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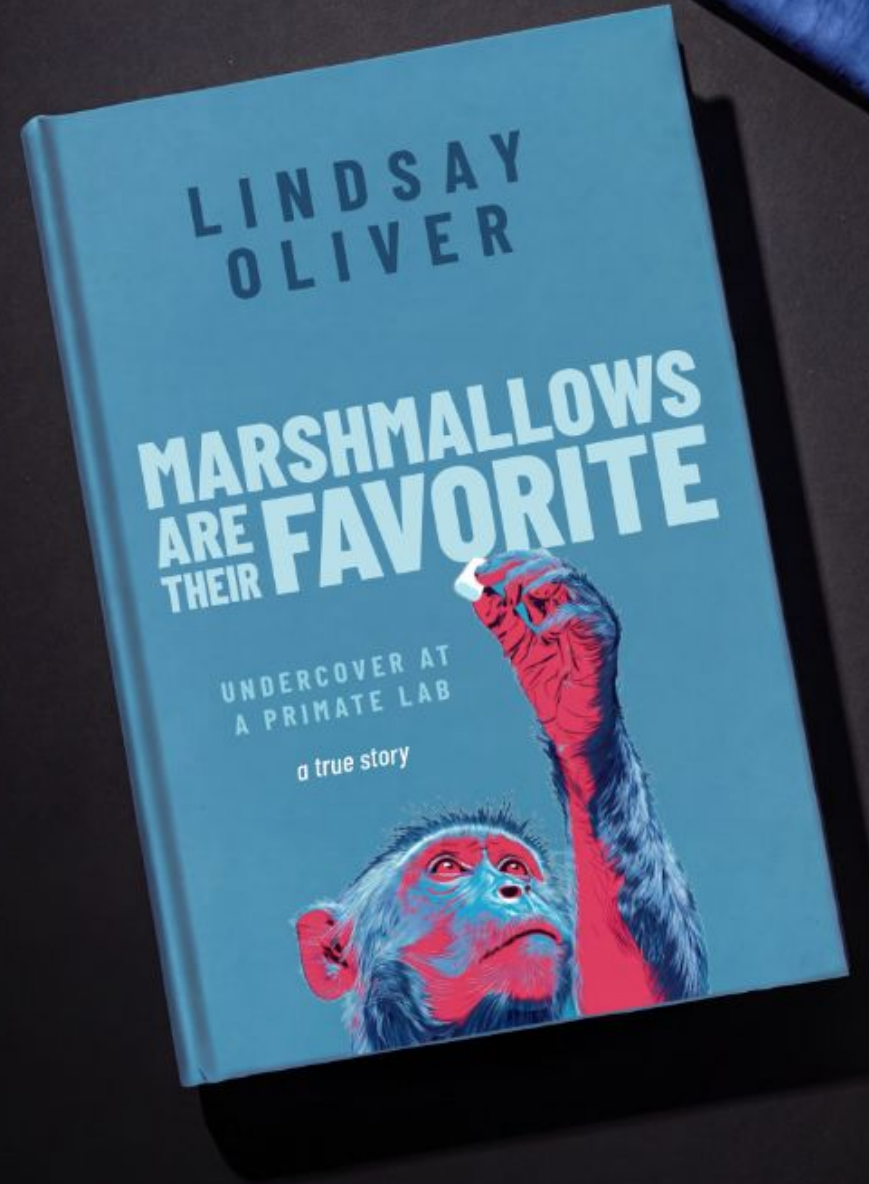
Marshmallows Are Their Favorite

Undercover at a Primate Lab

Lindsay Oliver

One investigator.
Four months undercover.
Getting in was the easy part.

Ender Press · October 6, 2026



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THE BOOK

Book Details

TITLE

Marshmallows Are Their Favorite

SUBTITLE

Undercover at a Primate Lab

AUTHOR

Lindsay Oliver

PUBLISHER

Ender Press

PUBLICATION DATE

October 6, 2026

GENRE

Undercover Memoir /
Narrative Nonfiction

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270

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(coming soon)

Marshmallows Are Their Favorite

Undercover at a Primate Lab

One investigator. Four months undercover. Getting in was the easy part.

SHORT SYNOPSIS

A suspenseful, unexpectedly funny true story about an investigation into a government-funded primate lab and the cost of living a lie long enough to tell the truth.

