

HOLD FOR RELEASE UNTIL MAY 17

May 17, 2012 — Unglue.it (<http://unglue.it>) is launching on May 17, 2012, at noon EDT, with author Nancy Rawles as one of its inaugural rights holders. Unglue.it is a crowdfunding site that lets book lovers pay authors and publishers to make their already-published books free to the world under a Creative Commons license. If supporters meet her fundraising goal, Rawles' award-winning novel, *Love Like Gumbo*, will be released in an unglued ebook edition.

As the popularity of ebooks skyrockets, readers have been discovering both their convenience and their disadvantages. Proprietary formats and digital rights management (DRM) technology lock ebooks to specific devices and make it hard for people to keep reading their books as technology changes. Many ebooks cannot even be lent by libraries. Unglued ebooks solve these problems. They have no DRM and can be copied and shared without infringing copyright due to the Creative Commons license. Instead of receiving royalties, rights holders are paid a licensing fee of their choice in advance. Book lovers pledge toward this fee using the Unglue.it platform.

Nancy Rawles says, "Ebooks ought to be like cell phones – giving people access who would otherwise have no service. If a young lesbian of color struggling to come out to her family wants to read a book about a young lesbian of color struggling to come out to her family, she should have it available free as an ebook rather than having to hide a hard copy between the covers. Unglue.it is the PBS of publishing, premiums and all. I miss a lot of great shows because I don't have HBO, but I've seen every *Downton Abbey* a few times over. I'm eager for *Love Like Gumbo* to be unglued."

"Nancy Rawles' award-winning debut has been hard for readers to find since its small publisher went out of business," said Eric Hellman, President of Gluejar Inc., the company behind Unglue.it. "The ebook technology revolution and the Unglue.it model offer new life to books like these. We're thrilled to have Nancy on board at launch, and hope that book lovers around the world will join with us to introduce her work to everyone, everywhere."

About Unglue.it: Unglue.it (<http://unglue.it>) is a crowdfunding platform which rewards rights holders for making their ebooks available to the world under a Creative Commons license (<http://creativecommons.org>). Unglue.it runs campaigns for previously published books, allowing book lovers to pledge toward giving them to the world. When rights holders' target prices are reached, they receive funds in exchange for issuing an unglued ebook edition which can be freely read, copied, and shared, noncommercially, worldwide. For more information, see <http://unglue.it/press>.

About Nancy Rawles: Nancy Rawles (<http://www.nancyrawles.com>) is the author of three critically-acclaimed and award-winning novels. *Love Like Gumbo* won an American Book Award for its portrayal of a lesbian daughter's struggle for independence from her warm but suffocating family. *Crawfish Dreams*, the second in a series about the same family, was selected for the Barnes and Noble Discover Great New Writers Program. Nancy's third novel, *My Jim*, tells the story of the wife and children of Mark Twain's famous slave character from *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. *My Jim* is the winner of the American Library Association's Alex Award and

the Legacy Award in Fiction from the Hurston/Wright Foundation. The Seattle Public Library chose *My Jim* as the 2009 selection for its popular program Seattle Reads, in which readers all over the city are encouraged to read and participate in discussions about one book.

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