
NOVEMBER 2022 | ISSUE 24

Joyce's Journal

A monthly dispatch from Joyce A. Miller, Writer



DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS!

On Saturday, November 5th I'll be in the lobby of the Main Branch of the Richmond Public Library from 10am till 1pm selling and signing copies of **Look! You're Dancing**. Please come out and see me! **Look! You're Dancing** would make a great holiday gift for the animal lover on your list!

I have some exciting news about the 20th Annual James River Writers Conference. I pitched my WIP novel to Susan Velasquez Colmant at the JABberwocky Agency in New York City and she is interested in it! She wants me to send her the first 30 pages as soon as I finish it! Now I must put my butt in my writing seat and write!

Human-Animal Relationship Awareness Week will be observed from November 13 to 19. It was created to help us realize the importance of the connection we share with our pets and to promote a safer and more compassionate attitude towards their well-being. Negative interactions can jeopardize the formation of positive human-animal relationships, even if the number of positive interactions far exceeds the negative ones. During this week, try to do something special for your animals! For most of us, our pets are like family members, which greatly improve and enrich our daily lives. I know that greyhounds are often looking for love and communication with people. Positive relationships between humans and animals can evoke positive emotions and other positive outcomes for our well-being.

A GLIMPSE OF
WHAT'S INCLUDED:

**A selfie of Coheed
and me!**

If you have a book club, service organization or dog training club that would be interested in having me come as a speaker, please let me know so we can get it on the calendar. I can do a reading from the book, answer your questions about dog dancing, or explain my writing process—or all the above.

As a bonus for November's newsletter and in honor of Human-Animal Relationship week, I'm including a selfie of Coheed and me; and an excerpt from **Look! You're Dancing** about him. If you enjoy this, let me know by dropping me an email joycemiller1959@gmail.com. I'd love to hear from you! Or tag me on a selfie of you and your pet on Facebook or Instagram!

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.

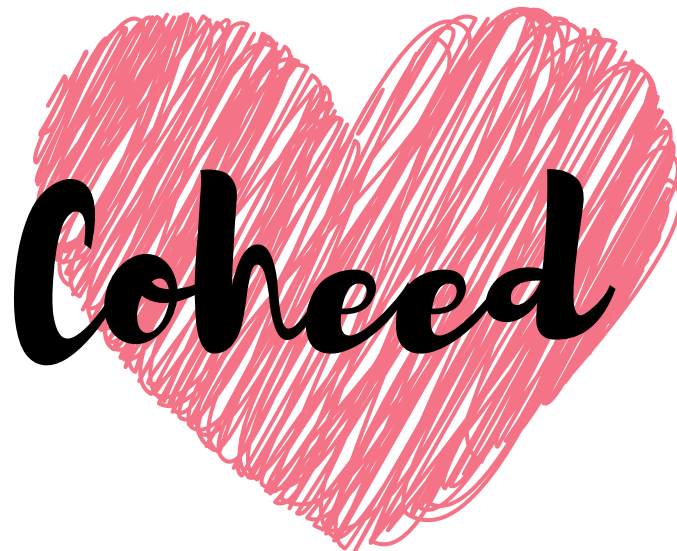
Do what you came here for!



JOYCE A. MILLER, WRITER

www.joyceamiller.com

@JOYCEAMILLERWRITER on Instagram



It took me a year after losing Sammy, but I finally adopted another greyhound. I thought for a while that I would get a saluki. I remembered all the handwringing I had done on my French trip trying to decide on a breed of dog. I contacted the Sight Hound Underground Group in Washington, DC and asked about their available dogs. They rescue sighthounds from around the world and had access to galgos, podencos, and salukis, as well as greyhounds. I read a lot of information about salukis and discovered they can be fence jumpers. According to the adoption group, I would need at least a six-foot-tall privacy fence in my back yard, and I only had a four-foot-tall chain-link one. But they did have a couple of greyhounds that I could have if I was interested.

So I drove to DC on a Black Friday after Thanksgiving to meet Coheed. He is a black tuxedo male greyhound that was named after the rock group Coheed and Cambria. He came from a litter in Kansas where all the dogs were named after rock-and-roll groups. I kept the Coheed part of his name. If one has ever seen Coheed and Cambria, one might question why I kept that part of the name. Coheed, the rocker, is about seven feet tall with a head of wild dark hair like Rubeus Hagrid in Harry Potter. A slim, sleek greyhound looks nothing like that. One of my friends calls him Cochise—because she can never remember Coheed. And when someone on the street asks me what his name is, and they don't hear my answer correctly, they call him Cody as they scratch his head. I don't correct them.

From Chapter 28 Look! You're Dancing