

I'm here now at the table of Sarah Chatman, who has written a novel called "Between the Lions." Would you like to tell us about it, Sarah? Sure, I would love to.

It's a contemporary romance. I'd say if you're a romance reader, it's about a three on the spice scale. The tropes are second chance childhood friends to lovers.

It's set in Asheville and most importantly for me it has type 1 diabetes representation. I'm a type 1 diabetic and I never see that portrayed accurately in the media so it was really important to me to write it myself and get it out there and help educate people in like a fun way.

Very interesting and I never heard of like a spice scale for romance novels is that a thing? Sure yes it is Like if you read a lot of romance, that's, so a one on the spy scale is like, they just kiss, where a five is like, they almost never have clothes on. So I'm like right in the middle where there is one scene that is not appropriate for children to read, let's say. - Well, thank you for the heads up about that. Now, is this your first novel? - It is, yeah. I've been writing since I was 10 years old, which don't worry about how long ago that was,

but I wrote my first novel on American Girl Stationery when I was 10 years old, and I finally got around to publishing something, so I'm very, very excited, very proud.

And how did you get it published? Did you self-publish or did you find a publisher? I self-published. I tried to go the traditional publishing route, and contemporary romance isn't selling to the big publishers right now so I was like well it's ready to go I don't need to wait I can do it myself.

And so how has that experience been for you? It's actually been really positive I've had a lot of support from other writers I've been able to have complete control over my work like I did the editing I made the cover myself like I'm doing all the marketing and all the money goes to me too so it's It's been great.

People have been really supportive. So authors as business people, that's sort of the vibe I'm getting while I'm going around talking to all these authors here. I would say more of them are self-published than finding traditional publishers.

I have a friend who is traditional published with a contemporary romance and she, after seeing my experience, has decided she's going to self-publish going forward. So a lot of people like it's just it's more control you don't have to worry about the industry and other people wanting to buy it and make money off of it like you get to be the champion of your own work completely.

So how can people find out more about you and buy your book? You can go to saraharchatman .com that is sarah with an H or I'm on Instagram at the saraharchatman. Well thank you Sarah, could I ask you, you know, there's a lot of stuff going on, especially here in South Carolina with banning books and schools and libraries. What do you think about all that?

It breaks my heart. Like if you don't like something and don't want to read it, then don't pick up that book. But you shouldn't be censoring other people's art and telling other people what they can and can't read unless it's your child.

Like, don't worry about it. It's none of your business. It's It's art. It's other people's art. It makes me really sad. Well, thank you very much. I appreciate you're spending a little time here on Listen to Me Heard Radio.

Thank you so much for speaking with me. I really appreciated it. I am at the table of Judy Bush, who is the author of Envy to Death, Venom, Fatal Revenge, and Provoked to Kill. Do you like to tell us a little bit about these titles? - Yes, I would, thank you. Thank you for this opportunity. This first one, Envy to Death, is a murder mystery. It has a psychological thriller portion of it, but it also has a lot of cozy mystery genre in it as well.

But it's about two sisters And they are, one is killed, and so the other sister and her best friend team up together. Two women, it's about friendship and how they have to work together to solve the mystery. But there is, like I said, a psychological thriller part to it. So a lot of twists and turns. And that takes place in South Carolina in a fictitious town called Palm Meadow Hills. The second one, Venom Fatal Revenge, takes place in Marshall, North Carolina on the French Broad River, an actual place where we go whitewater rafting. And in this book, it's my, the main character is a man, a young man who's a raft guide. And so the, he has to come up and solve the murder. But, So, this is one that I enjoy very much, and then the third one, Provoked to Kill, is the third in a series of the Simone Baez murder mysteries. And this one takes place in Greenville and Traveller's Rest and the Swamp Brevet Trail.

And in here, there, and in the series itself, even though it's part of the series, the third in the series, it's a standalone book, and the protagonist adopts a street kid and so even though she's only 30 the street kid is 15 there's a little bit of a lot of challenges between mother and daughter issues so that was kind of fun to write and use my own background with my daughter to kind of fill in some of that and

it was a fun fun thing to read but it is a murder mystery for sure and it has a lot of cozy components. Now did you self-publish these books or did you find publishers for them? No, I self-published.

