ellen krug
writer, lawyer, human

October 2, 2023

Dear Friends:

For the past several years, I have served as an informal, and at times, formal advisor to the publisher and staff of *Minnesota Women's Press*, which is based out of Minneapolis.

MWP is the oldest feminist publication in the country—it was founded in 1985. Since January 2018, the publication has been owned by Mikki Morrissette, who herself is a pioneer in women's rights. She is the author of *Choosing Single Motherhood: The Thinking Woman's Guide*, which was originally self-published in 2005, and then republished in 2008 by Houghton-Mifflin after six publishing houses bid on the reprint rights.

Under Mikki's leadership, MWP has become a publication with statewide distribution. Most importantly, Mikki and her team have made MWP into a voice for female-identifying humans who historically have not had a voice or a place at the table — women of color, domestic abuse survivors, immigrants, LGBTQ+ humans, those outside mainstream religions, and those who are afraid of what is happening in our country. It is the only magazine of its kind in the Midwest, and possibly, in the entire country.

In fact, MWP has recognized a group of Badass Women, which, as you might expect, has included me within that designation. In short, Badass Women are those actively working to disrupt systems that have historically kept women and their children at the margins of power.

My reason for writing is that MWP is fighting for its financial life. The pandemic really hurt ad revenue, and while there is some rebound, current ad revenue — especially being short-staffed as they seek someone to replace a salesperson who left four months ago — is not nearly enough to pay the magazine's bills. In fact, October payroll is doubtful; Mikki herself has not received a paycheck since May.

I'm writing to you in particular because you are a woman with resources, and hopefully, someone who has women friends with resources. I ask that you contribute $1,000 to help MWP stay afloat — I will be writing such a check to MWP myself. If you can't swing $1,000, I ask that you swing something significant. Donations of $50 or $100 aren't going to cut it.

You can read more about the options for contributing at womenspress.com/be-a-badass (including one option that is tax deductible). If you want to be like me and write an old-fashioned check (not tax deductible), the address is 800 West Broadway, Suite 3A, Minneapolis 55411.

I appreciate you taking the time to consider this incredibly important appeal. I desperately want *Minnesota Women's Press* to survive! Thank you!

Sincerely,

ellie

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