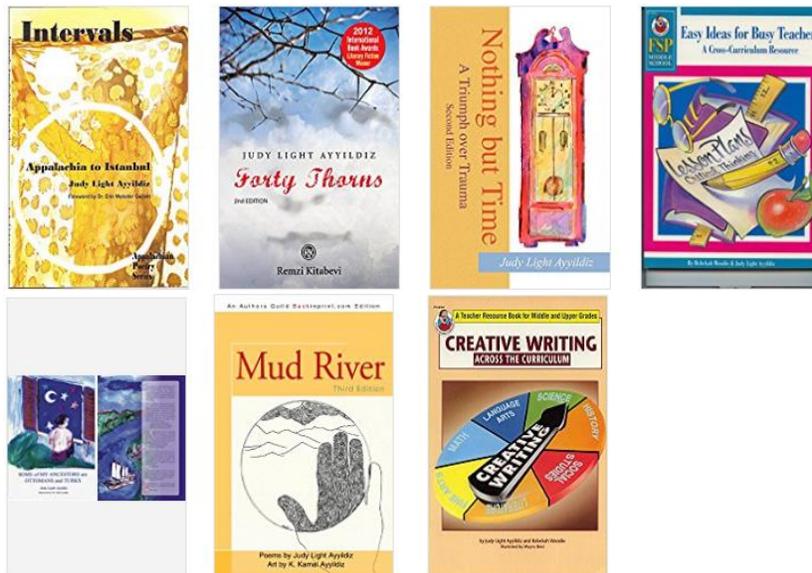




JUDY AYYILDIZ

Roanoke, VA (Valley Writers Chapter VWC)

Graduate Hollins Writing Program. Creative writing instructor to all education levels, international conferences on poetry, writing, and women’s studies and has through the VCA extensive Teaching Artist in the schools. Internationally published and translated. Editor of Artemis for 13 years. A Blue Ridge Writers Conference founder, Medical Auxiliary President, founder/director of RAMA Chorus, much experience on stage. Author of 11 books in 5 genres, including *Mud River*, *Nothing but Time*, *Forty Thorns*, and *Intervals- Appalachia to Istanbul*. Literary publications appeared in *New York Quarterly*, *Mickle Street Review*, the *new renaissance*, *Sow’s Ear*, *Pig Iron Press*, *Hawaii Pacific Review*, *Black Water Review*, *Northeast Journal*, *Kalliope*, *The McGuffin*, and *Nazim Hikmet Festival Chapbook*; featured in *Women in Dialogue* and in *Outstanding Persons Who Have Come and Gone in Kirklareli, Turkey*. Anthologies: translated into Italian in *International Women Writing Today*, a memoir in *Biting the Bullet*, and *Auschwitz Poems-Auschwitz Birkenau Museum*. Honors include YWCA “Women of Achievement in Education”, VCA grants, poetry-short story prizes, Daughters of Ataturk award, Turkish Forum award, College Bookstores Best Book nominee, Gusto Poet Discovery Winner, VCCA Fellow, and JPX International Literary Novel 1st Place. Currently completing creative non-fiction, *The West Virginia Diet*.



Judy's Books: <https://www.amazon.com/Judy-Light-Ayyildiz/e/B006SMLAPI>

Web Site: <http://www.judylightayyildiz.com>



PHYLLIS “Maggie” DUNCAN

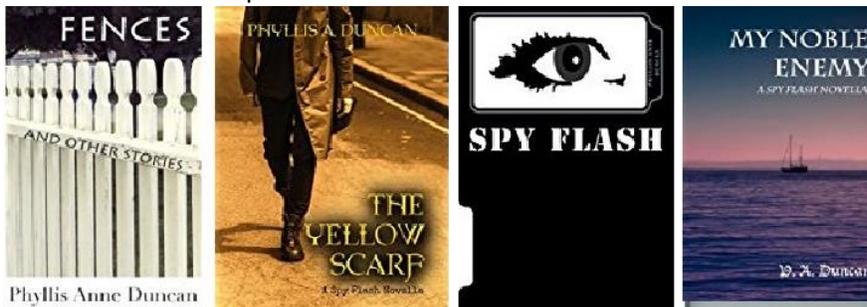
PRESIDENT – Virginia Writers Club, Inc.
Staunton, VA (Blue Ridge Writers Chapter VWC)

Phyllis Anne Duncan is a retired bureaucrat with an overactive imagination—at least that’s what everyone has told her since she first started making up stories in elementary school prompted by her weekly list of spelling words. A commercial pilot and former FAA safety official, she lives and writes in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia. A graduate of Madison College (now James Madison University), she has degrees in history and political science. Her love of politics continues to this day.