I'm an indie author and I found my cover artist online with Fiverr .com and that has worked out very well for me. Thank you.

And how can people find out more about you and purchase your books? That they can come here to the bookstore as the page turns and travelers Travelers rest they can find me on Amazon as well And do you have any social media or website page or something that people could follow?

Yes, I do have a website as Judy is WWW dot Judy Bush and that's j u d y B U C H Com - Thank you,

Judy. And I wanted to ask you, what do you think about banning books in schools and libraries? - I think that books should be age -appropriate. I'm not for banning banning, but in schools, I think they should be age -appropriate. Yeah, I don't like to see books banned for the normal public, but definitely it should be age -appropriate. - Thank you very much for your time.

- Thank you, >> Okay. I am inside the bookstore now, which is a little quieter, and I'm at the table of Bob Strother,

who has Strother. Let me start over. I'm at the table now of Bob Strother, who is the author of several books sitting here before me.

Would you like to tell us about them, Bob? >> I have a historical fiction trilogy commonly called the Burning Time Trilogy.

It starts it's a saga of a single family from starts in 1900 up through 1965 and covers the Roaring Twenties, the Depression, World War I, World War II and up to the very beginnings of the Vietnam War. I also have two crime novels.

One is called Sugar's Place. It's set in downtown Detroit, a working -class bar. It's about the two fellows who are Vietnam veterans who run the bar and about the number, different numbers of patrons who come in to frequent the bar and the sequel to that is also about two guys who run the bar but in this case it's a title is called stories not to tell and it's about the abduction of a young girl who is taken to a white supremacist camp in Idaho and how the Guys from the bar and their friends go to rescue her Also have a book of short stories 36 short stories They're very eclectic in nature and cover all sorts of topics And how have you published these books? Are they with traditional publishers or have you self published it?

All of my books have been published through a small to a couple of small presses. One is the Moonshine Review Press. The other is the Main Street Rag Publishing Company. And you've written these historical novels. Can you tell me a little bit about your process of doing research for novels like that? The historical fiction involved several different reference books,

some on the history, the story is set in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and it helps that I was born in Chattanooga and know a little bit about the city and it's a history.

But I also referenced several books about the Chattanooga area that gave me the basis for most of my writing.

The writing itself, although based on fictional characters, was inspired by my paternal and maternal grandparents.

And how can people find out more about you and buy your books? My books are all available here as the page turns in Traverse West South Carolina and a few are available online through Amazon and or moonshine review press.

And do you have any social media or author web page or something like that? I do not I'm on Facebook and I used to have a website but it got to the point where I couldn't maintain it any further so I don't.

I see I can understand that but people can certainly find your books Bob Streuther. The titles, some of the titles are "Burning Time," "A Fire to be Kindled," "Embers on the Wind," "Shug's Place," "Stories Not to Tell," and more.

I want to thank you for your time. You're very welcome. Thank you. Here on this table, would you like to tell us about that, Samantha? I would love to. The first one I wrote was love letters to miscarriage moms and I wrote that after experiencing two miscarriages myself because I felt like a lot of people didn't have that pain validated and they read because a lot of people didn't know what to say to a woman who'd grieved the loss of miscarriage and so Now they're able to buy this book for women and say, here I love you, you are not alone. And it's been a great ministry to people who have not only experienced miscarriage, but also infant loss and stillbirth and infertility and people who've gone through adoption.

All those things are included in the book. And just recently in June, I released, she told them they were loved, which is another book that people are able to gift to someone in grief when you don't know what to say.

You can say, I love you with this book. It's poetry written from a griever about grief. And I love that because it's poetry, the reader doesn't feel like they have to start at the beginning of the book and then read it from cover to cover. You can open it, you can read a poem, you can close it again. There's there are photos in there that are really fun to look at and there's also a humor section in case people are There's also a humor section in case people don't really want to get into their grief or into the Feelings and they just want to something light -hearted then they're able to do that as well. So that sounds very interesting So that's two books that are really kind of almost, I don't want to call them, maybe they would be called inspirational, but their comfort. Yeah, I would say inspirational. I would say I write books about grief support for people on their healing journey.

