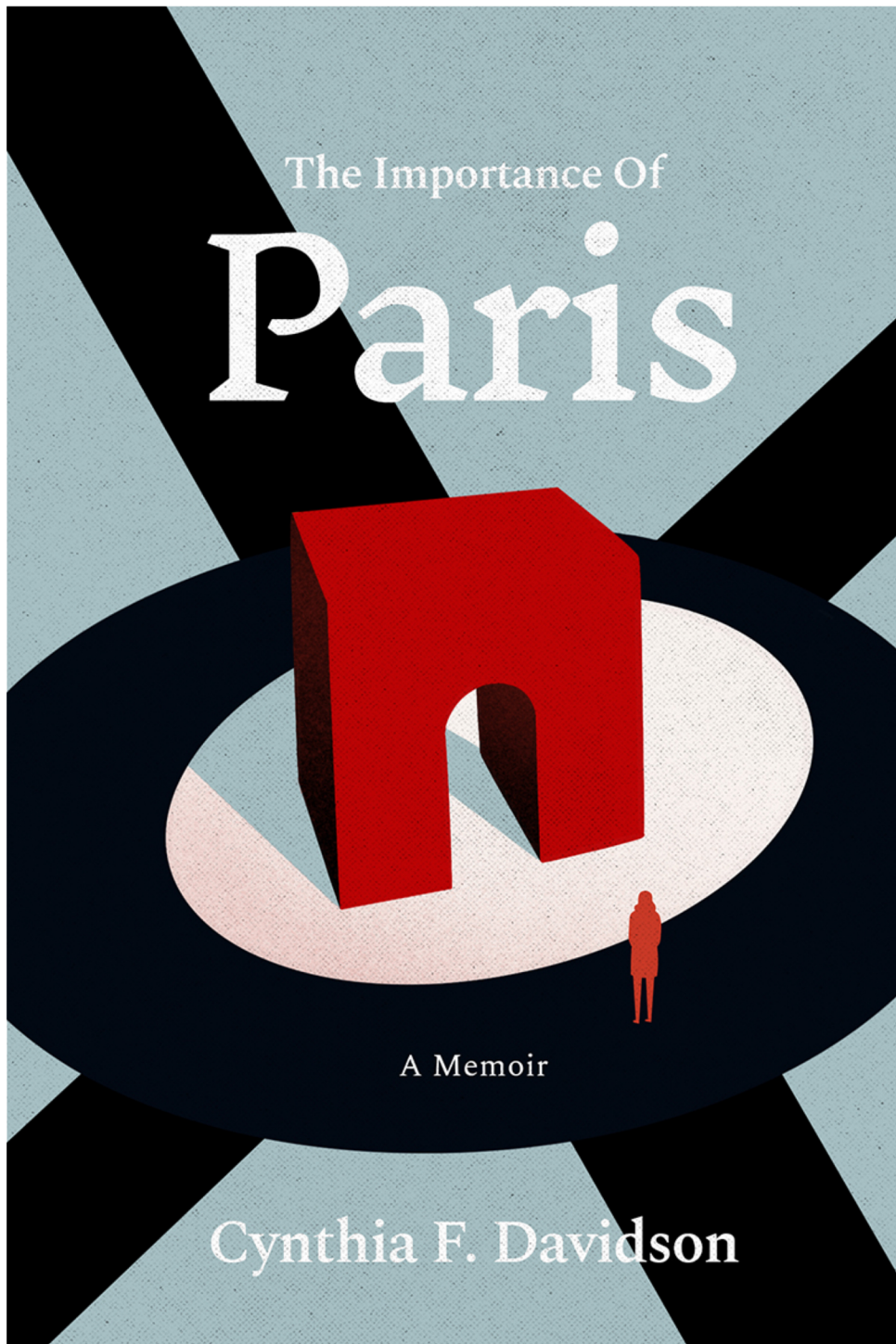


Cynthia F. Davidson

Author & Mystic



**It's here! The Ebook version of my memoir
is up on Amazon. Click here to view.**

Initiation

"Rather than roll a grenade into the room, I've written this book..."

— Cynthia F. Davidson, in *The Importance of Paris*, Acknowledgements

Sharing the Fourth of July fireworks, with the launching of this American expatriate memoir, feels significant. Though I can't claim any credit for planning it, the coincidence is much appreciated. As you will see when you read the book, my intentions are to spark some serious discussions.

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the pursuit of Happiness..." from the US Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776.

My story concerns the pursuit of happiness, life, liberty, truths, and self-evidence. And this publishing event happily marks my personal declaration of independence, from the decades of work, multiple versions, and endless edits of this book!

When the US Declaration of Independence from the British Empire was written 243 years ago, it was supposed to explain what was going to be different, about the purpose of these United States. Have we lived up to those promises?

As a woman, my rights were not included in that original declaration, nor were the rights of the enslaved or the indigenous people. We've had to fight for those rights, to education, equal opportunity, and even self-expression. My own grandmother was twenty years old before American women finally received the right to vote in this country in 1920. Yet we women have been expected to shoulder the burdens, without having any say in the decision-making process, much less a seat at the table of power.

Wisdom Wheel

Because of that July 4th birthday, the Birth Law of the United States is Initiation. Are we still a great experiment, or a disappointment to our own stated values? Equality is still not true for all. The combustion continues.

Writing News

People are asking me, "So, how's your book coming along?" When I answer, "It's done! It's already up on Amazon!" they do a double take.

Getting used to being a published author, and not just another writer working on a book, takes practice for my friends too. In one of the regular circles I attend, **Sarah Daigle's** Meeting of the Minds gathering, our topic was vulnerability and how the fear of asking for what you want/need holds you back. I'm working on asking for reviews of the memoir.

One of my first readers, Sheila Dobbyn, who attended the pilot workshop made my day when she wrote, "Cynthia, your book gets better and better! I am so excited for you. Maybe sometime I can have you and some of my other expat friends over for tea and you can exchange experiences and talk about your book. Also happy to introduce you to Inkfish book store owner who often brings in local authors."

We are putting together a fundraising evening too, at an educational foundation where I will speak a bit about the Middle East and read from the book while we eat Lebanese food and hold a Q&A for those who attend. Hope to do a lot more of those!


For all of those who would like to hold the book in their hands, the print version of the book should be available early August. Stay tuned!

Workshop

Thanks to those who attended our pilot workshop, and made it so enjoyable. We're offering it again, on **Sunday September 15th**. As summer ends and the kids return to school, (re)start your own writing project(s). *Would You, Could You, Should You Write A Memoir? : The Journey from Inception to Publication*. Only 8 spots per workshop to facilitate individual attention, **so sign up soon**. \$160 per person.

Ceremonies

Never any charge for sacred ceremonies. Our next sweat (Purification) Lodge is **Sunday, July 7, 10 a.m.** And the following monthly open community one is on **Saturday August 3**. Please **RSVP** as these fill up fast.



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