FULL SYNOPSIS

*To her coworkers, Lindsay is an inexperienced new technician. To her friends and family, she's a travel photographer. **In reality, she's a spy.** The lab has another word for her.*

Trusted with the keys and armed with covert cameras, she steps into a world the public isn't meant to see. Metal cages line the cinderblock walls, and the monkeys study her through the bars as intently as she studies them. Everyone else acts like it's just another Tuesday.

Getting caught isn't the only danger.

*The monkeys emerge as individuals, coworkers become friends, and a hallway flirtation turns into something she can't report, all under the shadow of an investigation only she knows exists. **The deeper she goes, the more difficult it becomes to separate the people she's deceiving from the system she came to expose.***

*Marshmallows Are Their Favorite is a suspenseful, unexpectedly funny, and intimate true story about the animals and people inside a government-funded primate lab, the adrenaline of going undercover, and **the cost of living a lie long enough to tell the truth.***

THE BOOK

Key Points

“One of the most unsettling things about undercover work is how ordinary everything can seem while something profoundly wrong is happening.”



A gripping undercover memoir set inside a primate research facility



The psychological toll of covert filming and living a double life



What happens when an investigator gets too close



How harmful systems become ordinary



A world the public was never meant to see



A taxpayer-funded industry built on secrecy

THE ANIMALS

Meet the Monkeys



Omelet · wouldn't eat unless someone stayed with him

"I put both of my hands into his cage, and he held onto them tightly. He sensed when I was about to get up and squeezed tighter."



BK · restrained for semen collection

"Clamped to the back of the chair, BK's head couldn't move. I could hear a hint of defeat in his voice."



Pepper · taken from her mother too early

"She rocked back and forth with her arms clasped around her back, in a self-hug kind of way."



Scarlet · born at the lab, eighteen years there

"She swatted the grapes onto the floor and grabbed my hand, then traced the lines in my palm with one finger."

Praise & Endorsements



“The routine acceptance of experimentation on monkeys has produced places that, unknown to the public, inflict misery and death on countless intelligent beings. Lindsay Oliver's brave and powerful book blows the cover off one of these institutions, documenting both the cruelty and the conflicting emotions of those whose job it is to obey orders. At this moment when even the US National Institutes of Health is recognizing that most of this research is pointless, Marshmallows Are Their Favorite needs to be widely read.”

Peter Singer — Author, *Animal Liberation*

“Eye-opening book exposes animal abuse at research facilities.”

BookLife Reviews — Publishers Weekly

ENDORSEMENTS

Praise & Endorsements



"Unforgiving, empathetic, raw and real. An eye-opener. She opens your eyes to the fact that each prisoner is an individual and how the 'wardens,' sympathetic or not, all go along with a broken system that is fundamentally cruel, crude, and irrelevant in these technological times."

Ingrid Newkirk

Founder and Principal, PETA



"Her story is a thriller, an exposé, even a love story. But even more than that, it is an intensely personal and revealing journey of one woman willing to risk her own safety as she navigates two identities in an attempt to shine a light on the truth."

Ari Solomon & Mikko Alanne

Award-winning producers, The Animal People



"Lindsay Oliver's courageous work clearly and shockingly reveals that too often scientists neglect this basic responsibility to nature's sentient and vulnerable beings."

John Gluck, Ph.D.

Professor Emeritus; author, Voracious Science and Vulnerable Animals



"If you care about animals and their treatment in laboratories, you need to read this very important book."

Robert Ingersoll

Primatologist, featured in Project Nim

AS SEEN IN

Selected Media Coverage

Lindsay's work has appeared across national and international outlets. A selection of coverage is below.

[CNN](#) — Lab Investigation

[TODAY Show](#) — Pet Trade Investigation

[Newsweek](#) — Elephant Rescue

[People](#) — Marine Mammal Advocacy

[Newsweek](#) — Commercial Fishing Investigation

[National Geographic](#) — Commercial Fishing Investigation

[The Wall Street Journal](#) — Pig Farm Investigation

[WWD](#) — Wildlife Advocacy & Corporate Ethics

[The Des Moines Register](#) — Commentary on Ag-Gag Laws

[The Denver Post](#) — Pig Farm Investigation

[ABC7 Los Angeles](#) — Commercial Fishing Investigation

[Toronto Star](#) — Chicken Farm Investigation

[Vancouver Sun](#) — Chicken Farm Investigation

[VegNews](#) — Commercial Fishing Investigation

Note: certain earlier appearances are credited under the name Lindsay Wolf.

