



# Hadrian's Rage

By Patricia Marie Budd

## PRESS RELEASE

*Once an oasis in a world of destruction, the nation of Hadrian risks falling into disarray over its government's persecution of heterosexual relationships, in this standalone dystopian sequel by gifted Canadian writer.*

### **What if accepting yourself meant being rejected by everyone you knew?**

The nation of Hadrian is close to breaking point. After fifty years as a relative oasis at the heart of a world polluted by disease and despair, the death of Todd Middleton — a 16-year-old who dared to disregard the laws prohibiting straight relationships and natural reproduction — has moved many of Hadrian's citizens to question the country's rules governing sexual equality.

These draconian laws have played an important part in keeping Hadrian prosperous and secure for decades. In response to the Middleton incident, the government only furthers its anti-heterosexual laws to reassure conservatives who fear their lives are being threatened. The backlash is severe, plunging the country into violence as people attack those perceived to be abnormal and a threat to Hadrian's stability.

A small group of activists band together to combat the rage and hate that surrounds them. When Hadrian's last surviving founder, Destiny Stuttgart, joins their side, it sends a searing message of solidarity to the long persecuted heterosexual minority, and a stark warning to Hadrian's pro-gay conservatives. The ensuing chaos threatens to drag Hadrian into a civil war. But will those promoting the heterosexual agenda go too far, reversing what Hadrian has accomplished, fracturing and catapulting it into the madness seen across the rest of the planet?

**Hadrian's Rage** by Canadian writer Patricia Marie Budd is the arresting second novel in her *Hadrian Series*, in which she explores the importance of human equality and the extent to which we will intellectualise and accept the status quo in order to safeguard our own social interests, even if others are hurt in the process. By turning our cultural and political norms upside down, Budd forces us to reevaluate our perceptions, our prejudices and our treatment of those who are different. Inspired in part by the current Russian government's controversial anti-gay policy, her message is one of education, tolerance and acceptance, reinforcing our mutual right to live in peace, regardless of our religion, race or sexual preference.

**About the author:** Patricia Marie Budd was born and raised in Saskatchewan, Canada. She studied mime in Toronto and continued her theatre studies under the mentorship of Phillip Gaulier in London. Budd has taught High School English since 1991, having been passionate about writing since early childhood; she has written for the stage as well as novels, with her one act play produced in The Rhubarb Festival's Special Event in 1984. She lives in Fort McMurray, Alberta, Canada. Patricia Marie Budd has previously written three novels, *A New Dawn Rising*, *Hell Hounds of High School* and *Hadrian's Lover*. **Hadrian's Rage** (published by Clink Street Publishing May 2016) is available to buy online from retailers including [amazon.co.uk](http://amazon.co.uk) and can be ordered from all good bookstores. Visit [www.patriciamariebudd.com](http://www.patriciamariebudd.com) for more information.

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