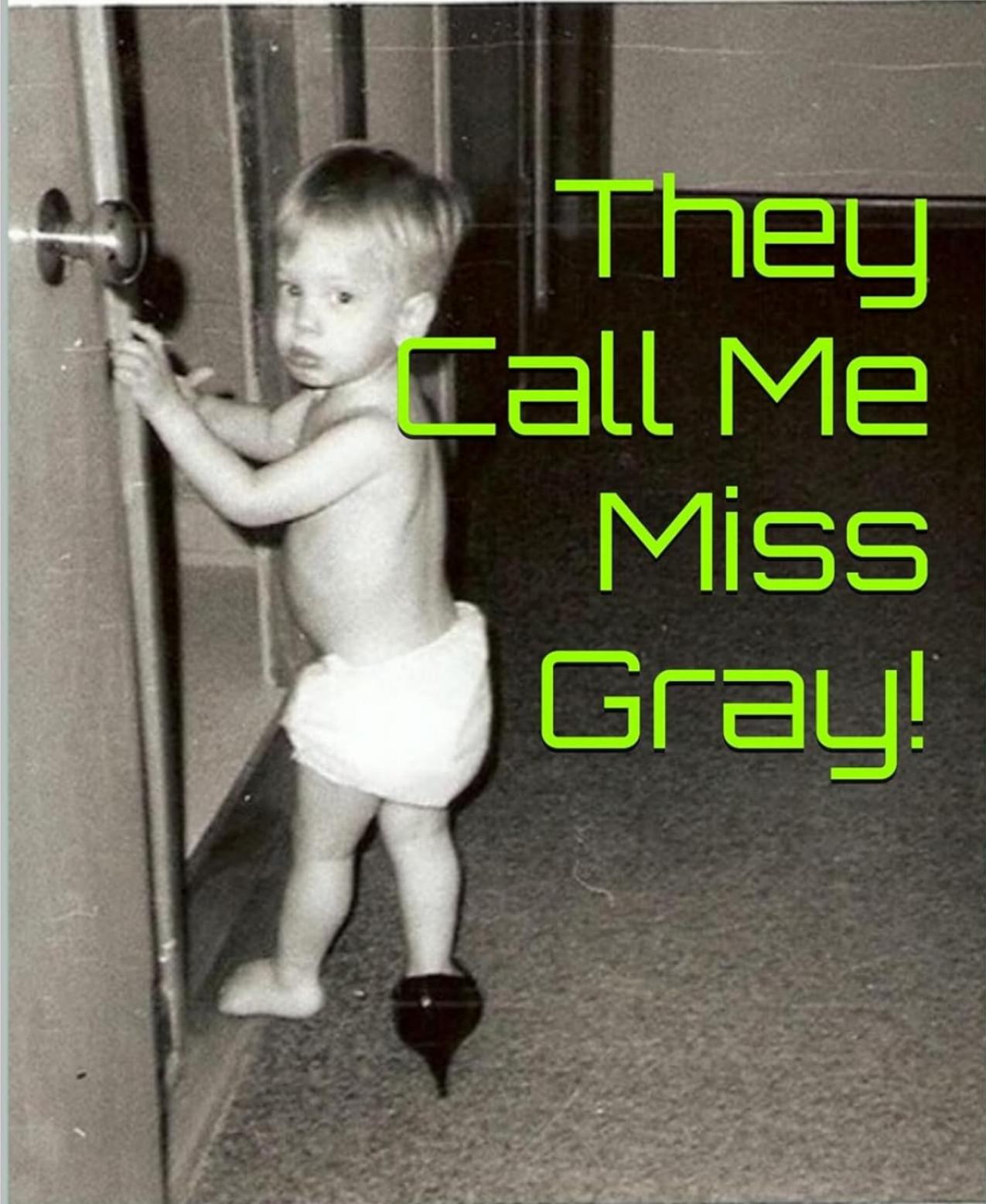


Laughter, Lipstick, and Southern Fire: R. Alan Gray Unleashes Unfiltered Queer Memoir in They Call Me Miss Gray

R. Alan Gray



They
Call Me
Miss
Gray!

Nashville, Tennessee Mar 18, 2026 ([IssueWire.com](https://www.IssueWire.com)) - Author and storyteller R. Alan Gray announces the release of his long-awaited memoir, *They Call Me Miss Gray*, a bold, unapologetic collection of outrageous life stories drawn from decades of Southern upbringing, queer identity, theatrical friendship, and family chaos. Blending laugh-out-loud humor with deeply personal reflection, Gray delivers a voice that is as loud as it is heartfelt—capturing a life that refuses to be quiet, polished, or easily categorized.

Written in the unmistakable cadence of Tennessee hill country, *They Call Me Miss Gray* reads less like a traditional memoir and more like a front-row seat to a one-man show—complete with biting dialogue, exaggerated storytelling, and characters that feel larger than life.

A Persona Born of Survival

At the heart of the book is the evolution of “Miss Gray,” a fearless, sharp-tongued alter ego forged in small-town scrutiny and sharpened in the electric atmosphere of gay club culture. Beneath the flamboyant exterior, however, lies Alan—the shy, bullied child navigating a domineering mother, religious tension, and the quiet struggle of coming into his own identity.

Through episodic storytelling, Gray chronicles:

- A childhood shaped by a commanding, narcissistic mother known affectionately—and sarcastically—as “Mumsie Dahhhling.”
- The creation of the Miss Gray persona alongside his flamboyant best friend Dwayne (“Diva”), whose wit and theatricality helped define an era
- The chaos and comedy of Southern family life
- The exhilaration and heartbreak of queer friendship, loss, and survival
- The thin line between laughter and grief

The book does not romanticize pain. Instead, it transforms it—using humor as armor and storytelling as preservation.

A Voice That Refuses to Behave

Gray openly rejects literary perfection, embracing raw delivery over refinement. Capital letters, phonetic spellings, Southern idioms, and unapologetic profanity shape a narrative voice that readers don’t just read—they hear.

His storytelling moves effortlessly between outrageous comedy and moments of startling vulnerability, revealing themes of identity, resilience, friendship, and chosen family. The second half of the memoir leans heavily into the unforgettable presence of his mother, creating a portrait that is equal parts satire, tribute, and unresolved tension.

The result is a memoir that is both theatrical and deeply human.

Why This Book Matters

In a cultural landscape often demanding polish and restraint, *They Call Me Miss Gray* stands out for its fearless authenticity. It speaks to anyone who has ever created a larger-than-life version of themselves just to survive—and to those who understand that humor can coexist with grief.

The memoir matters because it preserves a generation of stories shaped by small-town Southern life, queer awakening, complicated parents, and friendships that become lifelines. It reminds readers that laughter is not the absence of pain—it is often proof of endurance.

About the Author

- Alan Gray is a Tennessee-born storyteller whose reputation for outrageous humor and blunt honesty has followed him for decades. Known affectionately as “Miss Gray” among friends, Gray developed his larger-than-life persona through years of performance-like storytelling rooted in real experience.

Drawing from childhood memories, club culture, family conflict, and the enduring impact of friendship, *They Call Me Miss Gray* marks his first published collection of stories. His writing is intentionally unfiltered, fiercely authentic, and driven by the belief that if you can make someone laugh—even for a moment—you’ve done your job.

Availability and Contact

They Call Me Miss Gray is available now in print and digital formats through major online retailers.

For media inquiries, interviews, or speaking engagements, please contact:

[Facebook](#)

[Amazon](#)

Media Contact

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