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To Love Like Venus



Alita, a whiz at helping AI extract marketable trends from human sex behavior datasets, tries her hand at love.

After delighting readers and reviewers by taking them into a black hole with *Event Horizon: Stories of No Turning Back*, 2022 Chautauqua Janus Prize winner Stephanie Nina Pitsirilos returns, this time with a debut novel following some of its characters. This book requires a trip to Venus, which means immense heat, crushing pressure, and the risk of getting burned. **Did we mention this is the planet of love?**

Alita Melusine is the embodiment of desire. Her appetite for pleasure drives much of her twenties and is deliciously displayed in her roller-disco dancing, a niche retro craze in Manhattan’s 2050s—itsself a scene of gentrified cyberpunk. That her heart remains untouched by Eros’s arrow is one of the many attributes that her aged Casanova-like mentor Jean loves about her. So when Alita pairs with the winsome Kaveh and falls in love, she finds herself on uncharted roads—and facing the rabid objections of Kaveh’s mother, Claire. When the latest superstorm hits the city, Alita’s world begins to unravel. Jean’s imprint on her life is more than she realized—as is, unfortunately, Claire’s. On an island where life is lived in a rave of niche fantasy, in the midst of a surrender to environmental collapse, Alita must put together the pieces of her mosaic to confront the woman she really is—and learn what it means to love like the storms of Venus.

To Love Like Venus is a literary glimpse into a near future of tech-fueled human sexuality, environmental decay, and soft cyberpunk.

FICTION / Literary FAMILY & RELATIONSHIPS / Love & Romance
FICTION / Science Fiction / Cyberpunk / ADULT
Think *The Theory of Bastards* by Audrey Schulman

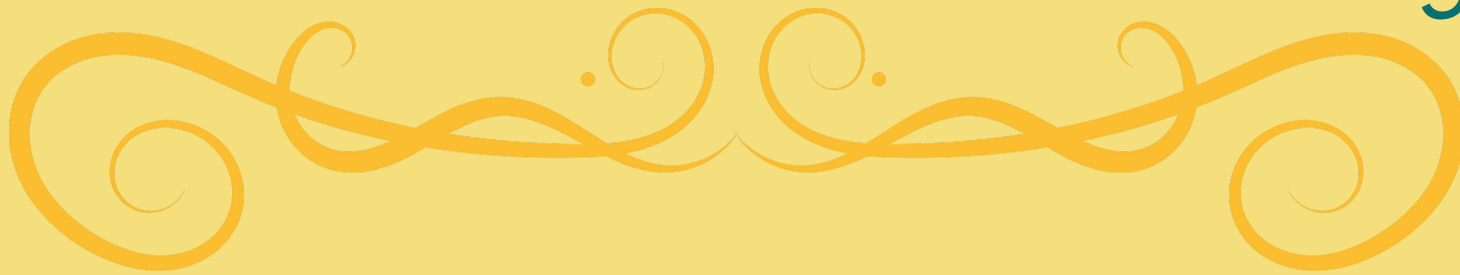
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“By having the courage to place Latinx feminist issues in space and in futuristic settings, Pitsirilos has lifted Latinx literature from the flat earth most of our fiction is set.”

