

10 Questions For...

C.C. Harrison (Patricia Hubbard)

What was your first instrument?

A soprano ukulele purchased with Amazon points.

How many ukuleles do you own?

I have a Luna soprano, Kohala tenor, Makala baritone, Lanikai baritone, and a Fender tenor. I keep eyeing others when I'm in Sam Ash Music, though. A Black Mountain dulcimer and two Martin guitars also found a home among those ukuleles. It's addictive.

What do you play most often?

Folk, country, or western on baritone ukulele or sometimes mountain dulcimer.

Do you perform?

Occasionally, but at my coffeeshop debut, nobody listened. They were busy eating.

What book(s) are on your nightstand?

I have 27 books on my reading pile, so I'll name two: *Cattle Kate* and *The Widow*.

What's on your music stand?

"Suzanne" [Leonard Cohen], "Jolene," [Dolly Parton] and "Ex's and Oh's" [Elle King].

Who inspires you musically?

Florida Georgia Line to Miley Cyrus to Kacey Musgraves to the Waifs. Taylor Swift before she grew up.

As a writer?

All the mystery writers, and William Kent Krueger and Tim Johnston.

If we met you, would we recognize you in a character from your work?

Definitely! Read *Death by G-String* and you'll see me. It's up to you to guess which character.

What's next for you?

I'm working on *Don't Fret the Small Stuff*, *Death of a Two-Timing Man*, and *The Women of Cheater Mountain*.



Mary Amato

What was your first instrument?

Guitar, unfortunately. Had I started on uke, I would have been a happier, better musician.

How many/what make of ukuleles do you own?

I am currently a Luna artist, so I have two Luna concerts and a Luna banjolele. I also have a Córdoba tenor, Ohana and Lanikai sopranos, and Kala and Oscar Schmidt concerts.

What do you play most often?

A concert uke I keep by my desk.

Do you perform?

Yes.

What book(s) are on your nightstand?

Obsessed with Cigar Box Guitars: Over 120 Hand-Built Guitars from the Masters by David Sutton; *Imperfect Harmony: Finding Happiness Singing with Others* by Stacy Horn.

What's on your music stand?

A new original; "Been a Long Day" by Rosi Golan and Richard Simon Causon; Daniel Ward's *Arpeggio Meditations for Ukulele*.

Who inspires you musically?

I'm driven by lyrics and harmonies. Regina Spektor for lyrics. For harmony, the Staves.

As a writer?

Reading short stories, poetry, and essays in *The Sun* and *The New Yorker*.

If we met you, would we recognize you in a character from your work?

For me, writing is like making a smoothie. Everyone I've ever met gets thrown into my head and mixes up with me and what comes out is something new. But all my characters love to sing.

What's next?

The first book in my new sci-fi series called *Star Striker*. Even though it's about a soccer tournament in space, singing will play a role!