
DEDICATION

Many thanks to my publication team, without whom this book would not exist. First, Sheri Andrunyk at IC Publishing, who took a chance on my story. To Silke Lambert and Ivana Ivankovic, for their stalwart efforts in the editing process. And to Zlatko Cetinic for his lovely work on the front and back cover. This book is dedicated to my sister, mother, father, and husband—my life warriors, my comrades, my family. I love you so much!

This book is also dedicated to every woman in this world. You will all find a part of yourself in my story.

And to every man ready to awaken, every man who is the father of a girl. Every man who feels for his mother. *Where the Roses Grow* was written as a testimony to all women war victims who were not able to speak for themselves, either because their traumas blocked them forever and made them speechless, or because they died. You aren't forgotten and you will live through my voice FOREVER!

This is a tribute to all refugees in this world who fled from war and never looked at their wounds, either because they lacked the time while rebuilding their lives or due to the fear of peeling off the patches they applied a long time ago. Wars happen around the world. At the time of finishing this book, a family of five Ethiopian refugees fled to Canada, leaving three other children behind. I wrote *Where the Roses Grow* to give them a voice.

I strongly believe that we have struggles—things in our lives we must endure—so that we learn, grow, and become better than we were before. Only then can we teach and inspire others to be the best they can be.