Her first print collection of short stories was the 2000 paperback, *Rarely Well Behaved*, which, in 2012, became two separate, reissued books, *Blood Vengeance* and *Fences*. In December 2012, she published *Spy Flash*, a collection of espionage flash fiction stories. Other short stories have appeared in *eFiction Magazine* in 2011 and 2012; in the 2013 *Blue Ridge Anthology*; and in the 2013 *1 x 50 x 100 Anthology*, a collection of 100-word flash fiction; in the 2014 *Skyline Anthology*. A short story, “Marakata,” submitted for *WriterHouse’s* 5th Anniversary Short Story Contest, won third place. Her short story “Man on Fire” was a finalist in the *Press53 AWP Flash Fiction* contest and later published in *Prime Number Magazine*. A short play, “Yo’ Momma,” won the *Ampersand Arts Bar Hopping Contest* and was staged in April 2014 in Staunton, VA.

Ms. Duncan has studied writing at the *Gotham Writers Workshop*, *Writers.com*, and *Tinker Mountain Writers Workshop*. *End Times*, book one of a four-book series on domestic terrorism, was a semi-finalist in the 2011 *James River Writers Best Unpublished Novel* contest. Her freelance, feature articles on life in the Shenandoah Valley appeared occasionally in the *Staunton News-Leader*. She is a member of *WriterHouse*, *James River Writers*, *Virginia Writers Club*, *Blue Ridge Writers*, *Shenandoah Valley Writers*, *SWAG (Staunton, Waynesboro, Augusta Group) Writers*, and the *Association of Writers and Writing Programs*.

When not writing, reading, or reviewing books, she takes delight in spoiling her grandchildren and dabbles in local politics.



<https://unexpectedpaths.com/about-the-author/bio/>

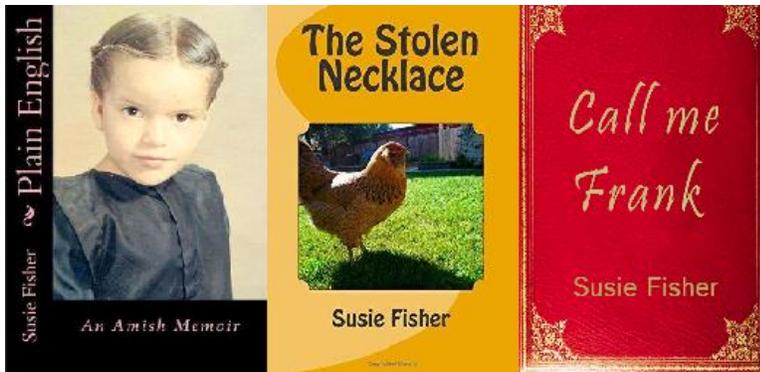


SUSIE FISHER

Lake Ridge, VA (Northern VA Writers Chapter VWC)

Susie Fisher grew up in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Raised by Amish parents, her upbringing provided her with a unique perspective. She left the sect at age twenty because conformist thinking is not her style; however, she is grateful for the opportunity she had to experience the beauty of true community in action. She also values the commonsense approach to life the Amish taught her. She encountered a different kind of conformity while working for various corporations in the Washington, DC area. She is passionate in her quest for personal freedom and details that journey in her memoir, "Plain English."

Susie lives in Northern Virginia and is working on a follow-up book to her memoir. "Call Me Frank" will be available in the spring of 2016.