Timing & Story Angles



Why Marshmallows?

The title comes from the one thing every monkey in the book seems to agree on — a small, disarming detail that opens the door to a much darker story.



Undercover Inside the Lab

A firsthand look at the risk, pressure, paranoia, and emotional toll of living a double life inside a secretive, taxpayer-funded industry.



The Hidden Human Toll

What happens when an investigator starts to care about the people she came to expose, and how systems of harm are sustained through silence.



The Scientific Tipping Point

Government, regulators, and industry are moving toward human-relevant, non-animal methods — what that shift means for science, patients, and animals.

Interview Topics & Questions



Interview Topics

- Working undercover inside a primate lab
- Writing a memoir that doesn't read like a typical issue book
- The monkeys, the workers, and the complicated relationships inside
- The normalization of harm
- Why this moment matters for the future of science



Sample Questions

- Q1** What was it like to work undercover inside a primate research facility?
-
- Q2** What surprised you most once you were inside?
-
- Q3** What was it like working with monkeys?
-
- Q4** What was the closest call you had while working undercover?
-
- Q5** How did you manage the pressure of living a double life?
-
- Q6** What do people misunderstand about what happens inside these facilities?
-

Fast Facts

- 01 One of seven**
This book draws on Lindsay's time at one of only seven US National Primate Research Centers.¹
- 02 Taxpayer-funded**
These facilities receive substantial public funding through the National Institutes of Health (NIH).²
- 03 Over 100,000 Primates in US Labs**
Primate research remains largely out of public view, even though it involves over 100,000 monkeys and significant public investment.³
- 04 Wasteful research**
Public dollars fund experiments involving diet pills, alcohol, and nicotine.
- 05 90% failure rate**
More than 90% of drugs that appear safe and effective in animals fail to receive FDA approval.³
- 06 Scientific shift**
The FDA and NIH are prioritizing human-relevant, non-animal methods.^{4,5}
- 07 Human-relevant science**
AI, organ chips, and computational models are reshaping research.^{4,5}
- 08 Undercover access**
The book gives readers a rare firsthand account from inside a primate research facility.
- 09 A multi-billion-dollar industry**
Animal testing is a global multi-billion-dollar industry.⁵
- 10 Beyond the book**
The story connects to a larger public conversation about secrecy, accountability, and the future of science.

Quotes from Marshmallows Are Their Favorite

“

“It felt like such an anomaly in the midst of normalcy: once I turned the corner, away from the lab, I was smack dab in the middle of suburbia, USA. A Target on one corner, a Starbucks on another, and yet on another, thousands of monkeys locked in cages.”

“

“Gently, he cupped his left hand under my marshmallow-gifting one. Everything about his demeanor was calming. He rested my hand on his knee and then slowly and meticulously began to pick the marshmallows out of my hand one by one.”

“

“I definitely didn’t feel like a spy. Sure, I had some heart-pumping moments and I was consistently strapped with hidden cameras, but it wasn’t like in the movies—It’s living on the road, isolated from everyone you know while pretending you’re someone else.”

FROM THE AUTHOR

A note from Lindsay

For four months, I clocked in as an inexperienced lab technician with covert cameras strapped to my body and a second life no one around me could know about.

The assignment involved thousands of monkeys, a cartoon-sized decibel meter that had no interest in remaining covert, a tough-girl walk based partly on Michael Myers, and a coworker who made everything considerably more complicated.

Somewhere between trying not to get caught and trying not to touch anything, the monkeys stopped blending into rows of cages. They became Omelet, Mango, Ralph, Scarlet, and Bo — each with their own unique personalities and very strong opinions about snacks, especially marshmallows.

I wrote this book because I owe it to the monkeys.

— *Lindsay Oliver*

THE AUTHOR

About Lindsay Oliver



Lindsay Oliver

Author · Investigator · Executive

SHORT BIO

Lindsay Oliver is an award-winning undercover investigator and the author of *Marshmallows Are Their Favorite: Undercover at a Primate Lab*. Over the past two decades, she has personally conducted or overseen more than 100 investigations inside research labs, animal agriculture, zoos, circuses, and other industries that exploit animals. She is the Executive Director of Animals International US and the founder and CEO of Justify.