That sounds like a very good succinct author's description of their book, and you have another one on the table who's That's written by, not by you, I guess. - Well, it's me, I co -authored. - Okay. - I co -authored Adventure Divos and there's a men's, women's and youth version. They're all the same stories inside.

Basically, it starts with a Bible situation, talks about real life application, something crazy that one of us did in the wilderness and then we bring it back to life and how do you apply the principles that you learned and so the difference from one book would be you know have you ever felt peer pressure from a co -worker that would be the women's version but if have you ever felt peer pressure from a friend would be the variation for the youth version because they don't necessarily have co -workers so that's kind of how. So that's very interesting I don't know if I've ever seen that we have three different Versions of a book called adventure Divos one is for women one is for youth, and I guess the other one is for men And how can people find out more about you and purchase your books? My link is fairly easy. It's a link Sorry My link is fairly easy to remember or to type out,

it's link [tr.ee /lovesamevans](http://tr.ee/lovesamevans) and most of my social media is @lovesamevans. Well, I want to thank you very much for spending a few minutes talking with me today. Thank you so much. I appreciate it. I'm here now at the table of Andrea Beam who has a children's book called Tyler Goes to School.

Can you tell us a little bit about it Andrea? Yes, so the book is written for early childhood kindergarten through second grade and Tyler is with me over here.

He has cerebral palsy and I wrote this book back when he started kindergarten as a way to introduce young children to inclusion and the importance of accepting people who are different than we are.

- And is this your first book? - It is my first published book, yes it is. - And so was this more inspired by your experience as a mother than as being like a writer who was looking to write your first book?

- Yeah, so I was a teacher of Tyler's and I used to babysit him and I was terrified of him going to kindergarten and I didn't want people to laugh at him or him to feel different so that is what inspired me to write it.

I'm sorry so he's not your son but you he's someone that you were very fond of. Very fond of yes our families are very very close so. And how did you publish this did you publish it yourself or you found a publisher for it.

I did not. I found a publisher. Austin McCauley publishers are in New York and London and through a Google search I just sent the manuscript off to several different publishers and they picked it up.

Well congratulations on that. So how can people find out more about you and purchase your book? My book is Tidal Ghosts of School. It's available on Amazon, Walmart, Barnes & Noble, and a few local bookstores here. And then I'm the editor of a news website here called Greenville 360, and a lot of my writing is there as well.

Very interesting. I didn't know about that. I'm going to have to look that up. And would Tyler maybe like to say a few words as well? I think he probably would love to.

Let me get over there to Tyler so that we can hear him. Hi Tyler, how does it feel to have a book written about you? It feels pretty good about 'cause before the book came about, I don't think there was a book written about people with disabilities. People used to be scared about people with wheelchairs and stuff.

But now, now that the books are in, it feels pretty good, and we're open again in schools and different things and tell people about inclusion with people with disabilities and wheelchairs and walkers and different things.

Well thank you very much for sharing your thoughts, Tyler, and congratulations on being the subject of a book. You're welcome, thank you. So here I am at the authors and artisans market at As The Page Turns bookstore in Travelers Rest, and I am at the table of Petra Laurent, who is the author of Angel. Did I pronounce your name right, Petra? Yes, you did. Yes, you did. Absolutely. And what kind of book is Angel? So Angel is a young adult contemporary novel and it focuses on a young woman in high school. It is wholesome. It is positive.

It has action and romance and aims to empower young women. And is this your first novel? The first one I've published. I've written four, but this is my first go at having one published, and it's been very exciting. So did you publish it, or have you found a publisher for it? There was a publisher for it. And who is that? Dorrance Publishing Company. They are actually a self-publishing company,

the oldest in America, I believe. But... How do you spell that? D -O -R -R -A -N -C -E. But there's different ways to work with Dorrance.

