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Joyce's Journal

A monthly dispatch from Joyce A. Miller, Writer



FIREWORKS!

When you think of the Fourth of July, what is the first thing that comes to your mind? Fireworks! Fireworks were used to celebrate the first anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence in 1777. And Americans have been shooting red, white and blue explosions into the night sky ever since.

Joe Harris enjoyed the fireworks in 1914 when he was in New York City trying out for the New York Yankee.

"That evening Joe watched the fireworks on Williamsburg Bridge. The fireworks illuminated the bridge into a waterfall of red, orange, blue and green with the city skyline behind it. The 40-story Municipal Building with its grand cupola in black relief towered over the buildings. Joe oohed and ahed along with the rest of the crowd at each burst and crackle of color in the black sky."

I was never that crazy about fireworks on the Fourth of July because my greyhound, PG, was terrified of them. She would pant, drool and pace into the wee hours of the morning. I tried drugs, a thundershirt, soothing essential oils--nothing worked to alleviate her anxiety. The best holidays for us were those where it rained and the fireworks were cancelled.

A GLIMPSE OF
WHAT'S INCLUDED:

**"All About Me"
fingerprint!**

Joe's friend, Steve O'Neill, had a July birthday, July 6, 1891. He was one of the greatest catchers in baseball history and had four brothers who also played in the Major Leagues. He was a man who never made an enemy. While researching **Joe Harris, the Moon**, I gained much respect for him.

I continue to work on my greyhound memoir. I'm on the second draft now. This is no set story structure in a memoir so I'm struggling a bit with that. Including real people in my life and showing them in a positive light is another fight.

As a bonus for July's newsletter, I'm enclosing an "all about me" fingerprint. If you've ever done something like this, I'd love to see it. Send me a copy!

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.

Show up and shine!



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