

Joyce's Journal

A monthly dispatch from Joyce A. Miller, Writer



DISAPPOINTED FOR MY BIRTHDAY!

A GLIMPSE OF
WHAT'S INCLUDED:

Short Story--Laurie

June is my birthday month, and I had high hopes to have my book launch on my “schnapszahl” 66th birthday, June 6. But that’s not to be! According to my project manager at Brandylane, the final stages of production will involve multiple rounds of spot-checks, revisions, approvals, file confirmations, metadata setup, and coordination with the printer—including shipping. This full process will take us long into the summer, possibly into the fall. Brandylane has fallen short of my expectations. I’m trying to make peace with it, but it is difficult for me!

On the bright side, I did get two endorsement blurbs to post on the book’s cover. One is from Gigi Howard, host of **Drinks in the Library** podcast and the other is from Joanna Lee, Poet Laureate of Richmond, Virginia and author of **Dissections**. They both got to read an advanced copy. I am deeply grateful for their endorsements. Their support is invaluable.

Also in May, James River Writers offered author headshots by Jamie Wulfekuhle-Zaweski. One session was canceled due to rain, but we met on Friday, May 16th before more raindrops fell in Forest Hills Park and managed to get a few good shots.

<https://www.radiantsnapshots.com/>

The endorsements and the photo session reminded me that behind every book is an entire community--editors, beta readers,

family, friends, fellow writers and even photographers who help bring our books to life.

What I'm reading right now is **Take My Hand** by Dolen Perkins-Valdez. It is historical fiction based on the true story of a black nurse in post-segregation Alabama who blows the whistle when she discovers that her young black patients are subjected to sterilization procedures without the consent of their parents. It is a very well-written story about a piece of history I knew nothing about.

As the bonus for June's newsletter, I'm attaching a link to a transcript of an interview done by Greta Johnsen who interviewed Stephen King about his love for corgis. Johnsen was the host of the former podcast **Nerdette** in Chicago. The transcript includes a free Stephen King short story titled **Laurie** about a mixed breed dog in Florida. You can download it for yourself or others, but you may not charge money to share it. Let me know what you think of it!

https://www.welshcorgi-news.ch/Leseecke/Tales6/Stephen_King_eng.html

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!



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