If they come to you, it's different than if you go to them, but you can do it either way. - And so, did you submit to them? They came to you? How did that whole process work? - Actually, I had not submitted to them.

I had submitted to another publisher and was in talks with them, and Dorrance contacted me. They found the book through the copyright office. I see. Well, that's very interesting. I've never heard a story like that before as far as getting published.

They found it through the copyright office. So I guess there's all kinds of ways to get published. So how has this been, your first book, what has been the experience for you? Incredibly surprising. I have a journalism degree from UNC Chapel Hill and all I remember the professors telling me is it's impossible to get published but keep trying so that it happened that quickly and that it went well this is the first novel I've written and I've written

it as I said it's very wholesome and the publisher I was speaking with before Doran's wanted me to make it more today as with all the a little darker a little maybe not quite so wholesome And I kind of didn't, I just didn't want to do that. I felt like if my granddaughter just reads it one day and feels strong and happy, then I've done my job. So anyway, it's been very exciting. It's done very well and people want to feel good. - Well, congratulations for that. If people want to find out more about your book about you, how can they do that? - So Angel is available at Barnes & Noble in -store and on barnesandnoble.com, Amazon, Target, Kindle. Can people ask for it at their local bookstore? Yes. Amy at As The Page Turns carries it. M. Judson in Downtown Greenville carries it, and then Barnes & Noble.

Let me ask you one more question, Petra. Banning books has become sort of a hot topic in the schools and libraries, and especially here in our Greenville library system, they're not putting out displays anymore to avoid controversy. How do you feel about this whole thing of banning books in schools and libraries? I think it, I'm not for it. If I had to say in a nutshell, I think that in banning books you're going to ban some of the most wonderful books. But I do see the need too to keep kids safe.

So I leave that to others to hopefully make the right decisions. Well thank you very much for your time today. I appreciate it. Well thank you so much. It's been delightful talking to you. I'm standing now at the table of Ruth Buchanan and London Clark and they are authors of, well why don't you tell me,

I'll start with Ruth Buchanan, tell me about these books on the table. Yeah, absolutely. So I write books for people who like to laugh and learn together. So the books I have with me today, we've got Murder on Bertrandville Hill,

which was my attempt to write a romantic comedy, but someone died. So it's a heartwarming tale of Holiday Mayhem. So if you're in the mood for Hallmark, but with a little more stabbing in it,

that's murder on Bertrandville Hill. So I've also written a book called "Socially Awkward," which when my mom heard the title, she said, "You're Too Young to Write a Memoir," which I would even argue with because I'm 46.

I don't think that's too young to write a memoir, but this is actually not my memoir. This is a book about how to have hard, awkward conversations about topics that matter. - Like, Can you tell me a couple topics that matter?

Absolutely, I'm going to pull up the table of contents for you because it's incredibly difficult to talk about your own book. So, the book starts by talking about why it's important to talk about hard and awkward things,

but then we go into some of those actual things people are afraid to talk about. Racism, sex and sexual abuse, weight, and body image, mental health, and things like that. And so why should we talk about those things? Yes, because all of us deal with something big and difficult in our lives, but often those around us don't know how best to approach that without further harming one another, and so we respond to that by pulling back and saying, "Can't say anything wrong if I don't say anything at all." But in the end, if we always do that we don't talk about the deep things

that are really mattering to one another and that harms us and keeps us alienated and distant from each other.

Well I think that that is absolutely true and the cover kind of really expresses that for me with this of this sort of balloon face that's clenching its teeth somehow and then you have the cross in the culture can you give us a quick summary of what that is?

- Absolutely. So I was raised in a pretty conservative Christian home and I still practice Christianity and have faith as part of my life. But the faith expression I was raised in kind of separated us from the culture.

We didn't watch TV or movies. We didn't listen to the radio. My parents wanted to protect us and that was the way that they went about that. But What I've realized as I've matured in my faith is the stories we tell one another and the stories that connect us connect back to the story of the creator who made us.

And so even like my seat partner who you'll meet in a moment, she writes stories about haunting and fear and maybe my neighbor's a murderer. Like those are real things that happen in the world.

