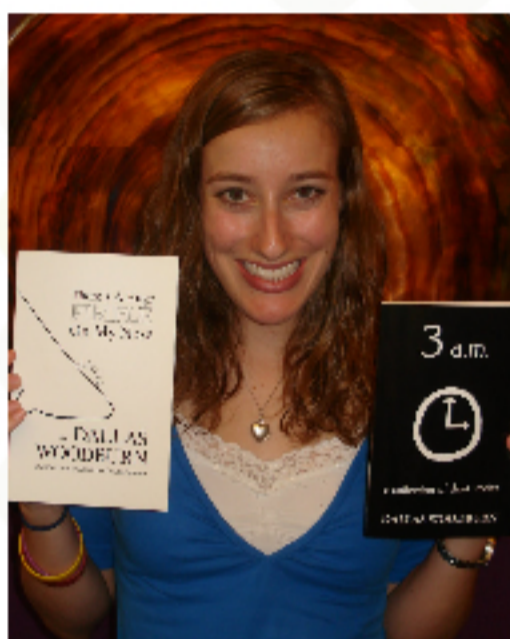


Dallas Woodburn's Writing Life

Follow my journey as I build my writing career. I have two self-published collections of short stories (my latest book, "3 a.m.", is available at Amazon.com) and my forthcoming first novel is being represented by Foundry Literary + Media. My freelance credits include Family Circle, Writer's Digest, The Writer, Cicada, CO-ED, Justine, The Los Angeles Times, and eight "Chicken Soup for the Soul" books.

- ["Write On!" website](#)
- [Book Talk Video](#)
- [Follow me on Twitter](#)
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ABOUT ME



Dallas Woodburn
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I am a 23-year-old grad student pursuing my M.F.A. in Fiction Writing at Purdue University. I am the author of two collections of short stories and received my B.A. in Creative Writing from the University of Southern California. Follow my journey as I build my writing career!

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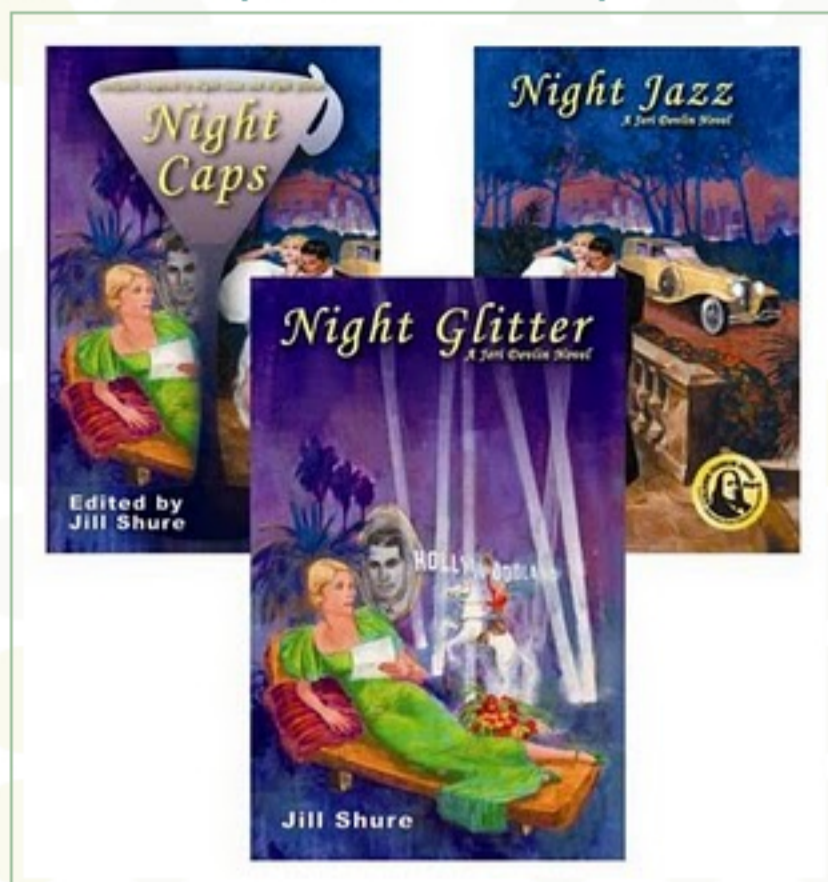


PUBLICATION CREDITS: MAGAZINES, NEWSPAPERS & WEBSITES

- Attribute
- Cahoots
- CO-ED
- Della Donna
- Encounter
- Family Circle
- GradtoGreat.com
- Health & Home
- iMediaConnection

FRIDAY, JULY 2, 2010

Guest Post by Jill Shure: Always a Reader



There was no single reason why I became a writer. There were several avenues that interested me. Acting was one of them. However there were several important elements which helped me decide to write: a vivid imagination and a love of reading.

For me, a vivid imagination helped me overcome a difficult childhood. The pictures and stories in my mind took me away from my problems. Many writers have experienced a challenging youth when a good imagination transformed their lives into something manageable. My parents separated when I was young, and my life was never the same after that. I escaped through reading. And later on, writing.

During my years in elementary school, I fell in love with those old Nancy Drew books, the original ones written before 1959. After them, I never stopped reading. By the time I was twelve, I was reading sexy adult paperbacks as well as books by Rudyard Kipling. I believe my passion for reading and an endless imagination became the basis for my desire to write. In high school, I took creative writing courses, receiving excellent feedback from my teachers.

Today, many people write. I hope they read a great deal, too, because both endeavors provide satisfying entertainment. When I'm involved in a good book or in the middle of writing a book, I am completely absorbed and deliciously content. The act of writing is a passion for me, something impossible to give up. I see my characters, hear their voices, and understand their desires and conflicts.

To anyone who believes they are meant to write, I suggest you read as much as you can. Both go hand-in-hand.

* * *



Jill Shure is the Benjamin Franklin Award-winning author of *Night Jazz*, *Night Glitter*, *Night Caps*, and the upcoming *A Clause for Murder*. When she's not reading or writing, Jill enjoys spending time at home and with her dogs. To learn more about Jill and her books, visit <http://www.jillshure.com>.

Posted by Dallas at 6:53 AM

Labels: [advice](#), [author](#), [books](#), [jill shure](#), [night caps](#), [night glitter](#), [night jazz](#), [reading](#), [writing](#)