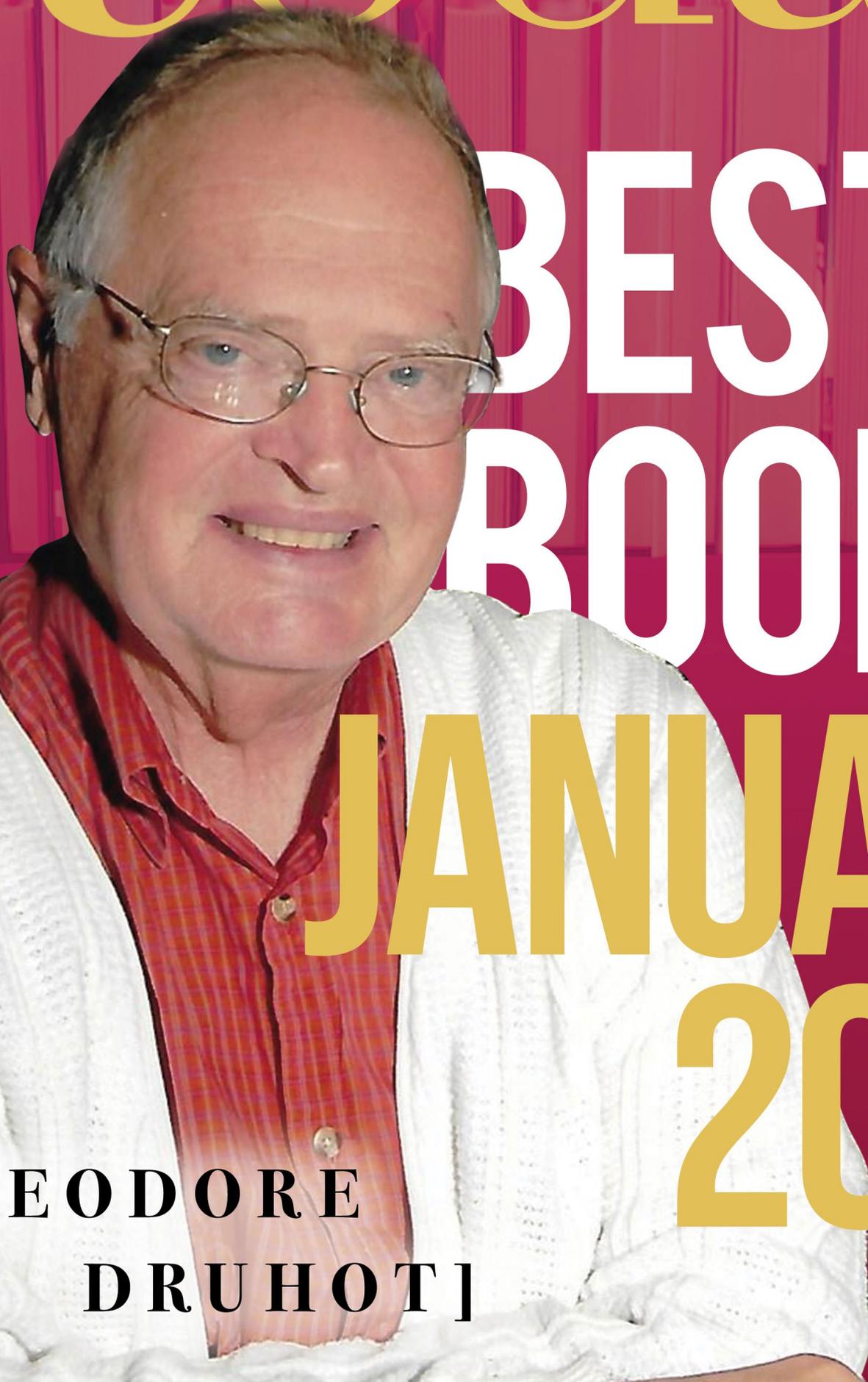


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BEST BOOKS

JANUARY 2023

[THEODORE
DRUHOT]



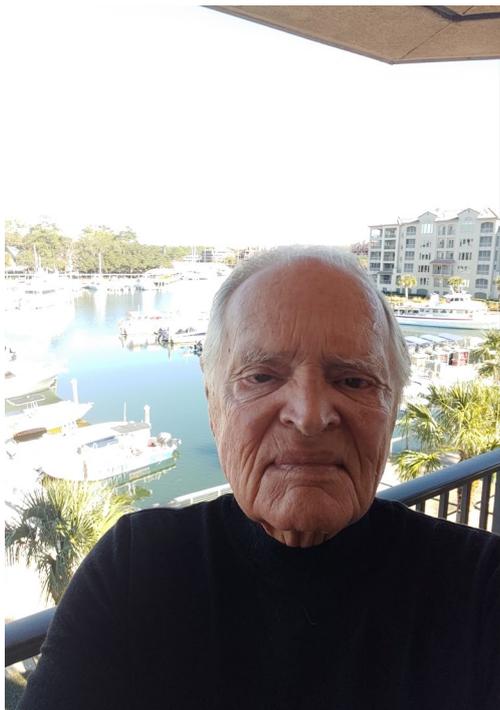
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Theodore J Druhot



Ted Druhot, author of *ALL THE CARDINAL'S MEN AND A FEW GOOD NUNS*, is a retired Hospital Administrator. He spent thirty-five years in this profession as a personnel director, executive vice president and president of large Catholic sponsored metropolitan teaching hospitals. He graduated from Xavier University with an MBA degree and a concentration in hospital administration. His undergraduate degree was from John Carroll University with a major in sociology. In addition to hospital administration, Ted taught part time business administration subjects at a local university.

He was inspired to write this book after retiring and reflecting on the many interesting and challenging experiences during his tenure in hospital administration. All of the various activities within the novel actually happened, although separated by time and location. On reflection, Ted thought it would be interesting to combine all of these events into one place and time. Thus, the novel was born.

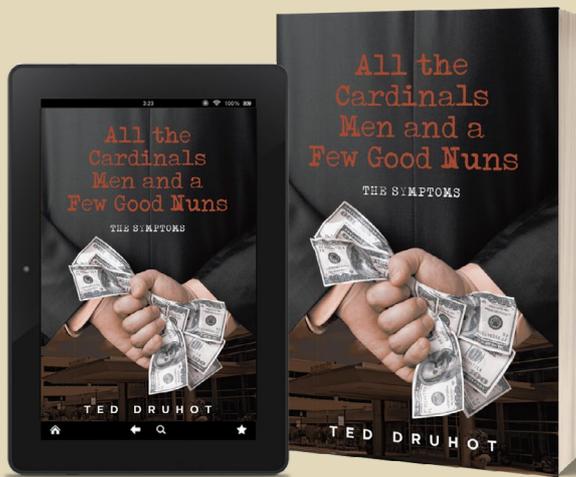
One of the book's primary characters, Joe Durant, who is the administrator of St Anslem's Hospital in the novel is a reflection of the author's personal experiences. The other characters that are prominent within the story are also based on actual associates of the author in his time as a hospital executive. The events within the story also happened but at different times and places.

ALL OF THE CARDINAL'S MEN AND A FEW GOOD NUNS is Ted Druhot's first novel. However,

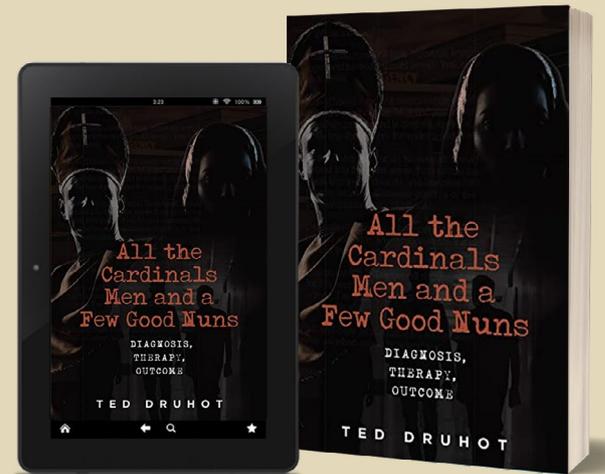
throughout his career he published many articles in professional publications. One article titled *LIFE IN THE SWAMP OR MUCKING AROUND WITH ALLIGATORS*, a commentary of the challenge of being a healthcare administrator, was made into a booklet and circulated nationally to hospital association members.

