



"I'm a huge fan of storytelling songs, and I love the art and craft of harnessing the song form to tell a fully realized story," explains Erin Ash Sullivan about "One Time I Stole a Book," the first advance single from *Signposts and Marks*, her next album set for a June 25, 2024 radio add date. "I based 'One Time I Stole A Book' on a 100% true event that takes place the summer after I was graduated from college. Like many recent grads, I was feeling pretty lost, and my angst was compounded by the fact that my grandparents — who also lived in the same town where I had attended college — were packing up their home and moving to an assisted living facility. A strange coincidence happened one day that summer, and this song captures that moment and all the mixed feelings that happen when we hit transition points in our lives."

A New England native, Sullivan's music reflects a deep sense of place, and her lyrics — sometimes heartfelt, sometimes funny — are always authentic and drawn from her lived experience, harnessing the power of story to build connection. Victor Infante of the *Worcester Telegram & Gazette* describes her music as "delicate and evocative" with songs full of "nuance and emotional resonance." Erin's 2021 debut solo album, *We Can Hear Each Other*, reached #10 on the FAI DJ Chart, and in 2023, she was a "Most Wanted" selection from the Grassy Hill Emerging Artist Showcase at the Falcon Ridge Folk Festival. An award-winning songwriter, she has been the winner of the Rose Garden Coffeehouse Performing Songwriter Competition, recipient of the Mark Erelli Judge's Choice Award in the New England Songwriting Competition, and a finalist in the Great American Song Contest and the Mid-Atlantic Song

Contest.

Get an advance peak at Lisa Bastoni's video for "One Time I Stole A Book" by Erin Ash Sullivan at <https://youtu.be/8LfEpVog6hw>

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Art Menius  
Radio and  
Mailing Service  
[artmeniusradio.com](http://artmeniusradio.com)  
[art@artmenius.com](mailto:art@artmenius.com)  
443-605-4355

RADIO ADD DATE April 30, 2024

# Erin Ash Sullivan

Releases the first advance single from

## *Signposts and Marks*

### "One Time I Stole A Book"

"One Time I Stole A Book" 4:44  
written by Erin Ash Sullivan  
publisher Willoughby Music  
produced by Doug Kwartler at Hollow Body Music,  
Chelmsford, MA  
All lyrics clean

One time I stole a book—I'll tell you why  
It happened on a warm day in July  
I was working one more summer in my tiny college town  
The heat curled up my posters and the quiet pulled me down  
They said the world would be my oyster when they gave me my degree  
I disagreed—I didn't know what I'd need

Meanwhile, in the same town, round the bend  
Another era wound down to its end  
A couple sealed the final boxes going to Goodwill  
The rest of their possessions moving with them down the hill  
He said, my steps have grown unsteady and your memory's breaking free  
She disagreed—she didn't know what she'd need

How do you know if it's an ending  
or a spark  
Give us grace to know the signposts and the marks

Pete and Dottie met before the war  
Together they dreamed big and wanted more  
Their home became a shrine to all the wonders they would see  
A fertile ground for dreamers and for grandkids (that was me)  
I said to them, you must have known that you were meant to be  
They disagreed—they hadn't known what they'd need

How do you know if it's an ending  
or a spark  
Give us grace to know the signposts and the marks

So that day when I felt sorry for myself  
I found a thrift shop and my eye fell on an old blue book upon the shelf  
I opened up the cover and in writing small and neat  
It said, December 1940, from your Dottie, to my Pete  
And though the two bucks on the flyleaf was a reasonable fee  
I disagreed—for once I knew what I'd need

How do you know if it's an ending  
or a spark  
Give us grace to know the signposts and the marks

One time I stole a book—I'll tell you why