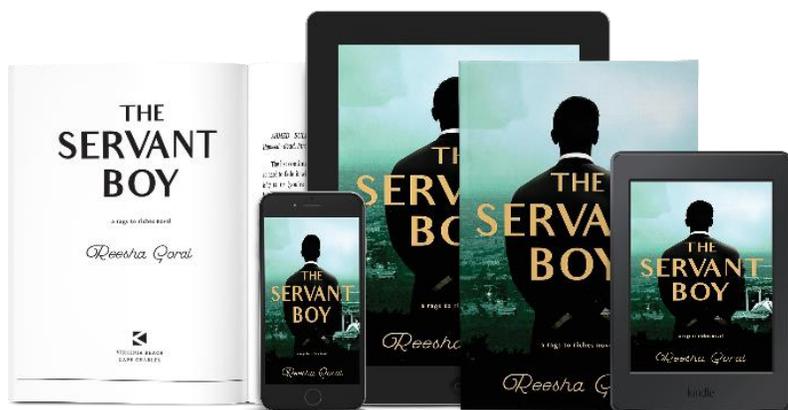
<http://susieefisher.com/>



REESHA GORAL

Herndon, VA

Reesha Goral was born in the chilly winter of the late 80's. She was raised in Northern California, and that is also where she graduated from University, attaining her bachelors of science in business administration. After graduating and working for some time, she decided to further her education and attain a J.D. degree. One night, while prepping for her law school examination, she began writing pieces of a story from her imagination. Those pieces later became her novel, *The Servant Boy*. She completed the story in two and a half years. Shortly after its completion, she was wedded. The year succeeding she gave birth to her first born; and the year following that one, her novel, made its debut in Istanbul, Turkey, where it was translated and published under the title *Uşak*. In inspiration of writing *The Servant Boy*, she was deeply impacted by her many visits to Pakistan. She frequented Pakistan so much, at a point it almost became like her second home. She was deeply impacted by her social engagements during those travels. On an account of engaging with an unsheltered woman, she spoke, "People are dying of hunger every year. They are people with bare necessities who have to instead improvise, with barely any. And that only makes them living, lifeless people." Her various other personal experiences, research, and imagination assembled the rest of the novel. She now resides in the East Coast with her husband and their son.



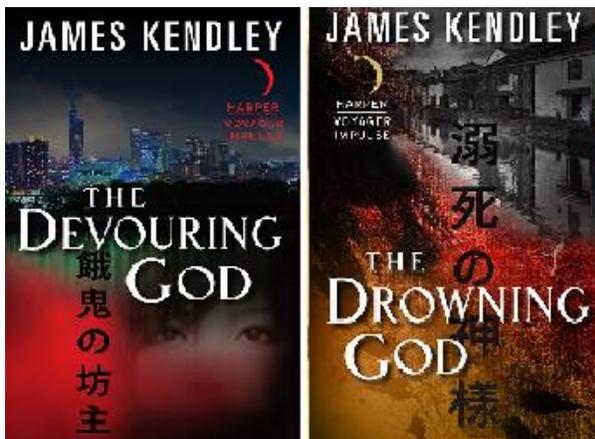
<http://reeshagoral.com/>



JAMES KENDLEY

Fairfax, VA (Northern VA Writers Chapter VWC)

James Kendley has written and edited professionally for more than 30 years, first as a newspaper reporter and editor, then as a copy editor and translator in Japan (where he taught for eight years at private colleges and universities), and currently as a content wrangler living in northern Virginia. He is the author of *THE DROWNING GOD* and *THE DEVOURING GOD*, paranormal thrillers from HarperCollins.



Books links:

<https://www.harpercollins.com/9780062360656/the-drowning-god>

<https://www.harpercollins.com/9780062360670/the-devouring-god>

<http://kendley.com>



MICHELLE MCBETH

Alexandria, VA (Northern VA Writers Chapter VWC)

Science fiction and short story writer. My first series of books is well underway with two books published ("The Sphere", "The Children of Doctor Lancing") and 3 more in the works.



<http://michellemcbeth.com/Welcome.html>



HELEN PARK

Manassas, VA

Helen's work includes creative nonfiction, flash fiction and poetry, which examine and wrestle with her memories and experiences as woman, child of immigrants, and other roles. Helen's work appears or is forthcoming in BlazeVOX, Sleet Magazine, Inertia Magazine, Cleaver Magazine, Cactus Heart Press, Hamilton Stone Review, Eclectica Magazine, Visitant Lit, the Asian American Female Anthology, Yellow as Turmeric; Fragrant as Cloves (Deep Bowl Press, 2008) and others. She and her husband John manage the Bull Run Nook Writers Retreat in Northern Virginia. Park

<https://helenparkprose.wordpress.com/> (author site)

<http://bullrunnook.weebly.com/> (writers retreat site)



