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PRESS RELEASE

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Note to editors: Diane Josefowicz is available for interviews, and advanced copies are available to reviewers. Visit www.flexiblepub.com for more information or contact Flexible Press editor@flexiblepub.com.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ready, Set, Oh explores the choices we make through the lives of three college students in the 1960s

Coming May 3, 2022, Diane Josefowicz's novel called "a stunning debut" by Jacob M. Appel, author of Einstein's Beach House.

In the literary tradition of Ann Patchett, Richard Russo and TC Boyle, Diane Josefowicz's novel is set against the upheavals of the Sixties and chronicles the struggles of a man who has just lost his draft deferment, a young pregnant woman with fragile mental health, and a UFO-chasing astronomer, each hostages in their own way to their families and to history.

The story: Providence, Rhode Island, 1967. Tino Battuta returns home from medical school in disgrace and without his draft deferment to attend his grandfather's funeral and to spend time with the love of his life, Primrose Tirocchi. Primrose, an art student, has an abusive home life and serious mental health challenges. But Primrose has plans: she is writing *The Book of Love* with her best friend while dreaming about living in New York and showing her art in galleries. Tino has a dream as well: to escape the war.

Complicating matters, Primrose is soon carrying Tino's baby. Tino isn't giving her the ring she wants, but Primrose isn't so sure about their relationship either. Soon Primrose falls for Lupo Light, a budding astronomer with a deferment, who is caught up in a popular movement to link political liberation to a wave of UFO sightings.

While Tino and his best friend fix up a boat that could be their ticket to Canada, Primrose joins the Students for a Democratic Society while trying to keep a grasp on her tenuous mental health.

Together, Primrose and Tino discover the limits of their finite possibilities as well as the fragility of their resilience. Ultimately, they must confront the question: how much choice do we really have in the paths our lives take?



Early reviews are coming in: “With this compelling exploration of friendship, sacrifice, and intergenerational conflict, Josefowicz finds the large truths in our smallest state, leaving an indelible mark on our broader literary landscape. A stunning debut,” says Jacob M. Appel, author of *Einstein's Beach House*.

About the author: Diane Josefowicz is a writer, editor, and historian. Her fiction and essays have appeared in *Conjunctions*, *Fence*, *Dame*, *LA Review of Books*, and elsewhere. She grew up outside Providence, where she now lives with her family. *Ready, Set, Oh* is her first novel.

About Flexible Press: *Ready, Set, Oh* is published by Flexible Press, a Minneapolis publisher dedicated to supporting authors, communities, and mission-driven non-profits through story. *Ready, Set, Oh* will be available to book lovers wherever books are sold, and it is available to retailers from Ingram.

A portion of the proceeds from *Ready, Set, Oh* goes to the National Network to End Domestic Violence (<https://nnedv.org>), a social change organization dedicated to creating a social, political, and economic environment in which violence against women no longer exists.

More information can be found at <https://www.flexiblepub.com>.

