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## DON'T LET *US* GET YOU DOWN: Women Writers Respond to Bad Times

Minneapolis, MN: April 30, 2012: In a world full of uncertainties, we look to books for many different reasons: to understand the past, to make plans, and to imagine the future. Today's financial and economic mess may be challenging to navigate, but this evening's event will highlight three impressive women writing about depression from three unique vantage points.

Cynthia Kraack, author of recently-released *Harvesting Ashwood: Minnesota 2037*

Faith Sullivan, author of *The Cape Ann*

Gail MarksJarvis, author of bestselling, *Saving for Retirement without Living Like a Pauper or Winning the Lottery*

A night of readings and discussion on Thursday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM  
Common Good Books, 38 S Snelling Ave, St Paul / 651-225-8989

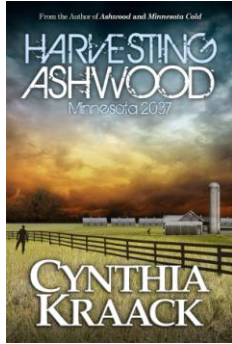
Kraack speculates about the world after the second great depression, as Americans struggle to recover from the country's recovery activities. As colossal-size government, necessary during the chaos of international financial collapse, is reluctant to downsize its power and activities as business re-asserts its claim to sharing direction of the U.S. economy.

Sullivan looks to the past to present a disarmingly involving portrait of a family struggling to stay together through the Great Depression. A daughter dreams of a home on Cape Ann, an escape from Harvester, Minnesota and independence from her father whose gambling repeatedly sabotages her and her mother's dream.

Finally, leading financial columnist MarksJarvis brings us into the present day. She deals in the current world and tells us what to do now to protect our futures. Through her columns and her book, MarksJarvis will help reduce the confusion, anxiety and avoidance that many people associate with saving for retirement.



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Award-winning author **Cynthia Kraack** is celebrating the June release of her new novel: *Harvesting Ashwood: Minnesota 2037*. The second book in the Ashwood series, this novel explores social issues from today's culture in a different future. From the basic right of people to daily food to the complex relationship the United States has with its children, the Ashwood series pushes readers to question the trade-offs made by politicians under the pressure of military expansion or international diplomacy.

Cynthia Kraack's first speculative fiction work, *Minnesota Cold*, won the 2009 Northeastern Minnesota Book Award for Fiction. She is a graduate of Marquette University's College of Journalism and holds a Master's in Labor Economics and Educational Psychology from the University of Minnesota as well as a Masters in Creative Writing from the University of Southern Maine. She has spent years in corporate management, consulting and freelance writing.

**Faith Sullivan** is the author of three novels set in the fictional town of Harvester, Minnesota—*The Cape Ann*, *The Empress of One*, and *What a Woman Must Do*. A frequent speaker to book groups, Sullivan has lived in Los Angeles and New York, and currently lives with her husband in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Once a columnist for the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*. **Gail MarksJarvis** is one of the nation's most respected personal finance columnists. Her *Chicago Tribune* columns reach millions of readers in leading metropolitan newspapers throughout the U.S. In addition, Gail delivers advice on personal finance, investing, business and financial markets. She has been a reporter for National Public Radio's "Marketplace," and has provided analysis on "Talk of the Nation," "Sound Money," public television, and ABC, NBC, and CBS affiliates.