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TAKE HER WORD FOR IT

Nashville writer (and contributor to *Nashville Lifestyles*) Lily C. Hansen got to know her neighbors in a personal way—by writing a book about them. *Word of Mouth: Nashville Conversations* (Spring House Press) is out this month and explores the lives of accomplished Nashvillians and how their passions helped them “make it.” —Aryn Van Dyke

Describe the different Nashvillians you talked to.

Creatives, entrepreneurs, outliers, and people who are breaking the mold in their field. Nashville wraps its arms around idiosyncratic types, which I felt immediately when I moved here. Whether it was the CEO of a tech company or a tattoo artist, every one of my subjects followed their own path.

Who is the most intriguing person you interviewed for the book?

The interviewee I related to the most was Mike Wolfe, star of *American Pickers*. He asserted that making it as a picker wasn't so much a dream as a necessity. I feel much the same way about creating.

Which question prompted the best answers?

My favorite stories came from asking people about the origins of their passion. I loved hearing how my subjects had wanted to pursue their particular passion since they were little kids. They just went for it and trusted the world would catch them in its arms.

Which question made people squirm a little?

How they managed to stay true to their original vision. However, this provoked amazing responses, from meditation and long walks in the woods to some lucky charm that reminds them of why they do what they do.



A TIE THAT BINDS

Artists team up to create a uniquely Nashville collectible.

Two of Nashville's most bookish minds are collaborating to form the Nashville Limited Edition Club, which

turns local authors' works into hand-bound collector's items.

Running the show are Chuck Beard, founder of East Side Story, and Jennifer Knowles of Brown Dog Bindery.

The first collectible, titled *The Wolf's Bane*, by author Betsy Phillips, was released as a

limited-edition leather-bound paperback that was printed by artists from Placetone Printshop, a community printmaking studio, and fabricated and bound by Brown Dog. It's retailing for \$300, but there is also a straight paperback edition for \$30. (Twenty percent of

the proceeds of will go back to Placetone.)

Beard says the goal is to release one book a year. "It's a combination of artists doing what they love," he says. (Available at East Side Story, 1108 Woodland St., 615-915-1808; eastsidestorytn.com) —A.V.D.

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