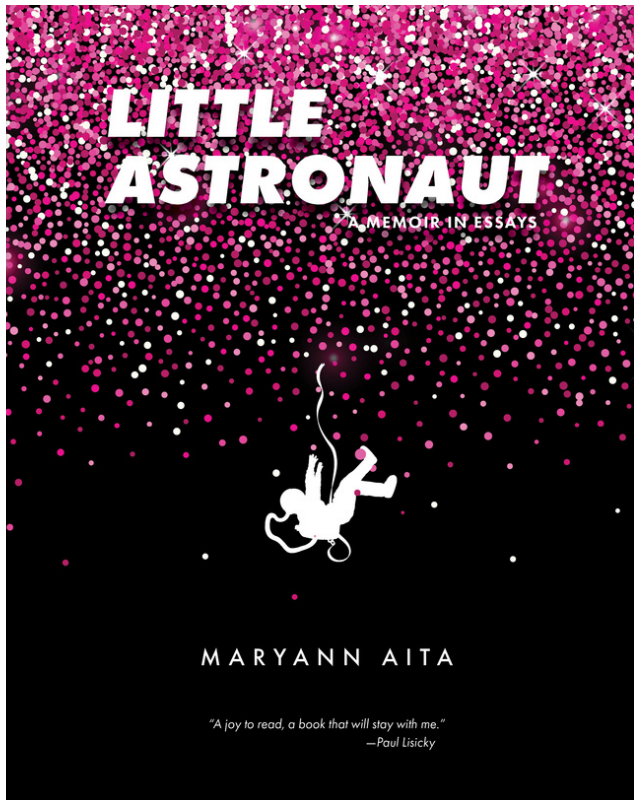


# LITTLE ASTRONAUT: A MEMOIR IN ESSAYS



## About the Book

Maryann grows up alone within a family of six, shrouded by her sister's anorexia, her brother's cancer, and her mother's affair with alcohol. With her childhood consumed by her sister's eating disorder, she braces for a future fraught with loss. Sinking deep into depression as a teenager, she struggles to understand what it means to love those around her, and questions whether being loved is worth the cost.

After her sister's recovery and her brother's remission, she's left to comb the depths of her loneliness and confront the darkest pall of her adolescence: her mother's drinking. In moving from her hometown in Montana to New York City, she finds a place where those who are alone are not always lonely, and begins to define love, loneliness, and intimacy for herself.

## Praise

In *Little Astronaut*, Maryann Aita plumbs the depths of a family's disintegration as a way "to launch into outer space and grab the moon." Every page here is imbued with exactitude, candor, courage, and a palpable experimental energy, and I couldn't put it down.

—**Paul Lisicky**, author of *LATER: MY LIFE AT THE EDGE OF THE WORLD*



# About the Author

Maryann Aita is a writer and performer in New York City. She is the author of *Little Astronaut* (ELJ Editions, 2022) and her work has also appeared in *PANK*, *Hobart*, *The Coachella Review*, and other journals. She is a former St. Nell's Humor Writing Fellow and nonfiction editor at *Press Pause Press*. Maryann holds an MFA from Sarah Lawrence College. Originally from Montana, she now lives in Brooklyn with three cats.



... A lyric memoir about memory, family history, and place that shines in its quiet ability to foster empathy and compassion. *Little Astronaut* is a magical, pensive, sad, and beautiful story that will leave you shattered but full of hope.

- **Kelly Sundberg**,  
author of *GOODBYE SWEET GIRL*

**PUBLISHER:** ELJ Editions, Ltd.  
**RELEASE DATE:** March 14, 2022  
**PRICE:** \$24.00  
**PAGES:** 168  
**ISBN:** 978-1-942004-42-4  
**DISTRIBUTOR:** Small Press Distribution  
<https://www.spdbooks.org/Products/9781942004424/little-astronaut-a-memoir-in-essays.aspx>