A subtle purpose of the novel is to cause the reader, especially those with hospital patient experience, to realize that every care giver has a personal life that they set aside to provide the necessary care to the patient. In addition, both professional and personal status of the health care workers tend to collide as they unite as a team to provide coordinated patient care. The coordination of care is constant from the bedside to and thru the patient room, hospital floor unit, patient service departments and all aspects of administration. Patient care is orchestrated with the physician as the conductor but, as with a team on the field, each person has a special job to do and for the success of the effort, each team member must do it right. Administration is the coordinator of patient care.

Self-publishing is very challenging, especially to first time authors. Scam artists are constantly in contact with authors who lack professional publishing support. These scammers will make telephone proposals to promote a novel with suggested returns. The author is required to pay \$5000 or more to obtain these unknown returns. Dealing with these constant appeals has been the most frustrating part of self-publishing this novel.



St Anslem's Hospital has an excellent reputation. It is owned by the Archdiocese and administered by the Poor Sisters of Charity. However, the continuing changes in hospital care caused the hospital to care more about money than patient care. The hospital's deficits as a result of the Sisters' charity caused the medical staff to demand lay management and an attempt by some to steal the hospital. A power struggle develops that causes great anger and eventually the murder of a bank executive and hospital board member.



- *Are their therapeutic benefits to modeling a character after someone you know?*

Every character in my book is modeled after people that I worked with during my career. It was very therapeutic to copy their personalities into the plot of the story. The story is fictional but the activities and events described are true as are the characters. I found it very satisfying to recall these memories and develop the story also based on true events.

- *What comes first to you – the plot or the characters – and why?*

The plot is foremost. Generally, the plot is based on a series of events that develops because of the outcome of individual actions. The actions are consequences of individual acts prompted by personalities, knowledge, and personal desire. The interconnection gives rise to the plot of the story. When an event is subject to explanation, the personalities of participants form the basis for explaining the plot.

- *Which of the characters do you relate to the most and why?*

The character I relate to most is the hospital administrator of St. Anslems, Joe Durant. I served as a hospital administrator and as a professional consultant to hospital administrators, I am very aware of the pressures placed on them and can relate to the outcome of the pressure.

- *What inspired the idea for your book?*

The rapid and constant change in healthcare delivery especially the primary change of the hospitals in this Country from voluntary not for profit institutions owned and operated by religious organizations to for profit organizations owned by conglomerates has transferred a sick and/or injured person from patient to product.



Nisa Montie

www.loginthesoul.com

Only Divine Providence could have arranged for co-authors Frank Scott, growing up in Peru, and Nisa Montie, living in the U.S., to meet. Brought together first professionally, then as friends, and finally as Eternal Companions, a name given to them by the Angelic Realm.

The Guides had a reason—soon Frank and Nisa were married and collaborating on the writing and publishing of twenty-seven books (www.loginthesoul.com). Twelve fictional eco-tales teach children how to care for themselves and the Earth using lively fairy and nature characters. Fifteen non-fiction spiritual volumes, the most recent being *Eternal Companions of Love*, explore how humans exist in both worlds of time in our material constructs, and eternity in the Soul-based awareness seeded in our Hearts.

This information, and the experiences derived from *Eternal Love*, were gifted to us from the Higher Realms through intuitive “downloads.” They

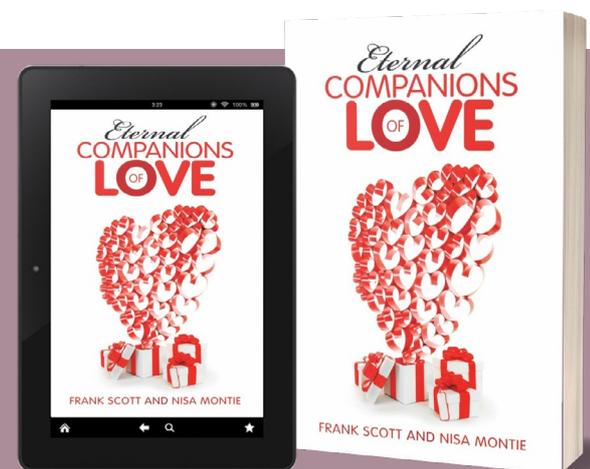
support each of us, and humanity as a whole, in gaining the higher Perspective of Divine Oneness, Beauty, and Eternal Love.

Our Guides and Angels would wake us up at all hours with these messages to write down, edit, and publish, as we were informed by our personal experiences of increasing Knowingness, and united ever more deeply through Heart, Spirit, and Soul.

Since Frank moved on to the Eternal Realm in 2021, we continue our beautiful, eternal companionship, connecting through Heart and Soul—confirming the usefulness of what is written. Enjoy this Journey of your Eternal Beingness!

Wishing you much Love, Nisa and Frank

Thus, we are entities, as Beings of Light—subjects of illumination or enlightenment. We are also Soul-possessing—that which allows us to see and hear creation with the Eyes and Ears of our Creator. We are Spirits of Life and Intelligence—that is, endowed with those imperceptible fields of activity that give rise to the powers of attraction and repulsion, growth, instinct, rationality, and Faith. Here, Faith represents a sense of belongingness and relationship to everything, slowly growing as a state of Knowingness and Lovingness that fills one's heart.





Sherry Dee Lady

The difference with this book is that it does not have a plot, particular characters that the reader can follow, etc. so very few apply. The synopsis says it all. And here is what I can offer:

“When I was doing my undergraduate work in college and needed to declare a minor, I chose the area of art. I had never had the desire to create art and not much talent in that area, but I wanted to learn more about the world of all of the arts. I loved art museums, art magazines, histories of artists and their medium – watercolor, oils, etc. – and movies, music, dance, anything creative. So I delved into it all, only to discover that I was rather inept at the actual creation. Example, my clay pots rarely stood up when on the wheel, I could not create anything with perspective that did not make one’s eyes confused, drawing the human form when live models were present ended up looking like cartoons and very disproportionate, etc. I did create good notebooks of collections of things.

The head of the department and I did, in spite of it all, become good friends and when my four years was concluding I shared some of these self observations with her. She had included me on her list of people to induct into a national art honorary (which did happen), because she said, “There are many forms of art. You paint with words and that is a special gift.” She was referring to her experiences of my writing reviews, summaries, etc. for the art department and some of the students art shows. I was very touched. We stayed in contact through the years until her passing, at which time I was given two special gifts from her world travels that she had set aside for me to have. They are here in my office, this day, as I type these words.

This is my first published book and I’m having fun watching it unfold. I feel very happy about it all, and a little nervous, too. This is full of my life, my thoughts, my revelations—can it really be of interest to others? There is a second book in the making because the words keep coming. My goal for the book is to have it mean something to others and maybe inspire them in their lives in some way. (And, to recoup some of the expenses of publish and marketing, too)

A native Oregonian, Sherry was born in Portland where she lived until the age of nine. Joined by a sister seven years later, the family moved to a farm in the hamlet of Cove Orchard, located in rural Yamhill county. After completing 8th grade at the local two room rural grade school, she attended Yamhill High School. After graduating from high school she attended Oregon College in Education in Monmouth, Oregon, where she met her husband who was also in education. After 58 years of marriage, he passed away in 2016, leaving behind wife, two grown children, Julie and Jeff, 11 grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Sherry received her Master’s degree in Education from University of Oregon and completed 48 hours in theater from classes at both Lane Community College and University of Oregon. Upon retirement from her career as an elementary teacher, she attended ministerial school at Unity Village in Lee’s Summit, Missouri where she was licensed and ordained. She returned to Eugene as associate minister in her home church and now serves as part of a 3 person ministerial team. Her fond memories of a rich life include four years the family spent at the American International School in Tokyo, Japan, where she and her husband were on the teaching staff. he now enjoys writing, movies, music and theater of all kinds, traveling and the semi-retirement that allows her to spend more time with treasured friends.

I hope—somewhere along the reader’s path—some of what I share will be meaningful and bring perhaps new perspectives as well as add a smile to their day. That would bring me great joy.



Why Is Marketing Important for Authors?

