

# Kay Smith-Blum's TANGLES Crowned Book of the Year and Best Debut Novel of 2024

*Seattle Author Redefining Historical Fiction Wins Multiple Awards for Genre-Defying Novel Based on Hanford Nuclear Site in Washington State*

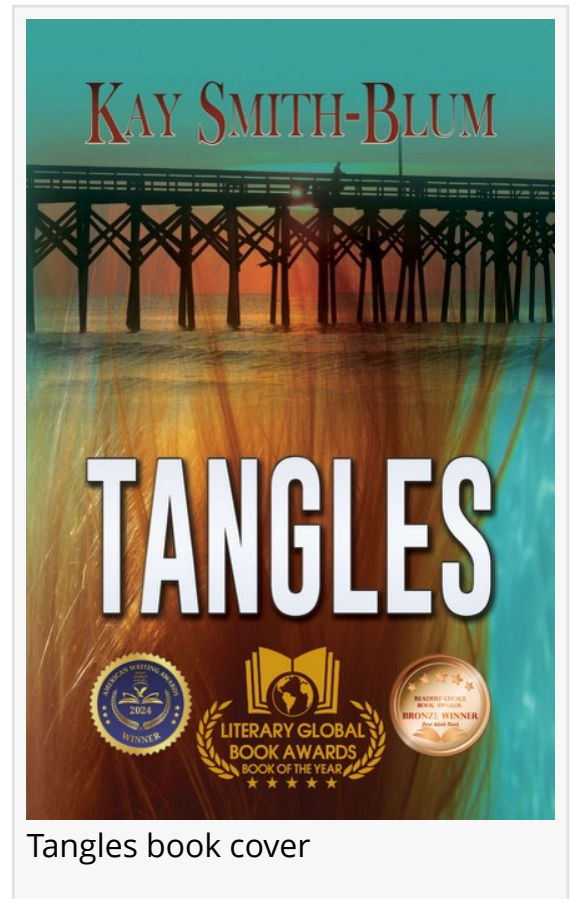
SEATTLE, WA, UNITED STATES, December 19, 2024 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Just released on December 3, 2024, Kay Smith-Blum's debut novel, [TANGLES](#), is quickly earning widespread praise from both readers and critics. Tangles has been honored as the 2024 Best Fiction Book of the Year by the Literary Global Book Awards and named Best Debut Novel by the American Writing Awards. Smith-Blum's tale also claimed a bronze medal for Best Adult Book from the Reader's Choice Book Awards.

Based on classified files not released until the late 1980s, Tangles is the first adult historical suspense novel centered on the Hanford Nuclear Reservation, the Western hemisphere's largest environmental disaster site. Hanford's history of radioactive releases – some intentional and some not – has affected the health of a vast region and its human and animal populations since World War II.

Seattle resident Smith-Blum dedicated 10 months to researching and interviewing experts about the true costs of this government-mandated secrecy that spanned decades and incorporated her findings into a novel. She delivers a genre-defying, home-front story of a region cloaked in secrecy during the Cold War era of fear.

"Tangles is a brilliant, captivating ride through a very dark period in America's nuclear history. Although fiction, Smith-Blum reveals many truths about our radioactive legacy," praises Joshua Frank, Award-winning investigative journalist, NYT contributor, and author of Atomic Waste.

"In a well-crafted debut, Smith-Blum provides the reader a ringside seat to the birth of the nuclear age...a beautifully written, important story...Tangles packs a punch and hits close to



Tangles book cover

home,” says Robert Dugoni, New York Times bestselling author of The Tracy Crosswhite Series.

Tangles is available now from Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Walmart, Bookshop.org and local bookstores. To learn more about the book and the author, please visit [KaySmith-Blum.com](https://KaySmith-Blum.com).

#### About the Author

An Austin, TX transplant and lifetime environmental advocate, Kay Smith-Blum has resided in Seattle for more than four decades. Since selling a family-owned high-end fashion business in 2016, history buff Smith-Blum spends her days creating stories set in the mid-20th century. The recent upheaval over leaking waste tanks at the Hanford site in Washington state compelled her to write a Hanford story in a way that would educate and entertain readers, resulting in her debut novel, Tangles. A companion short story to Tangles is featured in the 2024 anthology, Feisty Deeds: Historical Fictions of Daring Women, which Smith-Blum co-edited. She has published a variety of other short works that can be found in multiple literary journals. Smith-Blum works out her writer’s block in her sons’ gardens and the nearest lap pool. To learn more, please visit [KaySmith-Blum.com](https://KaySmith-Blum.com) and follow the author on Instagram @discerningksb, TikTok @ksbwritesfiction and Facebook @kay.smithblum.

#### About the Book

Title: Tangles

Author: Kay Smith-Blum

Release date: December 3, 2024

Publisher: Black Rose Writing

Price: \$21.95 USD (paperback)

ISBN (paperback): 9781685135065

Pages: 286

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