And those get at something real about the human condition. And so this book, *The Cross and the Culture*, the subtitle is *Connecting Our Stories to the Greatest Story Ever Told*. No matter the genre we're reading or what we're experiencing in life, it connects back somehow to our relationship to a creator who made us. - That's very interesting, thank you. And if people want to find out more about you, purchase your books, how can they do that? - Yes, absolutely. So my name is Ruth Buchanan and my website is ruthviewcannonauthor.com and you can also find me on social media

@ruthmviewcannon,

spelled traditionally like the 15th president. Thank you very much Ruth and I'm going to move over to the other side of your table now here to speak to London Clark. Hello.

Hi London and I see you have several novels out here on the table, *The Neighbor*, *The Meadows*, *Dunmore*, *Nocturne House*, *Until Death* and *Wickering Place*.

Oh and let me not leave out the *Night Singers*. Do all of these books have something in common? Well they are all supernatural thrillers, paranormal suspense, you know gothic suspense, that kind of thing. They're all basically you know haunted house, ghost thriller, vampires, thriller, vampires, they all have some sort of paranormal aspect to them.

I have two series, so I have *The Meadows*, *Wickering Place*, and *Nocturne House*, they're a trilogy, and they're all in different places. They take place in Virginia, in Asheville, North Carolina, and in New Orleans, but they all have a connection of characters, so all the characters are interconnected but they can all be read as stand - alones.

I see that sounds very interesting now how long has it taken you to write in total all of these two series? I started writing in 2018 and I just finished or just put out my ninth book the *Night Singers* in May.

And are these self -published or do you have a publisher for these. They are self -published so I did traditional publishing for a while and just decided to go it alone. And why did you decide to do that?

Well to be honest I wasn't seeing the kind of sales I wanted to see. I wasn't seeing the kind of marketing I wanted to see so I felt like honestly I can do this on my own.

So I just started I just threw the first book out there to see if there was any interest in this kind of book. And apparently there is. So I just continued to write the next one and the next one and the next one.

And I've just kind of learned to market my own stuff. It's not comfortable for me. I'm not a natural marketer. But I've just had to learn to do it. And so you prefer that, I guess, to trying to submit to agents and publishers and getting rejections and that whole route. - Time-wise, I mean, I feel like once I finished a book, I want to get it out there.

And I mean, if you are okay with going that route, that is, I mean, I'm absolutely fine with it. I'm not gonna say that I'll never do it again. I might do it again with a different genre under a different name.

But for me, when I finished a book I just want to get it out and I'm not really yeah I'm not patient okay well thank you you know I'm a little impatient myself so I understand that how can people learn more about you and purchase your books well I have a website it's London Clark with an e .com and all my books are there I'm also on Instagram and Facebook and Twitter now X I guess So are you available online

like Amazon in places like that? Yes. All my books are on Amazon. Thank you very much for spending a little time with me today. I'm standing now at the table of Brian Murato, the author of The Deception, The Creature Within, book two, book one is The Awakening the creature. Oh, okay. Let me start over that Okay,

I'm standing at the table of Brian Murato now who has written a trilogy the awakening the deception and the imprisoned Can you tell me a little bit about this trilogy Brian?

Sure, yes. It's a modern -day fantasy where the characters can have a mythical creature residing within them from any culture from around the world, and once that happens, they can harness the creature's powers. But as they do, they start to take on the characteristics of the creature, their parents and personality, and if they push it too far, they become the creature itself. And so the book focuses on not just the creatures in the mission, but also the interactions between the characters as well as their own internal dilemmas because now they have this new presence inside them.

And how long ago did you get this idea like that? What's the time span that it took to write this trilogy? The ideas have been in my head for a long time, but to actually write the entire trilogy was three years,

about one year book. - Okay, and are they self -published or did you find a publisher for these? - I went ahead and self -published. - And so they're available on Amazon, I'm guessing, and where else? - They're available on Amazon, free with a Kindle Limited, and you also find them online on Barnes & Noble. - And available here at As The Page Turns bookstore in Traveler's Rest.