Most authors overlook the importance of the author and book's publicity. The thing is you can't sell your books if you keep hiding in the shadows and pushing your book in the forefront. If you're like most authors, you're probably more than a little bit intimidated by the prospect of marketing your book. "I'm an author, not a marketer," you might say. "I don't know how to do all that e-mail, markety, salesy stuff."

But when you're an author, especially a self-published author, you should know that writing is as much a business as it is an art. And you may be surprised to learn that writing, storytelling, and marketing all have things in common.

Gone are the days that the author's unknown identity is patronized, today's readers want authors with substance, and authors that they can derive inspiration from. As authors, you need to create your very own brand just like how other companies created brands for their products. Out of this brand comes your identity that will set you apart from any other authors. Once your readers perceive the image of your identity, it is easier for them to associate you with your work, thus creating more sales for your book. Be sure to create the image that will make your book better than the one on the shelf next to it.





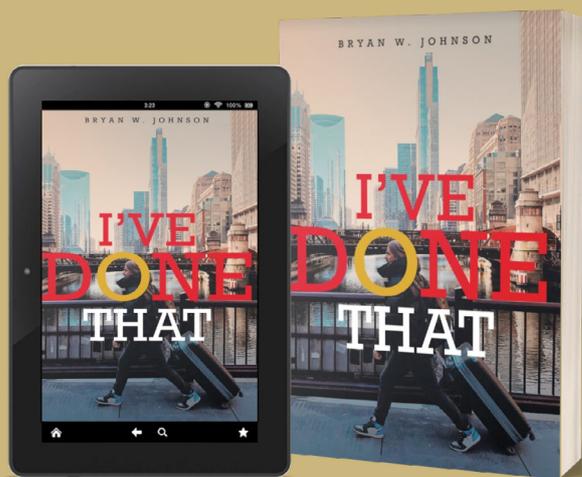
Bryan W. Johnson

I'm Bryan W. Johnson and I am the author of *I've Done That*. I was born in San Jose, California in 1969. I grew up in the bay area where many of my stories take place until we moved to Bend, Oregon in 1979. Back then the Oregonians had the right idea to keep California and her ideas in California. However, they chose to take it out on the kids or the kid. I was that kid and many of my early stories deal with or were in some way caused by that conflict.

As I grew older, I never seem to be quite in sink with the world. Either it's bad timing or one of the accidents of my life threw me out of step with time. Either way, I get into the most unusual events. As a friend of mine once observed, "You don't seem to be the one causing it." While I worked for an apartment complex as a groundskeeper, a published author witnessing my daily crazy told me, "You've got to write a book," and so I did; twice. My first book was accidentally banned on the day of release. The second came out and the large chain retailer of books where I did my signings at, went bankrupt. My initial publishers went to prison and my books went out of print.

I am eternally grateful for Brilliant Book Literary and the courage that they are showing in republishing my works. They have been amazing.

- *What advice would you give to a writer working on their first book?*
The old line 'Write what you know,' comes to mind. However, it is more than that. Write what you can write about. Don't go into it with a preconceived notion that you can write what you like to read. Most likely that leads to getting stuck trying to figure out what others missed in the same genre. Write what comes to you the most easy.
- *If you could spend a day with another popular author, whom would you choose?*
Robert Heinlein. My brother sent me 'Job: a comedy of justice' from his prison cell because he saw so much of me in the protagonist. I think Mr. Heinlein would get a kick out of meeting his character in person. That book is and always will be my favorite. I'm not a reader, but I read that over and again, gave it out as gifts, etc.
- *How did you come up with the title to your book?*
I've rescued people from a burning building; Delivered a baby in a cab; Taught myself to hang glide; shot someone trying to shoot me (not in combat); both been abused and rescued the abused; fought for the innocent; Worked half of the jobs in the lexicon of labor; Hitch-hiked and train road the country; and have more stories I can't write than I can. It wasn't hard. Plus, California is falling.
- *What's your favorite and least favorite part of publishing?*
My favorite part is the initial interest and acceptance of the first book, the first time, by the first publisher. The elation one gets to know that what you have to offer is accepted and sought after is a feeling that you cannot replace. My first publishing experience did away with that joy with a vengeance. Brilliant book Literary has given me that joy back. I was in disbelief and could not accept that I was being published again, until I saw the cover come in. The second cover of my second book with them. It was that hard to accept.



*With life and death in the balance, everyday life is never as easy as it seems. In *I've Done That*, author Bryan Johnson takes you on a journey through his life, a life that from the time of conception, stacked the deck against him. Join him on his travels across the U.S. and through many careers, in an attempt to find the feeling of home. Feel with him the loss and joy in each successive survival against fate and her minions. Laugh with obscure observation in the worst of circumstance, all the while looking for the bright side to come shining through.*





Bobby Gene Simpson

B. G. Simpson born in 1958 Bremerton Washington. Grew-up in San Diego. Writing is his second career. He's written two books, and working on second book of series: Winds of Time. Second edition of Bailey's Road coming out in September.

- *What is the most difficult of the writing process?*

It is a funny question because the writing part is not hard, but everything in between is. Probably, for me, it is doing most of my writing on an old computer versus a modern version that is self-correcting or downloads that would help you edit before sending your work. Getting it ready with the right equipment made it easier to write.

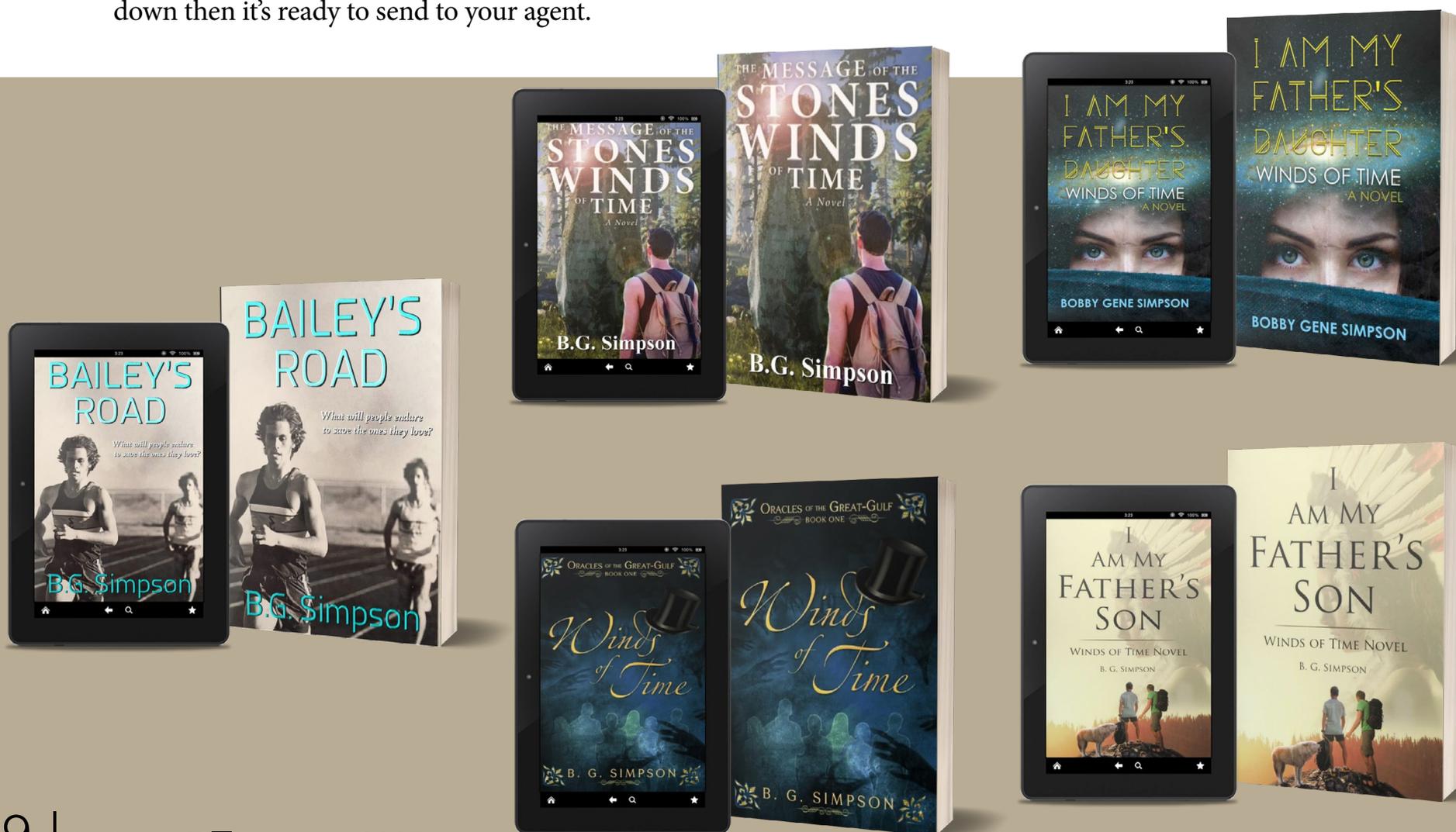
- *What advice would you give to a writer working on their first book?*

Write with the heart, there's no way to write better, have the best equipment, and never be satisfied.

