

JULY 2023 | ISSUE 32

Joyce's Journal

A monthly dispatch from Joyce A. Miller, Writer



THE POWER OF STORYTELLING

In 2006 New York Times journalist Rob Walker asked 200 authors to join him in an experiment to write stories for low value thrift store items that he was then going to sell on Ebay. The average cost of each item was \$1.25. A plastic banana, a jar of marbles, a bust of JFK, a used motel key. The result? The items with stories sold for an average of 6,300 percent higher than the items without stories. He bought the items for \$197 dollars and sold them for almost \$8000. All thanks to the stories that turned these otherwise mundane objects into things of value. **Significant Objects** is Walker's book with photos of the objects and accompanying stories, available on Amazon. Who would have believed that random junk could inspire so much imagination? If you have the ability to craft compelling stories, you have a great superpower!

On Saturday July 8th from 1 till 4, I'll be at the Author Expo at the Lancaster Community Library in Kilmarnock, VA on the Northern Neck. It's co-sponsored by the Lancaster Community Library and the Lancaster Virginia Historical Society. You can meet regional authors and there will be a keynote address by Christina Dalcher. She writes science fiction, thriller, and dystopian novels--her debut book was **Vox**. Come for the Author Expo and stay to explore the little town of Kilmarnock! Good Luck Cellars Winery, Kilmarnock Brewhouse and RAL Art Center are a couple of traveler favorites.

<http://www.lancasterlibrary.org/events-and-activities1/authors-expo-2023>

A GLIMPSE OF
WHAT'S INCLUDED:

**June bullet journal
recap**



I had a wonderful birthday in June when I turned 64. When I say that, do you begin to hum the Beatles song in your head? There were a lot of firsts for me at 64. I visited the White House. I ate a Baked Alaska at Dauphine's restaurant in Washington DC. I saw Andrew McCutcheon get his 2000th hit at the Pirates-Mets game at PNC Park in Pittsburgh. Which one of your firsts would you like to relive?

My pen pal in Australia sent me a couple of June Recap sheets from her bullet journal. As a bonus for July's newsletter, I filled one out as a recap of my birthday month and I'm sharing it with you. Do you do any bullet journaling? If so, please share in an email to me!

I live in the Church Hill section of Richmond, VA with my husband and my retired racing greyhound. Before I started writing, I worked for 30 years at a nuclear physics research laboratory.

Do what you came here for!



JOYCE A. MILLER, WRITER

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JUNE

- 1 JADE'S BIRTHDAY!
- 2 LUNCH W/NADEYA
- 3 BIRTHDAY DINNER W/JADE
- 4 TALK TO SUSAN
- 5 COLOR MY HAIR RED!
- 6 MY BIRTHDAY (LA)
- 7 WHITE HOUSE
- 8 TRAIN FROM DC
- 9 PICK UP DOGS AT FARM
- 10 DRIVE TO PGH
- 11 PIRATES GAME!
- 12 DRIVE HOME FROM PGH
- 13 LAST TAP CLASS
AL GETS HOLE-IN-ONE
- 14 DINNER @ GRISETTE
- 15 CREATIVE CHICKS
CHECK-IN
- 16 READING WEST WITH GIRAFFES
- 17 YOGA @ WINERY

18 STEAM HEAT!

19 LUNCH W/DEBBIE

20 VOTE!

21 FIRST DAY OF SUMMER!

22 DARIUS RUCKER!

23 BELMONT

SWOLLEN
24 ANKLES

- 25 CHURCH HILL
BOOK CLUB
- 26 WALK WITH RAIN & CECIL
MAILED
- 27 SKETCH LETTER
BETA READER
- 28 ERIN
BETA READER
- 29 KELLY
BIRTHDAY
- 30 IS OVER?