LONG BIO

Lindsay Oliver is an award-winning undercover investigator and writer who has spent more than two decades exposing the world's most hidden industries. She has personally conducted or overseen over 100 investigations inside research laboratories and other exploitative systems. Her work has generated national and international media coverage, including segments on CNN and Good Morning America, and has helped drive corporate and legislative change. She is also featured in the documentary *Eating Animals*, produced by Natalie Portman.

Transitioning from frontline fieldwork to executive leadership, she is a recognized strategist in animal advocacy and the movement to modernize science. She is currently Executive Director of Animals International US and founder and CEO of Justify, a nonprofit building the missing bridge between lab workers, advocates, and innovative science. Her debut book, *Marshmallows Are Their Favorite*, draws on her time undercover at one of only seven US National Primate Research Centers.

Lindsay writes with the precision of someone who's lived the truth, and the conviction of someone who will never forget. This is a fast-paced true story about secrecy, deception, unexpected connections, and the monkeys whose lives unfold behind locked doors.

IN LINDSAY'S WORDS

Author Q&A

Q: What inspired this book?

A: I wrote it because I owe it to the monkeys. I wanted people to meet them the way I did — not as statistics, but as individuals with names and personalities.

Q: Who is this book for?

A: Anyone who loves true stories, undercover investigations, and hidden worlds. It's suspenseful, unexpectedly funny, and more emotionally complex than you might expect.

Q: What makes this different from a typical issue-driven book?

A: This isn't a report. It's a story. You get to come inside the lab with me, meet the monkeys, experience the close calls, and get to know the workers.

Q: What was the hardest part of writing it?

A: So much. My heart is woven into this book. Deciding how much to share was definitely a challenge because I wanted people to feel what I felt without making it too heavy.

Q: What conversations do you hope this sparks?

A: I hope it helps people see the animals and workers as individuals, and that it adds momentum to the shift already underway toward human-based, non-animal science.

TAKE ACTION

The Campaign

This story doesn't end with the final page.

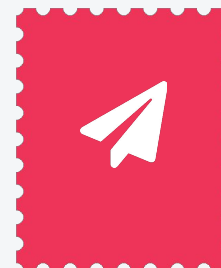
sendmarshmallows.com

1,000 bags. Seven centers. One bigger ask.

Marshmallows were a favorite treat of the monkeys Lindsay met while working undercover. Launched alongside the book, Send Marshmallows invites the public to fund a bag and write a personal note to the monkeys.

The campaign aims to send 1,000 bags of marshmallows along with handwritten messages to the seven National Primate Research Centers. Each shipment also includes a letter asking center leadership to give monkeys a path to sanctuary and help move research toward innovative, human-based science.

Visit the Campaign →



Campaign progress and responses from the centers will be shared at sendmarshmallows.com.

TAKE ACTION

Other Things People Can Do

This story doesn't end with the final page. Here's how readers can help bring these stories to more people and help change the system.



Order the book

Order Marshmallows Are Their Favorite at lindsayoliver.com or anywhere books are sold.



Read & share

Read it, then share it with people who need to see what's inside.



Follow the journey

Follow Lindsay at lindsayoliver.com for updates.



Contact your representatives

Urge lawmakers to advance modern, human-relevant science



Choose cruelty-free

Support companies and products that don't test on animals.



Support the mission

Join Justify, Animals International, and other organizations advocating for animals.

FOR DOWNLOAD

Media Assets & Contact

The downloadable media kit includes the following files. All images are high-resolution and cleared for media use.

- ✓ Book cover
- ✓ Book mockups / 3D renders
- ✓ Author headshot
- ✓ Publisher logo
- ✓ Sample chapter - Chapter 1 (PDF)
- ✓ Complete Media kit PDF



Review copies: Digital copies available in EPUB or PDF. Print copies on request. Email media@lindsayoliver.com with your outlet and deadline.

Photographs: Photos from inside the case are available upon request

Interview Requests

Lindsay Oliver



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lindsayoliver.com



Based in Southern California. Available in-studio or remote for interviews, podcasts, panels, book clubs, or signings.

Press page: lindsayoliver.com/press