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ANGEL ON THE ROPES by Jill Shultz: Sci-fi with a Cirque du Soleil vibe

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*A dazzling trapeze artist leads a perilous double life.
Will her secret—and her choices—save her planet or ruin it?*

Amandine Sand lives to fly. Unfortunately, she's hobbled by a life-threatening secret: she's one of the spotted humans wrongly accused of being a plague carrier. These "leopards" are hunted by zealots to protect their offworld colony from the scourge. Despite this threat, Amandine spends her days guiding other leopards to an underground shelter run by the pacifist Seekers. At night, with her own spots hidden, she soars on the trapeze, the one place she feels free and gloriously alive.

When the persecution of leopards explodes into widespread violence, the Seekers demand more of her time. But her circus is teetering toward bankruptcy and desperately needs her, too. She has no time to breathe...then she meets a stranger who leaves her breathless—and might be the biggest risk of all. If her trust is misplaced and she's unmasked, everyone she loves and everything she's fought for could crash.

To survive, Amandine must draw upon all of her circus and Seeker skills. But can a pacifist defend her violent enemies to stop a civil war? And can this reluctant angel fly beyond her limits to save her life, her love, and her world?

Jill Shultz has a B.S. in Biology from Cornell University and M.S. in Environmental Sciences from Antioch. For most of her career, she zigzagged between environmental and arts organizations; some of the strange but true consequences can be found on the author page of her website, www.JillShultz.com.

2014/15 Shortlist for Best Novel, the Gaylactic Spectrum Award (Recommended 2013 title)

2014 Readers' Crown Award Winner in Science Fiction from RomCon

2013 Rainbow Book Awards Honoree:

- Best B/T and LGBT Fantasy, Paranormal Romance, and Sci-fi/Futuristic: Winner (3rd place)
 - Best Bisexual Novel: tied for 4th
 - Best B/T and LGBT Debut Novel: tied for 4th
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