I did over 200 edits on my first book and made it better. Try to think that you have the hardest competition to overcome, you're not going to win unless it's better than anything else. When you read it and you can't get away from it, then it's decent. When you can't put it down then it's ready to send to your agent.

- *What comes first, the plot or the characters, and why?*

The characters are what draw people to read. Something happens to them. It's the most important, but it doesn't mean the plot is less important, without a plot you wouldn't have a story. When developing the characters, they will lead you to form a plot, it will transform a piece at a time. Believe in the characters and it will give them life. For example: if the story is about a football player you surround everything about his character, how he finds success, and what drives him to be good. You get so involved with the character it evolves into a story about his life, then you have a plot. The emotions of having a story are feeling how they would feel like you were them. You put yourself into their shoes, if they don't finish, they will by the time you are done.



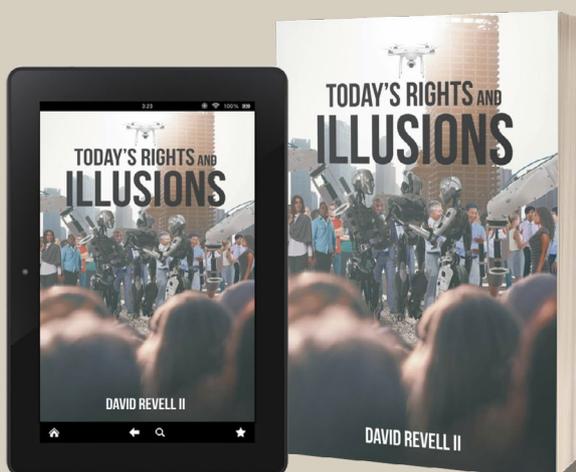
David Revell II



David Revell II is a resident of East Orange N.J. He has been a resident for a number of years. After receiving his high school diploma and entering Rutgers University he was bitten by the writing bug. Studying creative writing led him to Essex County College where he received a writer's certificate. It took a dedicated effort to create his first work titled "Everyday" which was written quite a few years ago.

Like many of us, life happens and sometimes it puts a halt to our dreams. His determination to set higher goals led to his present works such as "Today's Rights and Illusions. The book concerns life as we know it, and with future twists that are soon to come. Talking to God in the highest is always recognized to be a solid foundation. "Today's Rights and Illusions are beckoning to the internet like a beacon who will experience the coming of blockchain.

- *What is a significant way your book has changed since the first draft?*
Significance has been the key to my first draft and uncertainty is part of a crowd that rivals progress.
- *What perspective of beliefs have challenged with the work?*
The perspective of dreams that deals with signs of rejections that seem so discouraging.
- *What was the hardest scene to write? and why?*
The hardest scene to write was that of the military making the case a path to writer's block.
- *How did you come up with the title for your book?*
The title that I chose was hopefully relevant to my cause.
- *What is your writing process like? Are you a plotter or a pantsers?*
I am more of a plotter for better or worse, costing a little time.
- *What do you need in your writing space to help you stay focused?*
Staying focused is a way to navigate a process differing from the hours of from the hours of most novices.
- *If you could spend a day with another popular author whom would you choose?*
Stephen King in all awe. Just the idea of brainstorming.
- *What risks have you taken with your writing that have paid off?*
The risks of audiobooks email lists, and displays.
- *If your book were made into a movie which actors would play your characters?*
Perhaps an over padded Chevy Chase comes to mind. Don Chedoe and Dwayne Johnson.
- *What is the ultimate goal?*
The ultimate goal is to create long term and short-term writings.

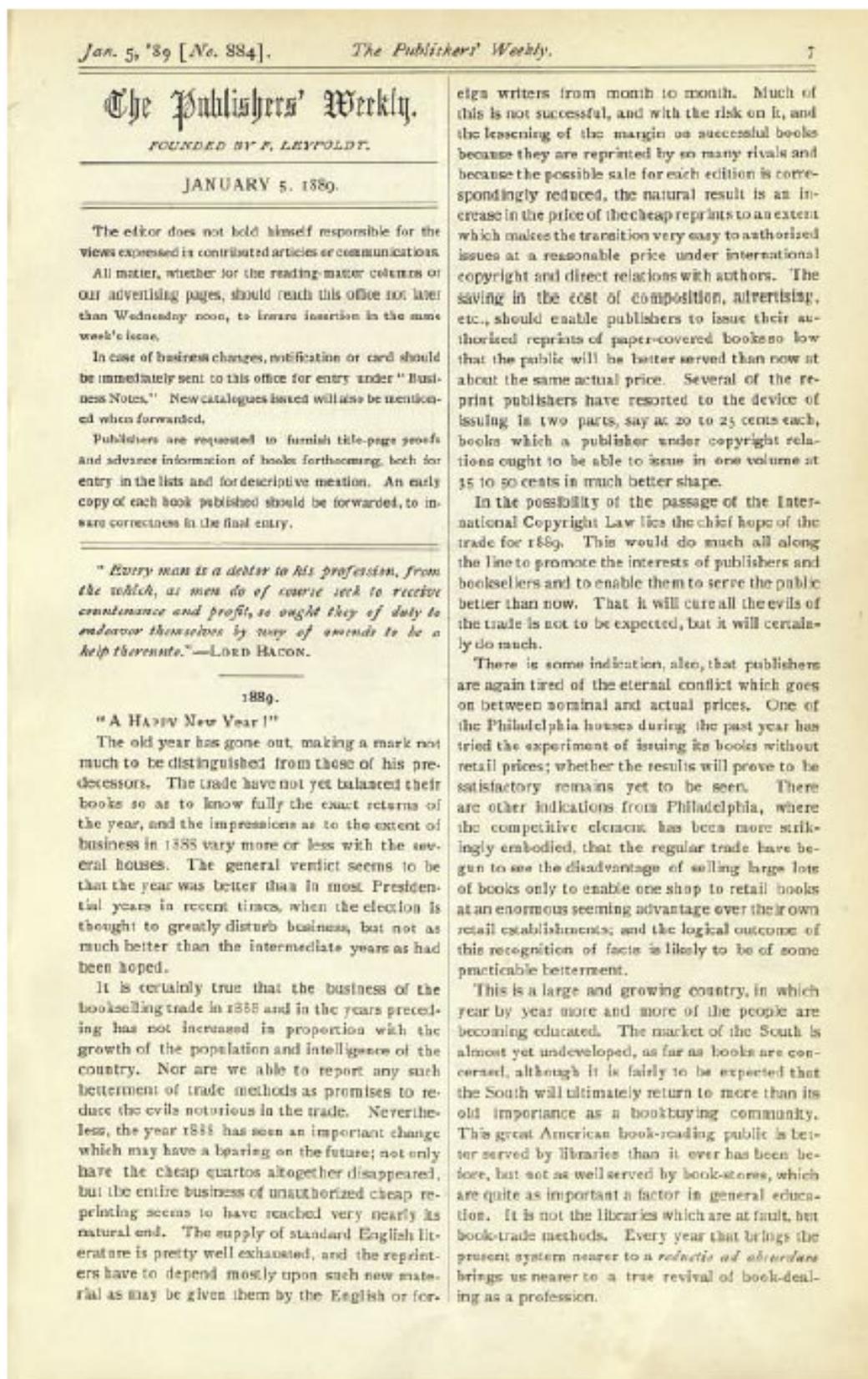


Today's Rights and Illusions is the best component for potential paths, serving as a frontline for a climate brewing with strengths that give provoking thoughts. It is inspired by words dynamically expressed as shout-outs entrenched with communication nurtured for conferences supporting truth. It presents tips for one to feel the objective of a party of offenders who have a number of views that add eyes to pain prone to conversations on a population opened to rights and wrongs in the workplace. Beliefs over derogatory comments apart from certain wars raging on a whack on the rump suggest an environment transitioning into a program that gears vendors posing a plight dire to the mire more than season to season.

