

Author Chris Lincoln. Photo by Greg Bruce Hubbard.

Advance Praise for *The Funny Moon*:

“*The Funny Moon* is a rare mix of humor, pathos, and surprise, which will draw you in, sweep you along, and keep you laughing.”

—Christopher Merrill, author of *Self-Portrait with Dogwood*

“A wildly entertaining journey through a maze of mid-life and marital madness, with a couple of quirky seekers, and the most hilarious sex scene ever.”

—Marisa Smith, playwright

“Set in a small New England college town, where tongues do wag, *The Funny Moon* is a whimsical, romantic—and touching—romp about finding your true north.”

—Meg Lukens Noonan, author of *The Coat Route*

## *The Funny Moon*

Local writer uses humor to explain married life in debut novel

Marriages go through ups and downs, and author Chris Lincoln reveals the humorous side of married life in his debut novel, *The Funny Moon*. “The title is a take-off on *honeymoon*. The characters are in a later phase of life, and all bets are off,” says Chris, a Thetford, Vermont, resident who explores the challenges of marriage, self-discovery, and other serious topics with a New-Age twist. “It’s a coming-of-middle-age story featuring serious subject matter with a comic sensibility. There are conversations with animals and a grandmother who appears out of the ether. It’s entertaining action with poignant truths slipped in.”

Set in a small New England college town, a fictional version of Hanover, the romantic comedy features a 25-year married couple in a struggling relationship who spend a summer apart to face their fears, flaws, and fantasies. “It’s lighthearted but insightful,” says Chris, who drew inspiration from his 38-year marriage to his wife Cecy, a massage therapist. “It’s fiction, but I put some elements of our life in there. The main character is a massage therapist too.”

A graduate of Hanover High School and Middlebury College, Chris also studied at the Bread Loaf Writers’ Conference and had a career as an award-winning advertising copywriter and creative director, receiving a Clio, advertising’s equivalent of an Oscar. He is also the author of the nonfiction book *Playing the Game: Inside Athletic Recruiting in the Ivy League* and for the past 15 years has worked as a college counselor for private clients.

Chris credits his mother and his father John, a former English teacher at Hanover High School, for his love of writing. “He was a champion of my writing and gave me invaluable feedback and encouragement over the years,” explains Chris. He is also grateful for his wife’s keen observations and support. “Cecy says people need to laugh, to look at their life and smile. The book really asks, ‘Do we have the ability to see the foibles in our actions and reactions and look at ourselves and laugh?’”

Chris shares more about his writing life and his new book.

### Who inspires you in your writing?

My wife Cecy was a major inspiration for *The Funny Moon*. I wrote the first



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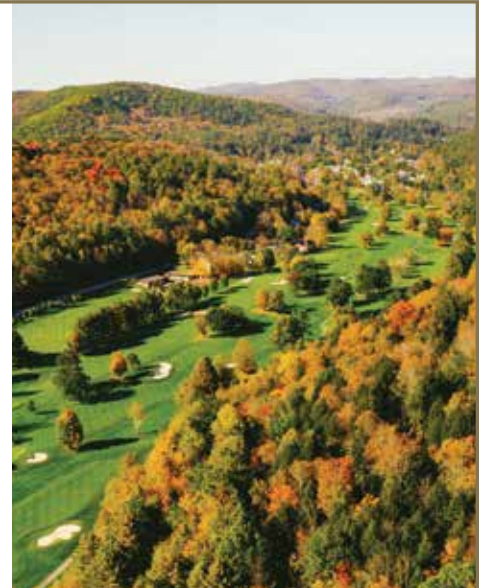
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spotlight

draft as a birthday gift for her, and when she encouraged me to revise it, we had a lot of laughs collaborating on edits during COVID. Those moments alone were worth the effort.

### What favorite spots in Hanover spark your creativity?

As readers of *The Funny Moon* will see, the Hanover Country Club and its practice holes have sparked my creativity, and I miss them acutely since Dartmouth closed the golf course. The Connecticut River, with its flow of natural beauty, is another great source of inspiration.

### If you could collaborate with a famous writer, who would it be and why?

If he could rise from the grave or visit me from the Other Side, I would love to collaborate with Jim Harrison. His sense of humor is brilliant, his insights on human foibles are eye opening, and his storytelling is masterful.

### What do you hope readers come away with after reading your book?

I hope readers finish the book having had some good laughs while appreciating truths in the story—whether they're about the nature of marriage, the value of friendship, the quest for meaning, or the heartrending call of a loon on a lake at night.

*The Funny Moon* is published by Vermont-based Rootstock Publishing. For more information on the book, visit [rootstockpublishing.com](http://rootstockpublishing.com). The book is also available at local bookstores and online retailers. Meet the author at the Norwich Bookstore on Saturday, September 9, at 2pm. ❁

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