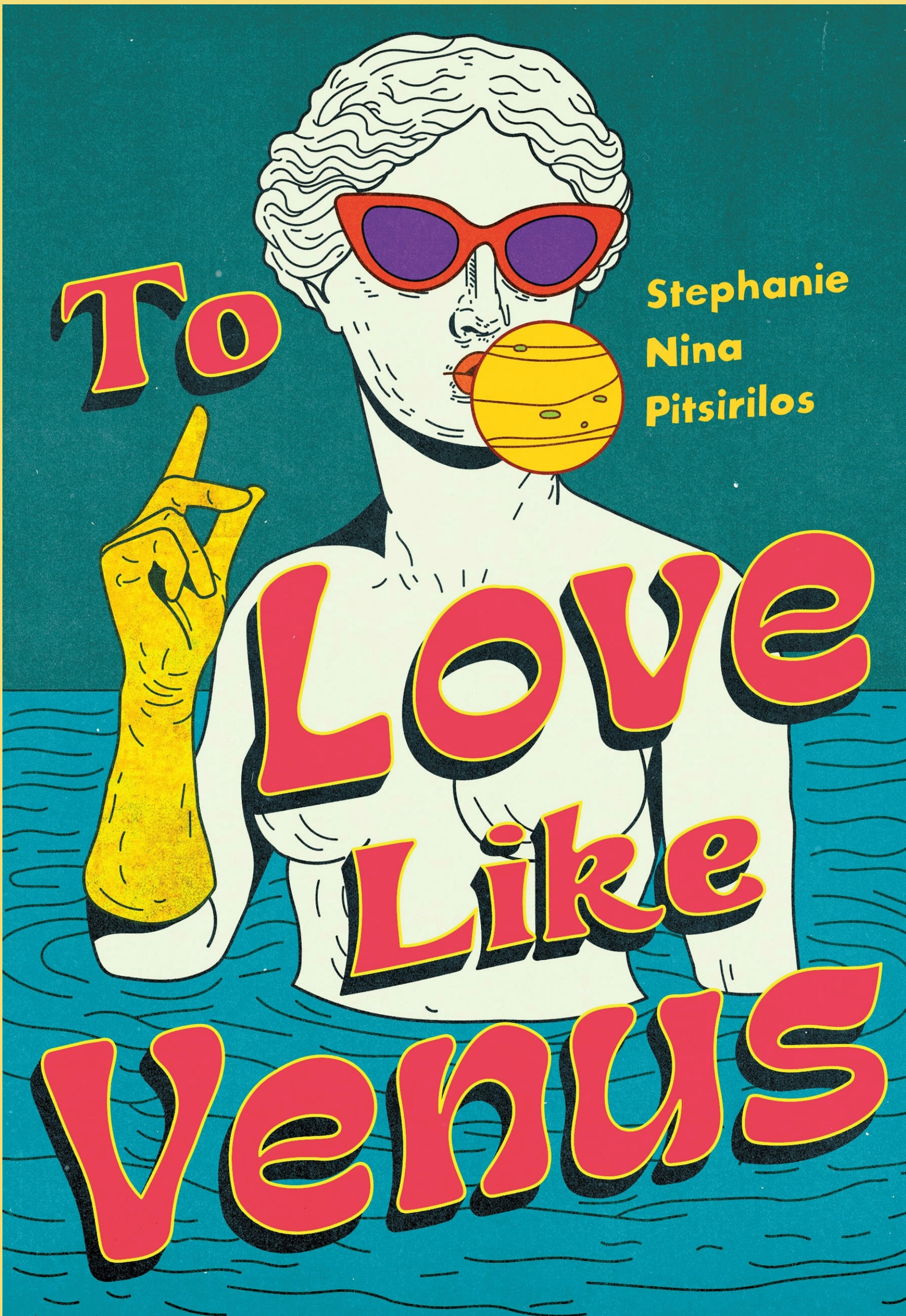
—Ernesto Quiñonez, author of *Bodega Dreams*, on *Event Horizon: Stories of No Turning Back*



Stephanie Nina Pitsirilos is a critically acclaimed writer with works in numerous prose and comics anthologies, recognized as a new voice transforming the genres of science fiction and fantasy. Accolades for her work include *Kirkus Reviews*, the Chautauqua Institution, *Publishers Weekly*, *Kore Press*, *Broken Pencil* magazine, and *Canzine*. *Event Horizon: Stories of No Turning Back* was her 2024 debut short story collection. Stephanie’s a Manhattanite of Nuyorico, with a heart that sails the Aegean Sea.



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