Snips from Publishers Weekly

January 2, 2023 issue

FROM THE ARCHIVE



January 5, 1889

As 1888 turned to 1889, we reflected on several topics that still resonate today. Looking back at 1888, we speculated that industry sales were negatively impacted by the distraction of the presidential election (in which Benjamin Harrison defeated Grover Cleveland). Improving copyright protections, removing prices from book jackets, and reviving bookstores were among the goals outlined for the New Year.

Snips from Publishers Weekly

January 23, 2023 issue

News

Dealing with Pandemic Fallout

2022 saw the industry grapple with some of the same issues as in 2021

Given all of the attention that the Department of Justice's successful trial to block Penguin Random House's purchase of Simon & Schuster drew, it can be hard to remember what other trends, challenges, and issues confronted the publishing industry in 2022.

In many ways, last year the industry was still dealing with the fallout caused by the pandemic. For one thing, return-to-office policies remained in flux throughout the year; just when a publisher would announce plans to bring back employees to the office for a few days a week, another surge would come along and scuttle those plans. In addition, executives at the big publishers were meeting stiff resistance from employees on any sort of mandate to return to the office. In PW's most recent salary and jobs survey, respondents said that the creation of work-from-home policies was the most important benefit their company established during the height of the pandemic, and the overwhelming majority of respondents were concerned that their company would soon be requiring employees to be in the office for a certain number of days each week.

The supply chain problems that were prevalent for much of 2021 continued into 2022, though conditions did improve. Price increases for printing, paper, and shipping eased in 2022, though, as the highest inflation in decades set in, production costs still remained well above 2019 levels, squeezing profit margins. The printing capacity crunch also eased a bit, albeit not for a good reason—printers received fewer orders as book sales declined.

When the pandemic began, consumers moved more of their spending toward online retailers and away from bricks-and-mortar stores in 2020 and 2021. That shift led Amazon to place big orders for all items, including books, over the past few years. As consumers began returning to stores in greater numbers in 2022, increases in online spending slowed—a trend that hit Amazon hard. To work down the amount of book inventory it had accumulated, Amazon drastically cut back on new orders it placed over the sum-



A big crowd turned out for the Mountains & Plains Independent Booksellers Association's fall show in Denver as more events returned to in-person programming.

mer, with some publishers reporting sales declines as deep as 70% with Amazon in the summer months. HarperCollins cited the plunge in orders from Amazon as the key reason why sales in its quarter ended September 30 fell 11%. The dramatic decline of orders from Amazon, along with the news that Amazon had cut some jobs in its Books group, led some industry members to wonder if the company was losing interest in the book market, speculation that Amazon firmly denied. Publishers did report orders from the e-tailer improved in the early fall.

The return of shoppers to physical retailers was good news for bookstores. ABA reported a record number of members, while Barnes & Noble began opening new outlets in the year and expects to open 30 new stores in 2023. Total bookstore sales through October were up 7.5% over the comparable period in 2021 and, following two years of declines, could return to 2019 levels in 2022. The improving retail environment didn't lift all boats, however. In the spring, Amazon announced it was closing all 24 of its physical bookstores; Amazon opened its first bookstore in November 2015 to tremendous fanfare.

News

A return to familiar rhythms

With the easing of pandemic-related restrictions, the publishing calendar returned to a more normal pattern. In the U.S., the fall regional bookseller shows had solid attendance as they returned to in-person events. All of the primary international book fairs also held in-person events, though many still saw reduced foot traffic from pre-pandemic levels in the shadow of inflation, the ongoing threat of Covid, and the war in Ukraine.

In March, the Bologna Children's Book Fair sought to draw more publishers to its event by expanding into programming for adult publishing with its Bologna Book Plus program. London followed in April and featured Ukrainian author Andrei Kurkov as a keynote speaker as the industry considered a blanket ban on working with Russian publishers. The fair, which is considered the main rights-trading venue for English-language books, saw the buzz return to its rights center after three years without meeting in person. The same was seen in October in Frankfurt, where its rights center sold out and many international publishers returned, albeit to a more subdued event as the effects of the nearby war, the resulting energy crisis, and inflation were felt. Several large publishers scaled down their exhibitor booths, and total attendance was 180,000 people, approximately half the number its last pre-pandemic fair drew.

One event that grew in 2022 was the Sharjah International Book Fair, which welcomed more than 971 publishing houses, literary agents, and rights professionals from 92 countries. Sharjah had significant momentum going into the event, having been guest of honor at Bologna and the market focus country in London. It too was the guest of honor nation at the Guadalajara International Book Fair, which took place in Mexico at the end of November. The fair saw a return to full strength after a virtual fair in 2020 and a hybrid event in 2021, drawing some 800,000 people, down just 3,000 from 2019.

Books under attack

Challenges to the First Amendment and freedom to read were prevalent in 2022. In the spring, the American Library Association's Office for Intellectual Freedom reported it tracked 729 challenges to library, school, and university materials, resulting in more than 1,597 individual book challenges or removals in 2021. Most targeted books were by or about Black or LGBTQ people. In 2020, only 273 books were challenged or banned. Challenges to books intensified in the election year in 2022, as some conservative groups saw the issue as a winning one. To combat the censorship efforts, various groups and individuals began to organize

ways to stand up for the freedom to read (and, collectively, were selected as our People of the Year).

Employee activism, which first began to emerge in earnest as a reaction to pandemic concerns, as well as the murder of George Floyd, continued into 2022. Following the ruling by the Supreme Court that overturned *Roe v. Wade* and the disclosure that one of the justices who voted in favor of the decision, Amy Coney Barrett, had signed a lucrative contract for a memoir with PRH, an employee group circulated a letter condemning the deal. The pandemic also gave a boost to unionizing drives at a number of independent bookstores in the year. What is likely the largest book publishing union, some 237 HarperCollins employees who are members of Local 2110 of the United Auto Workers, went on strike on November 10, seeking higher pay, improved family leave benefits, a greater commitment to diversifying staff, and stronger union protection. At press time, no new deal had been reached.

As 2022 was drawing to a close, it became evident that industry sales, after two consecutive years of good growth, would fall in 2022. With one week left in 2022, NPD BookScan reported that unit sales of print books were down about 6.5% from 2021, but were 12% higher than in 2019. The Association of American Publishers reported that total industry sales fell 5.1% through October compared to 2021, with trade sales also down 5.1%, at the 1,368 publishers that report revenue to its StatShot program.

A final word on the PRH, DOJ trial

The three-week trial, which began August 2, highlighted the divide in the industry between those who favored PRH's acquisition of S&S and those against it. As the trial went on, it became clear the government had the momentum, and it came as no surprise when Judge Florence Pan ruled in late October



to block the acquisition. Events unfolded quickly after her ruling when, just before Thanksgiving, S&S parent company Paramount Global did not renew its purchase agreement with PRH, making it impossible for PRH to appeal the decision. In early December, PRH global CEO Markus Dohle announced he was stepping down at the end of 2022. How interim CEO Nihar Malaviya, most recently PRH president and COO, performs and who makes a bid to buy S&S will be two of the biggest stories of 2023.

—Jim Milliot and Ed Nawotka

Verlinda J. Allen

- *What advice would you give to a writer working on their first book?*

The main important piece of advice I would give to someone writing on their first book would be...don't ever give up. Things will not always go as planned, but that is life in general, the main thing is to get back to it and try your best and stay with it-no matter what.

- *What is the most difficult part of your writing process? How long have you been writing or when did you start?*

To me, the elements to good writing would be good grammar to start off. If the writing isn't believable the story will either fall apart or not go anywhere... everyone speaks differently, so should your characters. Believable characters, once again, everyone is different...your characters should be realistic, believable, likable (sometimes even bad guys are likable), relatable and true. A strong background of surroundings, timeline and language play a part.