Have you made the rounds to any of the other local bookstores? Yes, not only are they in As The Page Turns, they're also available at Poor Richards and Easley and Fiction Addiction in Greenville.

Which is all in South Carolina. And you know I wanted to ask, I should have been asking some of the other writers, I'm looking at your t -shirt which says let's eat kids, let's eat kids. that how you feel about that?

I feel like it should be, I mean I know the schools are trying to do their best, but at the end of the day I feel like you know the parents at the end they should decide what their kids should be reading or not reading,

so the book should be available for everybody and let the household decide what they read and not read. Well thank you very much for your time. Thank you, I appreciate it. Here I am at as the page turns bookstore in Traveller's Rest,

South Carolina where we're having a local authors and artisans market today and I am at the table of Jason E. Fort Who is the author of many books sitting on this table?

How are you doing today Jason? I'm great. How are you doing? I'm - Good, thank you. Can you tell our listeners a little bit about all these books that are on this table? - Yes,

ma'am. So I started out writing what I call Christian thrillers. A lot of times the focus is on our, goes around a story about assassins and how people stop them.

And then of course that somehow led to me writing biblical and historical fiction. And but I also write family memoirs and so family history is very important to my family and since I'm the only writer in the family that job kind of falls on me but so I write a lot of different stuff oh and I also have small -town suspense stories as well.

Okay and you were telling me that you also I think you were telling me that you work full - time and you have a lot of other things that you do so why and how did you get into writing books?

So I've always had a lot to say and I like to tell stories and I always wanted to write a book probably ever since I saw the movie Lord of the Rings. I didn't like reading or writing growing up so my dad always found irony in the fact that I started self -publishing books but that's very interesting so tell me since you didn't like it so much.

How did you learn the craft? A lot of experimenting. I actually started writing poetry and that kind of came naturally to me. I was actually told by a college professor that my poetry was pretty good and I was inspired to write more poetry when my son was born.

That led into short story writing and you know other ventures. Okay well I'd like to read some of the titles on this table. There's misguided, mistaken, mislead, of course. Well, that's a little like being mislead, I guess, though, right? And some wars never end while our brothers were away. That was not even half of the titles sitting on this table.

If people want to find out more about you and your books, how can they do that? The easiest way is to just go to [www .jason -e -fort .com](http://www.jason-e-fort.com).

Well thank you very much for talking with me today, Jason. Yes ma'am, you have a great day. You too, thank you. And now I am walking over to speak with Kelsey Annen.

Is that correct? Kelsey Annen, yes, you're correct. And you have written a novel called Delusions. Can you tell us a little bit about it? So I wrote this novel "Daisies of Delusions" when I...

Oh I'm sorry I got the title wrong. "Daisies of Delusions." So "Daisies of Delusions" is a book about a girl named Dimmy that is in a small town of Lafayette, Indiana and she is coming back from college and has had a traumatic past. It's kind of a thriller and her dad's coming out of prison soon and so she's gonna have to deal with that conflict and yeah you have to read the rest.

And is this your first novel? Yes it is my first novel. And so why did you decide to write this novel and how difficult like did you study writing or is this something new for you?

So I used to be a teacher so it kind of came from when I was teaching a poetry unit in second grade it just kind of like sparked something in me and I just wanted to keep writing and this is what came out of it.

So I started out with poetry and then ended up with this idea for the novel and that's where it came from. And did you look for a publisher or is this self-published?

I self-published through Amazon. And how have you found that to be? Has it been a good experience for you? Do you think you want to self-publish another book or would you like to find a traditional publisher next time yeah I found self-publishing very fairly easy I mean it was difficult to figure out the programs and stuff just because I was doing it somewhat alone but I found some authors that kind of helped walk me through it and that is I'll probably self-publish again if I write another novel I'm actually working on a sequel so that'll probably be through Amazon as well.

So daisies of delusions by Kelsey Annen and people can find that on Amazon. Can they find out more about you anywhere else than Amazon?

Yeah so I have an Instagram my handle is whimsicalwisdoms_bykels and you can find me on Instagram. Well thank you for spending a little time talking about your book today.

