

Bios for (Author Name)

2-line bio:

L. H. Draken writes crime fiction. Her latest book, 'Year of the Rabid Dragon' brings life in China and current politics to the curious outsider.

Short Bio: (50 words)

After living in Beijing for nearly five years, Draken wanted to bring the complicated politics and exciting drama of daily life to readers who see China from the outside. Draken writes Chinese-Noir. Her latest book is *The Year of the Rabid Dragon*.

Follow her @ lhdraken, or at www.lhdraken.com

Medium Bio: (150 words)

L. H. Draken grew up moving around the US as her family followed her fathers career. She learned to love the excitement of learning new places and meeting quirky characters but also developed the psychological condition of only being comfortable as an outsider. This could explain how she came to feel so at home in Beijing.

Draken realized how much her daily experiences went to explaining a complicated country. She ended up folded in the quirky anecdotes that made life in Beijing so exciting, with the politics she saw from inside the country, to create what she calls Chinese-Noir. After living in Beijing for nearly five years, she wanted to break down the complexity of this eastern giant to readers who see the country mostly from the outside. Her latest book is *The Year of the Rabid Dragon*.

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Long Bio: (350 words)

L. H. Draken grew up moving all around the US as her family followed her fathers career. She learned to love the excitement of learning new places and meeting quirky new characters but also developed the psychological condition of only being comfortable as an outsider. This could be why she felt most at home in Beijing, where she was as much an outsider as one can be. Likely, her childhood taught her to be used to being uncomfortable.

To ensure that she'd never feel like she belonged anywhere, she married a German-Swiss national in Hong Kong and cemented her future destiny to always be continent hopping.

Draken's background is in High Energy physics, which is how she ended up doing research at the electron-positron collider in Beijing, but when she realized her personality was not a good fit for pursuing tenure at a University as professor and settling down for thirty years, she got off the track and found a job as an engineer at a German automotive company in China's capitol.

While learning the complicated tricks to life in China, Draken realized how much her daily experiences went to explaining a complicated country, most westerners only see from news stories. One heavily polluted evening, while pushing her sons pram through the heavy coal smog of winter and trying to avoid the frozen wads of spit on the sidewalk, the idea for a medical thriller came to her. She hurried home and started writing.

Draken folded in her quirky daily-life experiences that made life in Beijing so exciting, with the politics she saw from inside the country, to create what she calls Chinese-Noir. After living in Beijing for nearly five years, she wanted to bring the complicated politics and exciting drama of daily life to curious readers who see this eastern giant mostly from the outside. Her latest book is *The Year of the Rabid Dragon*.

She adores a well pulled espresso, mountaineering, and walking through cities after dark so she can peak through peoples lit windows.

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6 Fun Facts You Didn't Know About Me:

1. Fun fact. Draken went to four different high schools in four years. It makes her sound like a delinquent, and she wouldn't recommend this buffet-style sampling of the education system, but circumstances required it. In order to graduate in four years and meet the course requirements for her last school she was taking classes from 7:30am to 6pm some days.
2. Fun fact. Draken founded her own imprint in 2017, but it wasn't her first time in the publishing industry. At the age of 9 she created a publishing house, EKS-Press, with her two siblings to publish a bi-monthly newspaper they wrote themselves. By the time the business shuttered, they had over 100 subscribers.
3. I was homeschooled back before homeschooling was cool. In order to find cool way to meet physical education needs, my mum enrolled the three of us in a fencing course. Little did they know we would start training with the woman olympic coach!
4. I love to write, but I couldn't spell myself into a job as a barista at Starbucks. At 7, I got disqualified from the county spelling bee for misspelling the number 6. "S-I-X-E" (it was during what I call my 'e' period – if I was unsure about a word, which I often was, I'd tack an 'e' to the end for good measure).
5. Always interested in languages, I chose French over German at university because I thought German was terribly impractical (the grammar was gratuitously complicated and if I ever found myself in the country, most Germans spoke some English). Later I would move to Marry a German in China, work at a German auto maker, and move to Germany after Beijing. Sometimes the fates have other ideas!
6. To balance the intensity and seriousness of writing crime stories, I sometimes writes Sweet Romance for fun under the pen name Lawrence Drake.