- *What's your favorite and least favorite part of publishing?*

I think my favorite part of publishing is taking a more active role in it but not knowing who to trust, dealing with other companies who wish or want my business, to the point of harassing me are differently my least favorite parts. I have a strange code of ethics...if I feel comfortable with a company I will I have invested my time in, I do not appreciate another company that is new trying to convince to work with them...especially when a company has waited patiently (sometimes 2 years) for my work). It is a pet peeve that I hate.

- *What is a significant way your book has changed since the first draft?*

Special Childhood Treasures has had a major change from being with a publishing that didn't listen to me from the beginning and more or less fighting them to get it back to e at its present company...where I was given colored pictures (extra ones) and a beautiful book.

- *How many books have you written, and which is your favorite?*

I have 2 written books out, both in poetry, my present one is my favorite because of the beautiful pictures added.



Special Childhood Treasures is a collection of poems done from several stages in a child's life. The hard times a child may feel, fun times, a simple happy moment in life. Something that we all experienced in life.



Verlinda J. Allen started her love for writing in the early 90's. Her writings consisted of poetry published in The National Library of Poetry; where several poems received Editor's Choice.

Ms. Allen enjoys singing, dancing, writing, sewing and designing. She is presently working on a romance novel and a children's picture/poetry book. She lives with her family, 8 cats: Zohran, Jinxxs, Sheba and 4 kittens: Mittens, Mocha, Mikasa and Misty, as well as a catch and a release cat, named Mia (the newest member), and 2 bunnies: Cinnamon and Diamond. She has 4 businesses, all home-based for the moment, in custom-made clothing (Anaya Heart Infinity), event planning (Phoenix Event Planning) and catering & delivery (Zacharias's American-Caribbean-Cuisine and Books Published (the newest business venture).

Ms. Allen, works as a Patient Advocate/Warrior at the Foundation for Sickle Cell Disease Research. A place that is also dear to her heart because she has Sickle Cell Disease. As with her previous book, The Highs and Lows of Love, a part of her book's sale proceeds will go to the continued fight against Sickle Cell Disease (SCD). Her children's books, once published, will have proceeds from their sales donated to children's literacy...which stems from Ms. Allen's tribute to her days as a Special Educator.

You can contact Ms. Allen @ BooksPublished1@gmail.com or become a friend on Facebook.com/BooksPublished.

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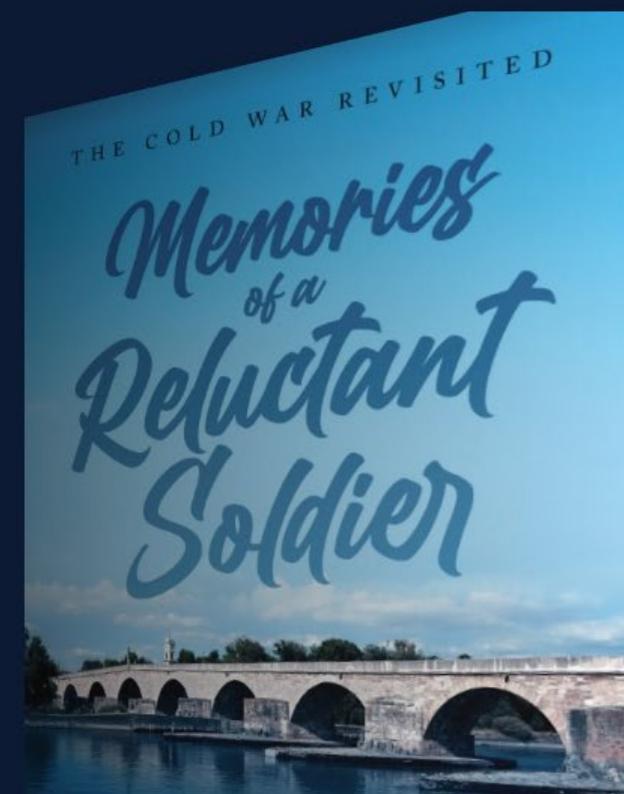
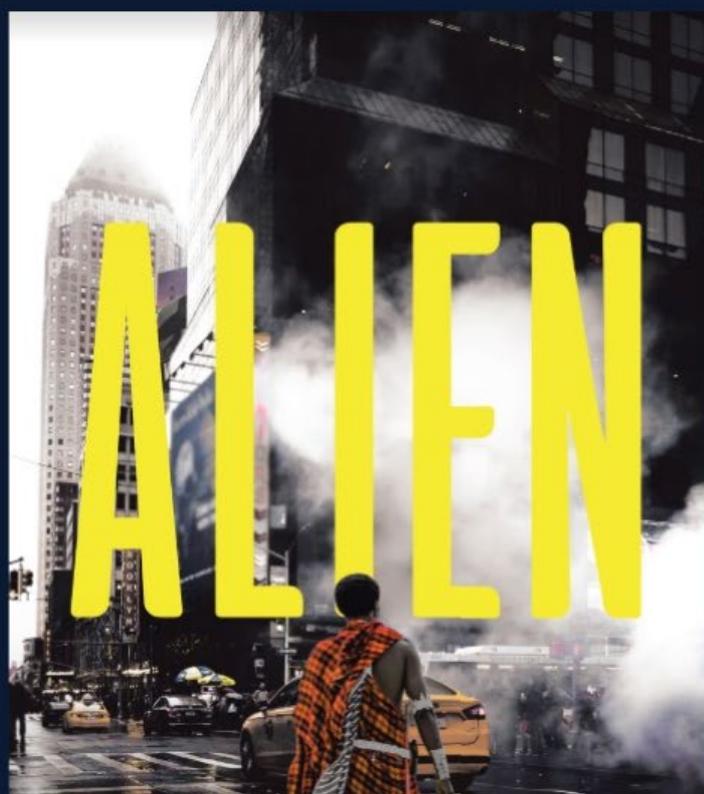
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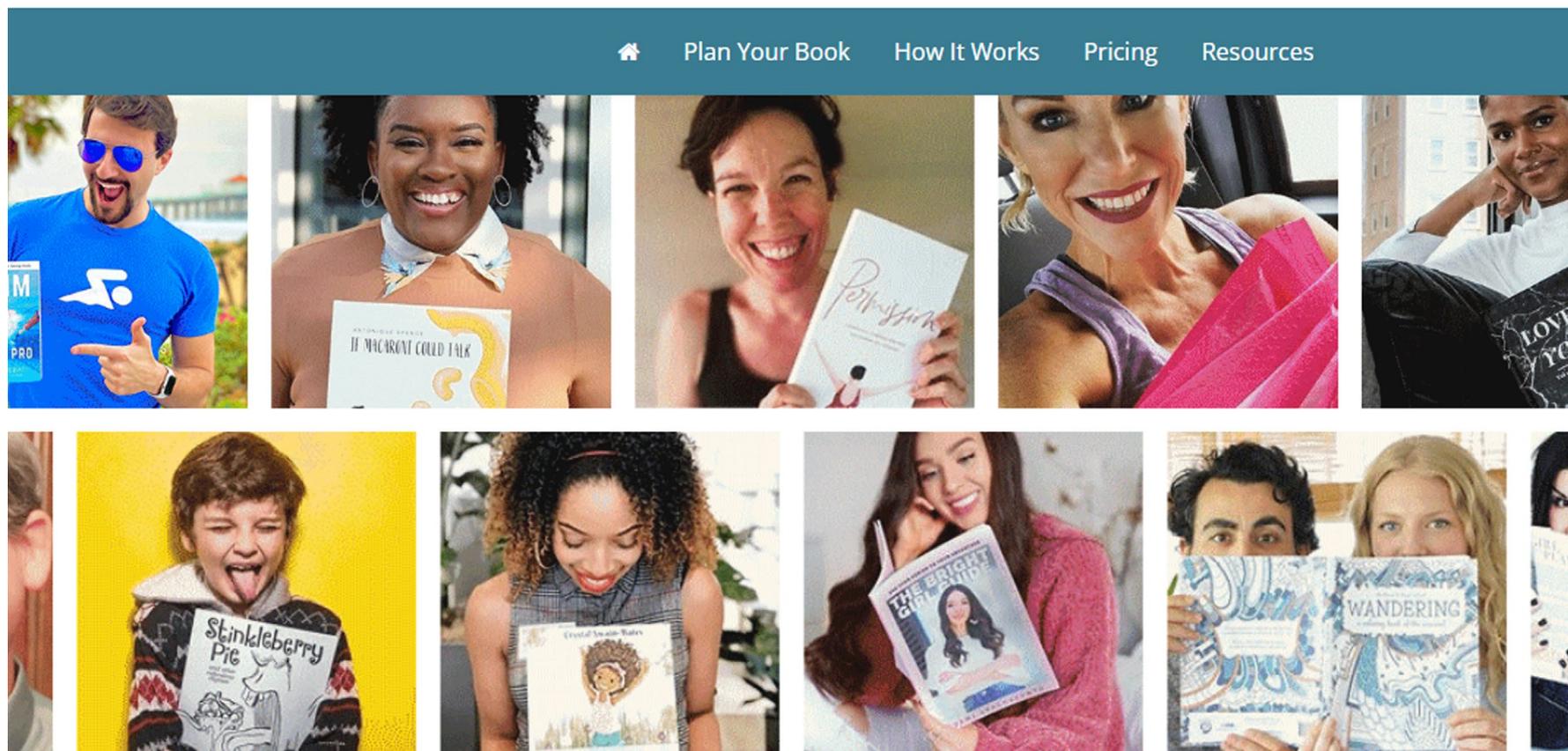
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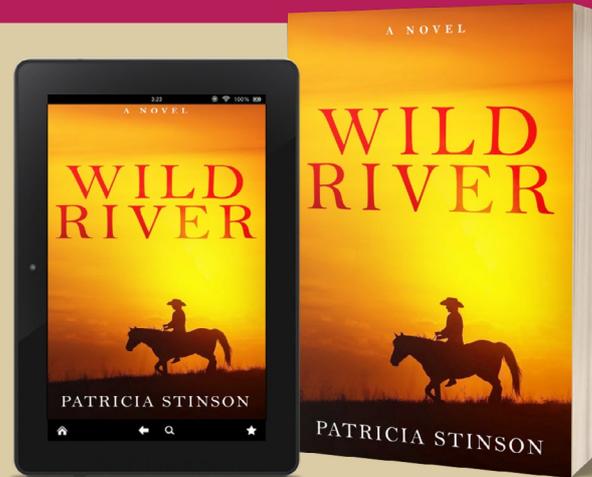
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Patricia Stinson