Thank you. Have a great day. Podcast or what? Both. It's a podcast that's also broadcast on radio. That's great. So hello and welcome.

My name is Martha Senator and I'm speaking with Carla J. Field, author of When He Was Gone, which is a novel. And We're here at the Authors and Artisans Market at As The Page Turns Bookstore in Travellers Rest.

Welcome, Carla. - Well, thank you. It's good to talk with you. - We were talking a little earlier and it sounded fascinating to me, the subject of your novel. Could you tell our listeners a little bit about it?

- Yes, I'd be happy to. It's a story of a woman's life who ended up in Greenville, but the first half of the book is actually set in Asheville. She moved to Asheville from Switzerland with eight children,

had three more children, and then she and her eleven children and their and her husband moved to Greenville. And what was her name? Her name is Elizabeth Garot and the way that the story began is kind of interesting because we live in a neighborhood where there are two streets around the corner from our house named Elizabeth Street and Garot Street, and I got curious about why those streets had that name, and that's how I discovered this remarkable woman's story, and her story is really incredible. So you're living where she used to live?

Yes, we actually live on land that was once her property. And what's so fascinating about her beyond just that she used to be where you are now? Well, the family relocated, they were immigrants right after the Civil War, came here during a time of kind of a bit of an upheaval in the United States. It was during Reconstruction.

She came here during a time when women didn't own property, didn't really have very many rights, was sort of subservient to her husband's wishes and whatever, and yet not too long after she was in this country she ended up on her own with her 11 children and made it a remarkable success story out of her life.

She accomplished things that women just didn't do at that particular point in time, so I got riveted by her story and all of what she did. - This sounds really inspiring, but now this is a novel,

though, and not a biography, right? - It is very much a novel. I had the freedom of fictionalizing it, 'cause I couldn't know about their conversations or their in -depth personal life,

But the whole book is built around actual events in their life, things that really happened. And history is so readily available now through Ancestry .com and Newspapers .com. And just general research, you can find out so many facts that it was easy to write a fictionalized version of a very real story. That sounds fascinating. When He Was Gone is the name of the novel by Carla Field.

and how can people find out more and get your book? - Well, I'm hoping to get it into more local bookstores. It'll be here as the page turns soon,

hopefully in Judson, downtown in Greenville, and looking at some other local contexts, but it's also available through Amazon. You can order both a hard copy or a paperback. - Okay, so we like to say Amazon is sort of like the Of course, if you can't find it anywhere else, because we do like to support local bookstores, don't we?

Absolutely. That is why I'm here today. Thank you for taking the time to speak with me. And over here we have Bonnie Burgess Neely.

Did I say Burgess right? And the name of your book is Real Ventures. Did we really do that? Can you tell me a little bit about what that's about?

Yes my husband was a rancher and had to have we lived in Texas and he had to take a trip to Mexico and Central America to advertise his cattle sale and he was going by himself flying and I had we had a three months old baby and a six -year -old and an eight -year -old and he came in one day and said we're all going I said we can't afford it And the RV is how we were going to go to Mexico in June and 110

degrees. And I fought it, we went, we loved it. We had traveled for 47 years during school holidays ever since then. He was a professor in college after he sold the ranch.

So it was very interesting tales. We went totally unplanned in a tiny motorhome that grew to bigger motorhomes through the years and traveled in nine countries ultimately.

He drove the equivalent to the moon and back three times and our adventures are all true in this book. Each chapter is a separate short story and it is hilarious.

Everybody tells me that it's laugh out loud hilarious and we've got five stars all over the internet and it's in most of the Greenville local bookstores too. Well that's fascinating and you answered most of my questions already.

So it's available on Amazon, it's available in local bookstores and I guess you would call it a memoir. It is yes but it is our adventures were so unusual that it's not a typical boring memoir and it's suitable for any age and it's a perfect gift for any age because you don't have to be an RVer you can just enjoy reading and laughing just sit in your armchair and have adventures.

Thank you for taking the time to talk with me Bonnie and the name of your book again is Real Ventures. Did we really do that? Thank you so much.

Thank you.