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NOVEL DEBUTS DURING OLDER AMERICANS' MONTH AND MS AWARENESS SEASON

Debra Lee Won't Break introduces a fierce new literary heroine navigating life, loss, and MS

Silver Spring, MD – April 23, 2025 – Author **Katherine Pickett** will release her poignant and powerful debut novel, *Debra Lee Won't Break*, on **May 15, 2025**. A compelling story of resilience, second chances, and personal triumph, the novel follows a woman battling multiple sclerosis who refuses to let life—and its many challenges—break her.

Timed with **Older Americans Month** and leading up to **World MS Day (May 30)**, *Debra Lee Won't Break*, set in Silver Spring, MD, captures the strength of a woman juggling chronic illness, single motherhood, and caregiving while training for a grueling 150-mile cycling event.

Book Synopsis

At 38, Debra Lee is a widowed single mom living with MS, raising a nine-year-old son, supporting a daughter in college, and caring for a mother recovering from two strokes and early dementia. Determined not to be defined by her disease, Debra sets her sights on completing a 2-day, 150-mile cycling event. But just as she gains momentum, people from her past reemerge—testing her strength and resolve.

What Early Readers Are Saying

“Moving, inspiring, gorgeously written . . . *Debra Lee Won't Break* is the ride of a lifetime!”
– New York Times bestselling author Michael Levin

“Katherine Pickett is a masterful storyteller whose words don't just tell a story—they pull you in, wrap around your heart, and linger long after the last page.”
– Midwest Book Review

About the Author

Katherine Pickett is a Silver Spring, Maryland-based writer and avid cyclist. She completed the Chesapeake Challenge in 2023 and lives with epilepsy, a chronic illness that informs her deep understanding of Debra's journey. Katherine previously authored the award-winning nonfiction book *Perfect Bound: How to Navigate the Book Publishing Process Like a Pro*. Her work has appeared in *Lowestoft Chronicle*, *Grande Dame Literary*, and more.

Upcoming Events

- **Gaithersburg Book Festival (Author Panel)** – May 17, 2025
- **World MS Day** – May 30, 2025 (available for interviews and features)
- **Book Launch at Kensington Books, Kensington, MD** – June 1, 2025

Debra Lee Won't Break will be available May 15, 2025, in paperback and e-book formats through major retailers and indie bookstores.

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