In 1871, Doctor Edmund Proft from Connecticut finds life in the New Mexico territory much harsher and demanding than he realized as he faces gunfights, robbery, ignorance, and most of all, prejudices, including his own.

I was born and raised in Minnesota. In high school, I asked God what he wanted me to do with my life. I quickly knew he wanted me to be an elementary teacher. I went to Augsburg College and earned a B.S. degree. I was an average student.

My first teaching position was Lansing, Minnesota, as a third-grade teacher. I enjoyed the farm community life and the staff at the elementary school. After two years, I realized God wanted me somewhere else. It took almost a year of prayer before He told me to go to New Guinea as a lay missionary.

I served two years and met many wonderful New Guineans and missionaries and experienced life in the town of Madang and in the jungle.

I returned to the United States and worked in the Minneapolis school system. In the next 35 years, I was a first, third, fourth, and fifth-grade teacher. During this time, I went to the University of Minnesota and earned my Master's in Elementary Education.

Riding horses, reading and crafts are my hobbies. My favorite reading is about history. I like to figure out why the events happened as they did. Why did World War I happen when one man was killed? There is an interesting story behind that.

My website is <https://www.patriciastinsonwriter.com>

My blog is <https://gogoreadgo.blogspot.com>. If you would like to be on my list of people who want to read my blogs, email me a pstinson23@comcast.net

My Facebook pages are:

<https://www.facebook.com/psreadllc>

<https://m.facebook.com/patstinsonwriter>.

<https://facebook.com/patricastinson731>

- *What do the words “writer’s block” mean to you?*

What do the words “writer’s block” mean to me? The words “writer’s block” means to me that the writer does not know a topic on which to write or does not know what should happen next? So far, that has not happened to me. I have several topics in mind, and I have a good idea of the plot line and character development. I do have a “block” when the plot is at a sad point for the characters, and I don’t want to write it. To me, the characters are real, and I don’t enjoy writing something that is depressing for them, so I put it off.

- *How do you develop your plot and characters?*

Sometimes, I model a character after someone I know, usually so one I have difficulty liking. I can vent my feelings toward the character. I word picture the character in a way that the reader will see the characters. I see the real person and I hope they will not like the character. Then I feel I have vented my feelings and I can forget and move on. So far, I end the story with the character I am not found of in a good place in life.

- *What inspired the idea for your book?*

What inspired Wild River? I love to read, and I love history. I want to know the little things in history that have changed lives, at least for some. I think we should learn from the events of the past and the way the people faced the events. Were they strong and stood up to the obstacles or did they give in? Did the people make moral decisions or did they feel like they were pushed into a decision.

- *If you could spend a day with another popular author, whom would you choose?*

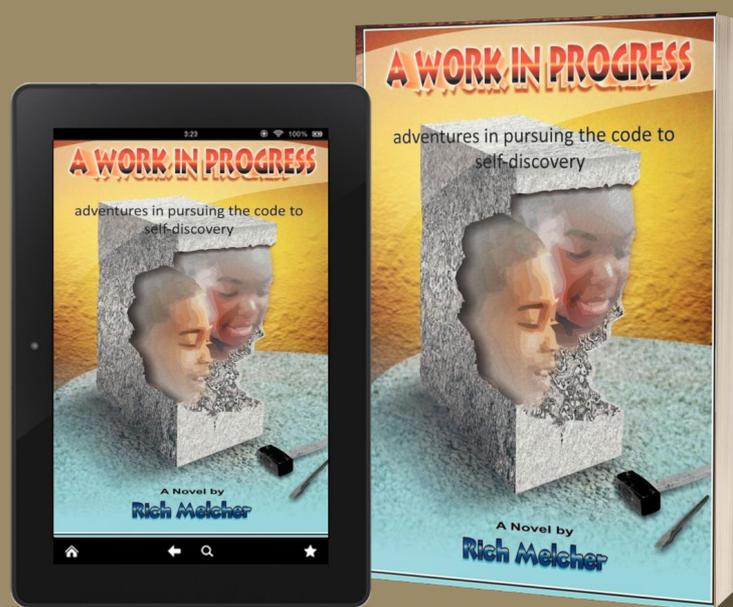
If I could spend the day with a favorite author, I would choose Samuel Clemens (Mark Twain). He wrote for the everyday person. He said, “My books are water: those of the great geniuses are wine. Everybody drinks water.”

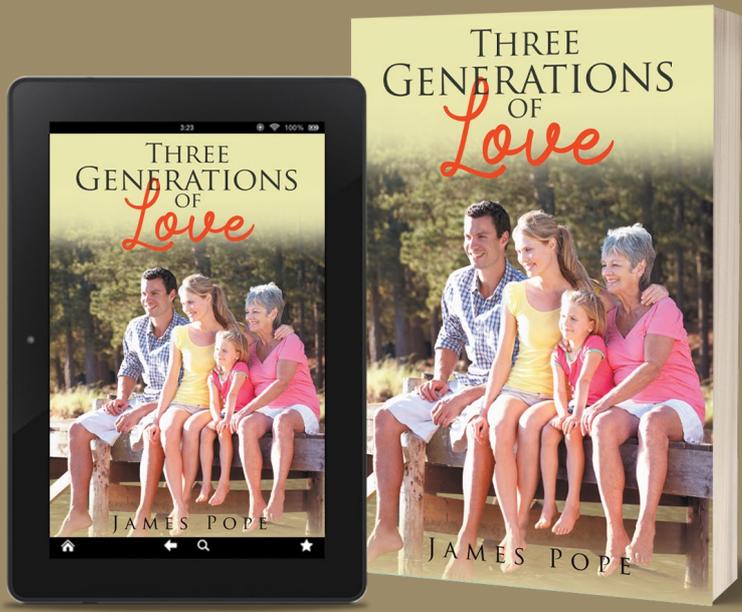


Rich Melcher

Rich Melcher's writing career began on March 31, 1982 when he picked up a pen and an 80-page theme pad and began scrolling his personal journal on a sunny Wednesday afternoon in his dorm room at Minnesota State University, Mankato. His 16,000+ pages of journal entries, eight self-published books, hundreds of poems and dozens of spiritual articles stem from that original inspired moment of starting his journal! Melcher retired from his occupation as a certified peer specialist in April of 2022 and is pursuing digital photography, alto saxophone, tutoring grade school youth in reading and running his educational consulting firm, Authentic Journeys LLC.

