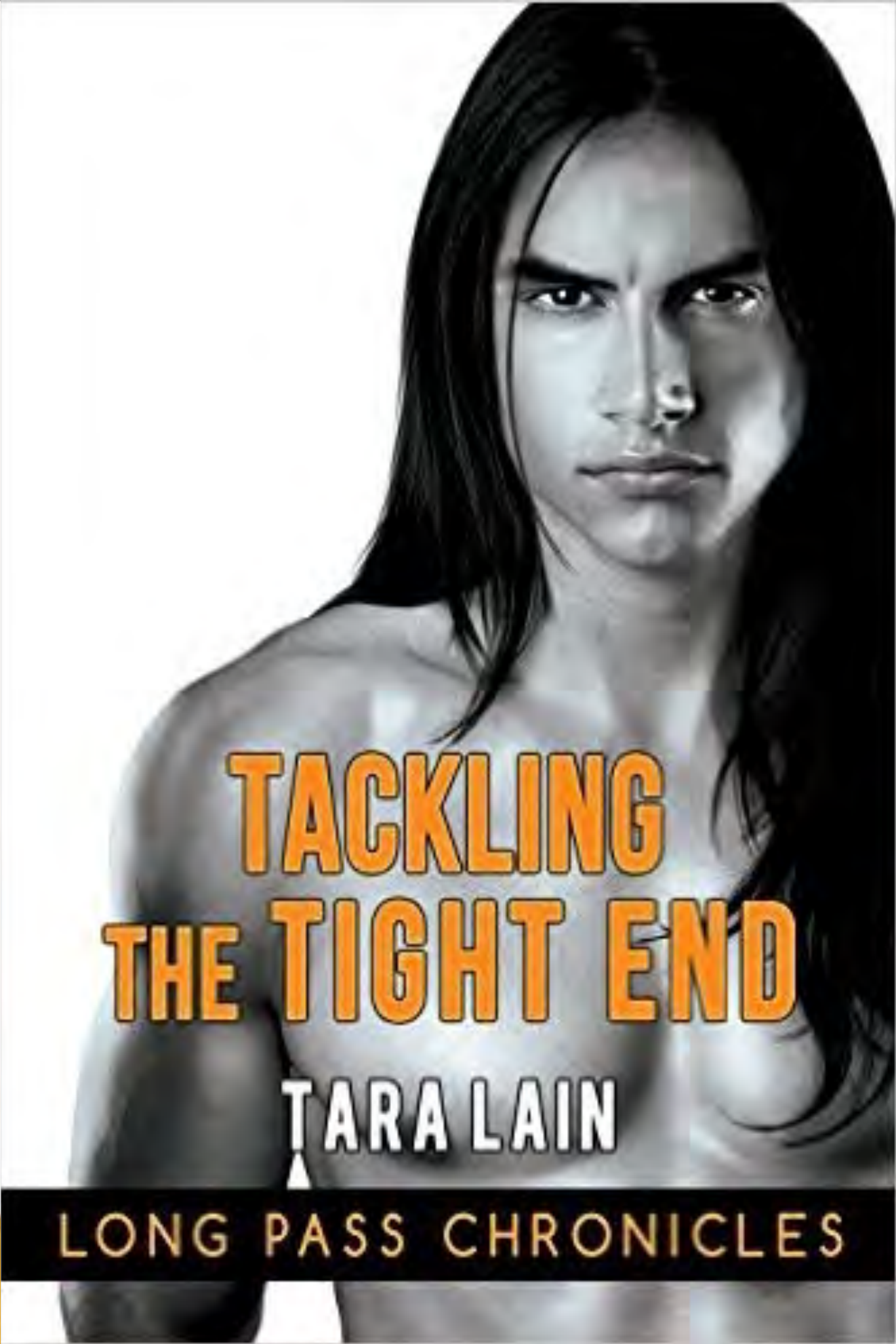
BEING
PLUMVILLE
SAVANNAH J. FRIERSON



CARRY^{the}
OCEAN

HEIDI
CULLINAN

SAMHAIN

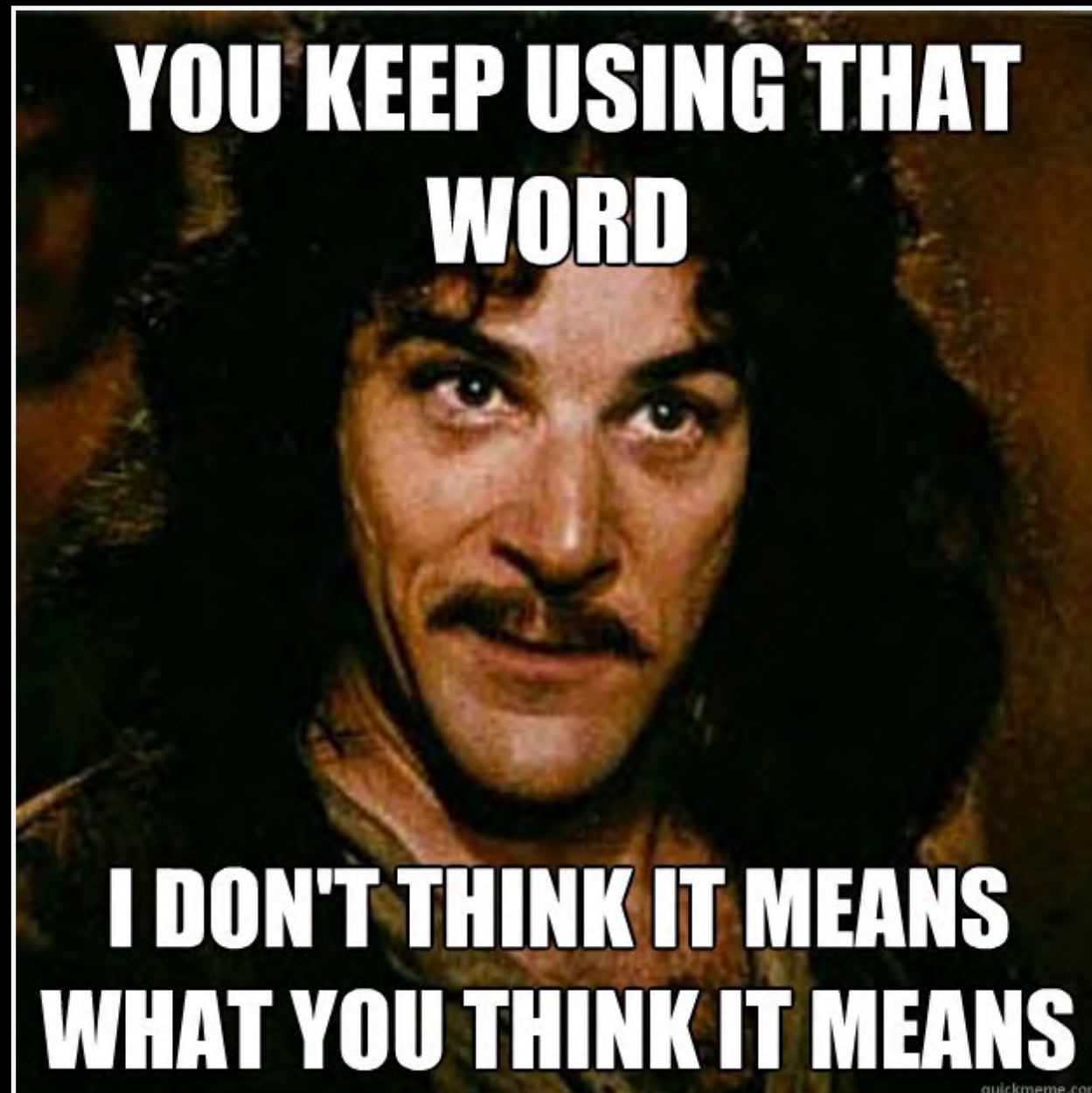


TACKLING
THE TIGHT END

TARA LAIN

LONG PASS CHRONICLES

WHAT IS DIVERSITY?



DIVERSITY

The **inclusion** and **representation** of varied cultures, lifestyles, religious beliefs, socio-economic backgrounds, sexual and gender identity or physical disabilities into the characterization of a published work.

DIVERSITY

HOW CAN I
WRITE IT
EFFECTIVELY?



WHAT **NOT** TO DO

- Don't appropriate other cultures as your own. You don't have to be a POC to write an authentic POC main character.
- Don't dismiss a race's history, cultural background or "white-wash" specific historical events.
- Don't throw in a diverse character into your story for the sake of showing diversity in your work.
- **Don't stereotype!**

WHAT TO DO

- Immerse yourself in a culture or environment to get a better understanding and appreciation for the cultural, regional, religious, and socio-economic norms of that culture/group.
- **Ask questions** of diverse friends, neighbors, relatives whose culture/environment/lifestyle correlates with what's in your story.
- Have someone of that culture/group read your story and ask for honest feedback.

[HTTP://WENEEDDIVERSEBOOKS.ORG/](http://weneeddiversebooks.org/)

LEARN MORE ABOUT
THE **#WNDB** CAMPAIGN



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