

## **Cha-Ching!** (City Lights/Sister Spit)

Ali Liebegott

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Theo, our scruffy, big-hearted, and quick-witted heroine, is not so much down on her luck as delivered luckless into a culture where the winners and losers have already been decided. Her adventures in getting over take her from San Francisco to New York City, from dyke bars to telemarketing outfits, casinos to free clinics. With the signature poet's voice that has won her awards and acclaim, Ali Liebegott investigates the conjoined hearts of hope and addiction in an unforgettable story of what it means to be young and broke in America.

"...frank, funny and painfully realistic...Liebegott has unleashed a book that's part road novel, part portrait of a would-be artist as a young woman and part unabashed romance."—Josh Davis, *The Rumpus* 

"Cha-Ching!, [Liebegott's] latest novel, is one of those books that cause you to look up, blinking, realizing that you've read 75 pages and your coffee is cold. It's a rush of offtrack betting, impulsive road trips, liquorfueled make-out sessions, and the sort of low-end jobs that are invisible in most fiction but everywhere in Liebegott's work."—San Francisco Magazine

"Cha-Ching! is a rush—the clatter of youth on the angry move, the rattling of dreamy gambles in crappy apartments, the desperate crash of falling for someone despite the million reasons why and the bang! bang! bang! of our tender hearts."—Daniel Handler, author of Why We Broke Up

"Cha-Ching! is so raw with need that I found myself itching that addict's itch to chase the seemingly impossible."—Karolina Waclawiak, deputy editor of *The Believer* and author of *How to Get Into the Twin Palms* 

"An open-hearted, deeply romantic story about a fucked-up dyke, her pit bull, her search for love, her tenuous grasp on hope, a pretty girl and the literal spin of the wheel."—Sarah Schulman, author of *The Gentrification of the Mind: Witness to a Lost Imagination* 

"In the game of American-life-on-the-go hopscotch, Ali Liebegott's heroine Theo just jumped a square ahead of Dean Moriarty...The author's fine writing about gambling is as good as I ever read, including Dostoevski's and the Barthelme Bros. In the end, love, in whatever twisted, pallid form, a love that has little to do with sexuality, is the only answer...Wonderful book."—Andrei Codrescu, author of *So Recently Rent a World: New and Selected Poems* 

"[Ali] Liebegott continues [her] winning streak with her third novel *Cha-Ching!*, tracing the life and times of compelling lead character Theo, a restless lesbian with a military hairstyle (which makes her genderambiguous enough to nickname herself "sirma'amsir")...There is a lot to relate to in Liebegott's cleverly addictive novel. Readers will wonder what happens next to Theo and Cary Grant. Will the love she finds be everlasting, or will her addictions get the best of her? Theo is an engaging character, and she will linger in the imagination long after *Cha-Ching!*'s final page has been turned."—Jim Piechota, *The Bay Area Reporter* 

**Ali Liebegott** is the author of the award-winning books *The Beautifully Worthless* and *The IHOP Papers*. In 2010 she took a train trip across America interviewing female poets for a project titled, *The Heart Has Many Doors*; excerpts from these interviews are posted monthly on *The Believer Logger*. Her novel *Cha-Ching!* is

the third in the City Lights/Sister Spit series. In addition, she is the founding editor at Writers Among Artists whose first publication, *Faggot Dinosaur*, was released in 2012.



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