Kuna and Dametrie, two African American 14-year-olds in Baltimore, synchronistically uncover clues to a mysterious ethics code which dramatically changes their lives forever!





James Pope

www.popejim.com



- *How do you process and deal with negative book reviews?*
It appears as if the people never had an understanding of life!
- *What is the most difficult part of your writing process? How long have you been writing or when did you start?*
Spelling, puncheon, editing, formatting! First novel, 1964
- *What, to you, are the most important elements of good writing?*
Subject matter!
- *What's your favorite and least favorite part of publishing?*
You must have a literary agent you can trust to publish/market you material!
- *How many books have you written, and which is your favorite?*
Three. Post Hole Digger, Three Generations of Love, Stepping Stones to the ARCH De Pleasure.
They are uniquely, factually connected.
- *What part of the book was the most fun to write?*
My novels are factual material. A trip down memory lane.
- *What inspired the idea for your book?*
My life as I lived it!
- *If you were to write a spin-off about a side character, which would you pick?*
I will not do this. The screenplay is 368 pages long. Great for three full length movies -TV series. Other writers can write TV episodes.
- *What is the ultimate goal for the book?*
NY Times best seller and a movie

Born at home on the family farm, March 1937 when American was GREAT!
 Attended a one-room country for 3 years.
 Watching animals breeding, giving birth, playing doctor-nurse with a neighbor girl, I became DR. James Pope OBGYN at aa very, very, young age!
 Became an INSTANT ADULT at age 15, supporting mom, big and little sitters.
 10-12th grades, worked as a hired farm hand.
 Joined the Navy. 27 years submarine service.
 Reflecting on my life I gave myself a self-educated PHD in "Life Come Lott A"

Book Trailers

In case you're unfamiliar with the concept, a book trailer is a short promotional video for a book.

As the term suggests, it functions like a movie trailer, giving people an in-depth look at a newly released or soon-to-be-released title.

However, there are a few key ways in which book trailers differ from movie trailers.

For example...

- Book trailers tend to be much shorter than movie trailers, usually 30 to 90 seconds long.
- Trailers for books are focused on teasing the audience without giving away too much.
- Unlike movie trailers, which are displayed in previews, book trailers are meant to stand alone.

Ultimately, it's about engaging potential readers and getting them familiar with the narrative.

Book trailers combine audio and visual components to deliver a more well-rounded sensory experience than just text or graphics.

This means your video has the potential to leave a lasting impression on viewers. Plus, it can help your

book stand out from others that don't offer a synopsis in this medium.

As mentioned previously, many authors don't put the time and effort into creating book trailers, which means you can stand out from the crowd by producing one for your next title.

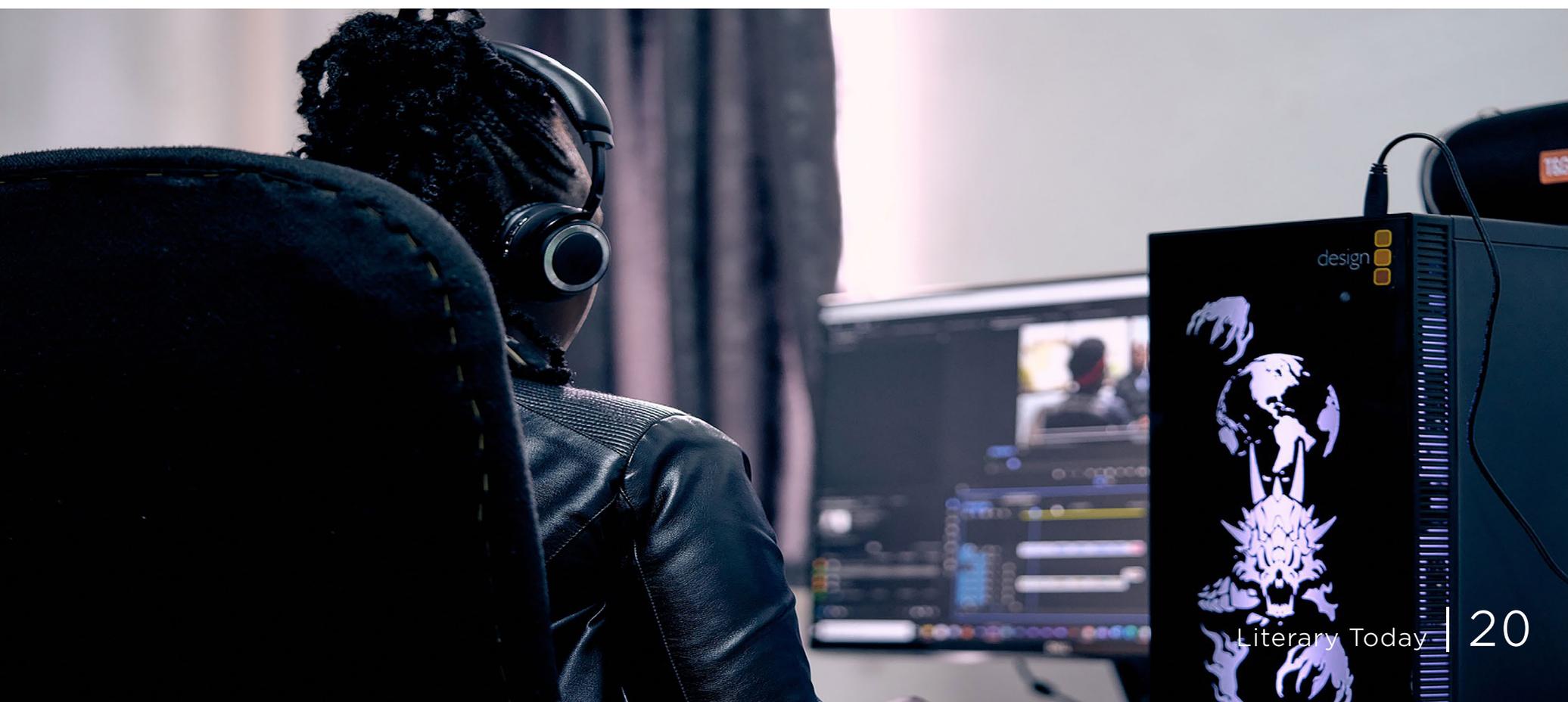
By nature, video is easy to consume and share. Therefore, when you create a book trailer, you give potential readers a fun and simple way to learn what your book is about.

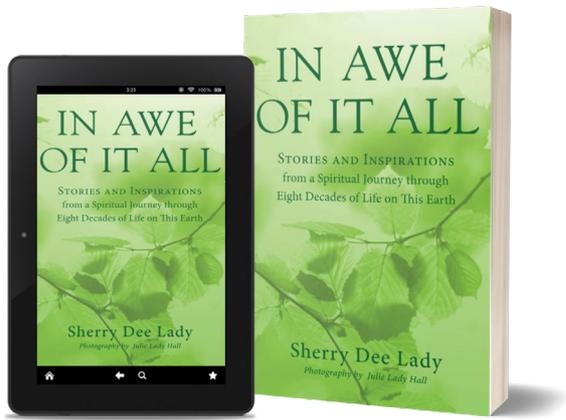
Moreover, you increase your book's exposure by creating something people are more likely to share with others.

To get the most out of your book trailer, it's important to feature it in various places, including...

- On your website
- On your book's Amazon sales page
- On your social media pages
- On literary websites

In doing so, you can reach a broader audience and get in front of those who aren't familiar with your work already.





At **Brilliant Books Literary,**

we listen to your stories and we make it possible the world knows about them too.

