This book is the first in a series based on the quirky Idaho history blog *Speaking of Idaho*. Some of the more popular stories have been wrangled into alliterative corrals that seem something like themes. A taste of what's inside:

SYMBOLS

"Emma Edwards Green, who was born in California and was the daughter of a former governor of Missouri, was teaching art classes in Boise when the brand-new Idaho Legislature announced a contest to design a state seal. She entered the competition and won 100 dollars."

"Idaho giant salamanders are incredible animals and are best known for one peculiar trick. Most of them live their lives in streams scarfing down snails and such, but a small percentage of them find life on land a better gig."

SIGNS

"You entered through the gaping mouth. The body of the fish was covered with shingles made to look like scales. The tail, as the only flat part of the fish, became a sign."

"Chicken dinner. Yum. It was yummy enough to get a road in Canyon County paved once."

SONGS

"And that's the Marcus and Narcissa Whitman — and Idaho — connection to Grace Slick, one of rock and roll's greats and the lead singer of Jefferson Airplane-cum-Jefferson Starship."

"Rosalie Sorrels was a much beloved Idaho folksinger and storyteller. Not universally beloved, however. Governor Don Samuelson was one who didn't care for her or her lyrics."

"There is, perhaps, no quicker way to set a long-time Boise resident's teeth to grinding than to call the town "Boy-zee." If you don't pronounce it "Boy-see," slap yourself in the face with this book right now."

RICK JUST

Rick Just is a native Idahoan who grew up on a ranch along the Blackfoot River. He is the author of several books including *Keeping Private Idaho, A Kid's Guide to Boise, and Fearless — Farris Lind, the Man Behind the Skunk.* He writes a daily Idaho history blog on Facebook, *Speaking of Idaho.*

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SPEAKING OF IDAHO HISTORY SERIES

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SYMBOLS SIGNS AND SONGS

RICK JUST