AUTHOR

SUSAN SCHWARTZ

RN, MSN, MSHA





INTERESTING FACTS

-  Operating Room Nurse/Nurse Educator since 2000
-  Member of Horror Writers Association
-  Richmond Chapter Co-President - Virginia Writers Club
-  Genres: Horror, Paranormal, & Medical

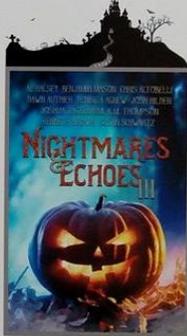
HOBBIES

-  Reading
-  Writing 
-  Traveling 
-  Crocheting 
-  Star Trek Nerd



PUBLISHED WORKS:







HAUNTED
CHARLOTTESVILLE
AND SURROUNDING
COUNTIES

www.susanschwarzauthor.com

SUSAN SCHWARTZ

Goochland, VA (Richmond Writers Chapter VWC – Facilitator)

Susan Schwartz RN, MSN, MSHA has been an avid writer for around 10 years doing everything from writing freelance articles to editing manuscripts for other authors. She loves to write horror stories that have a twist at the end.

Her alter ego is an Operating Room Nurse/Nurse Educator who loves creating tales from the interesting and weird things she has seen. She is a member of the Horror Writers Association and the Virginia Writers Club where she is serving as President of the Richmond Chapter. She also has two novels in the works, a paranormal romance and a medical thriller. In her spare time, she loves to read, crochet, and travel to such places as Italy, Spain, Australia, and Korea.

www.susanschwarzauthor.com



LESLIE TRUEX

VICE-PRESIDENT, Virginia Writers Club, Inc.

Palmyra, VA (Blue Ridge Writers Chapter VWC – Facilitator/Programs)

Leslie Truex is an ideaphoric writer, author, speaker, entrepreneur and mom trying to do it all from the comfort of home. She is the author of Digital Writer Success: How to Make a Living Blogging, Freelance Writing, and Publishing Online, The Work-At-Home Success Bible and Jobs Online. By day she's a freelance writer and blogger. By night she's a novelist writing under the pen name Jenna Harte. She's the author of the sexy cozy

Valentine series, the first book of which reached the quarter-finals in Amazon's Breakthrough Novel Award in 2013.

Leslie teaches classes in writing, blogging, publishing, and platform building through PVCC's Workforce services. She's spoken about social media, book marketing, and romance writing at the VWC Navigating Your Writing Life Symposium.

Leslie Truex Books:



a.k.a. Jenna Harte Books:



<http://www.workathomesuccess.com/about/>

<http://jennaharte.com/>



LINDA LAYNE

TREASURER – Virginia Writers Club, Inc.

PUBLISHER – Cedar Creek Publishing

Somerset, VA (Blue Ridge Writers Chapter VWC –

Admin/Facilitator)

In 1986, Linda launched her home-based business to provide administrative, advertising, and publishing services to businesses, nonprofits, and writers. During this period, before the Internet became a big thing, she also traveled Virginia with her photographer husband, Adam Quillon, and wrote feature articles for a magazine she published—Virginia Farm Living. In 1996, a new age was dawning. The expansion of home computers, software, and Internet technology was altering the work environment, figuratively and literally. More writers were entering the publishing arena. In 2006, Linda cut back on the service bureau end of things to have more time for publishing consults and to startup a traditional small press—Cedar Creek Publishing, a Virginia publisher of Virginia book by Virginia authors.

During her early years of business, she was a board member and officer in the Fluvanna Chamber of Commerce, organized the Fluvanna County Fair, and co-chaired the Old Farm Day committee for the Fluvanna Historical Society. Since 1994, she's been an active member and volunteer for the Virginia Writers Club (founded in 1918). She served as their Executive Director for 12 years and now serves as Treasurer, assisting with regional chapter support and teen writer outreach. In 2012, the VWC presented Linda their inaugural James Branch Cabell Award (named after the Club's founder), recognizing her years of service to Virginia's writing community and the Club.

When she's not wearing her publisher or author coach hat, Linda can be found serving as a senior patient advocate, freelance researcher, homeschooler, fish farmer, or community activist. Her hobbies include journaling, scrapbooking, mixed media art, gardening, cooking, and reading works that enrich the soul. #WorkAtHomeMom #Grandmother



Cedar Creek Publishing

<http://www.cedarcreekauthors.com/>