



My Writing Life

August 2015

I'm often asked how I write--do the words jump fully formed from my fingers to the keyboard; do I dictate into a microphone; or do I write by hand? The answer appears in the photo above. Like many writers, I have my idiosyncrasies and mine have to do with writing implements and paper. All my books--including the nonfiction I wrote in my earlier existence as a Harvard MBA--were written with fine-point pens on narrow-ruled paper. Before gel pens, I used a fountain pen. Never a ballpoint. Only yesterday, someone asked me how I make corrections. In my Italian fashion, I demonstrated in the air with my hands, explaining, "I cross out, I send arrows flying in from the margins, I draw bubbles around longer phrases with notations and asterisks about where to insert the new material." In other words, my manuscripts are messy, a window into my creative process. But my process works for me, and I love at the end of a day of writing to see all that ink on what had once been blank pages.

I've got a treat for you this issue--some new material from Book Two of my First Light series. I wrote it in early July when I had a few blissful days at the Cape, where my desk was in the open air watching the sun on the water and the wind filling the sails skimming past my "office."

I hope your summer has been filled with sunshine and gentle breezes.

Warmest wishes,

Linda

Journey Back to Chappaquiddick

It's 1955, eight years after *The Boat House Café* ended with Mae sitting on her back porch, surrounded by the love of her family and the peaceful beauty of Innisfree. As children tend to do, Josiah has grown and is now a boy of twelve; Mae is still baking her famous pies and Tobias is still fishing; and Betty is as strong and outspoken as always. But change is coming to Cape Pogue. A newly built cottage by the lighthouse has attracted an energetic family that makes its presence felt one day in early July. And there's a new member of the family. . . (See the insert for a sneak peek).



Goodreads Giveaway!



I am offering ten copies of *The Boat House Café* as a giveaway on Goodreads from August 10 through September 12. Please sign up at this web address and tell your friends!

https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/23333111-the-boat-house-cafe?from_search=true&search_version=service

If you have already posted a review of *The Boat House Café*, thank you! If you haven't, please consider doing so. I came across the following quotation recently, and it resonated with me:

"The most profound, life-altering gift you can offer the Indie writer you love is to TELL as MANY avid readers as you are able." R.S. Guthrie



Introducing Bodacious Books and Baubles and Announcing a New Event for Me

If you live in western New England, I urge you to make a trip to East Longmeadow to visit a new bookstore, **Bodacious Books and Baubles**, that has as its mission the support of independent authors. Its owner, Melissa Prentiss, has designed a light-filled, welcoming space that encourages interaction and discussion.

Bodacious Books will be carrying Bellastoria Press books and I will be appearing as a featured author in August. Please join me at the following event:

Signing
Sunday, August 30
11 AM -- 2 PM
225 Shaker Road
East Longmeadow, MA 01028

Update on *The Poet*

I hope to have good news to report soon on the status of *THE POET*. I must admit, there are times when I feel like Michelangelo trying to please Pope Julius, but I remind myself of the persistence that sustained me during the long journey to the publication of my first book, *DANCING ON SUNDAY AFTERNOONS*. I'll keep you posted!

Enjoy the end of summer!

Sincerely,

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