

Romancing-The-Book

Reviews, Interviews, Contests, Giveaways, & more

Guest: Jill Shure on Finding Inspiration

Posted by BookTalkAdmin | 8:00 AM | [contest](#), [guest](#) | [5 comments](#) »



Every writer has had someone ask, "...so tell me, where do you get your ideas from?" I'm sure some writers dig into their own past or use the latest horror story from a local newspaper. Me, I can only say, an idea is born of its own will. I can be lathering my hair in the shower or driving down the freeway and the first lines hit me. And an idea for a novel or screenplay is born.

But that idea may only last for the first three pages. Then comes the work. It's as if that tiny spark of inspiration gets me warmed up. Afterward, I begin to sketch out characters and make outlines. These outlines are total throwaways which will be changed over and over. But at least I'll know if I have an idea that works or if it can be refined and prodded into something that works. Of course, at the heart of everything is a romance. A painful one. Because to me passionate love should be a bumpy ride. The yearning to be in love is the basis for everything I write.

The other question people ask is: Are you the basis for the main female character? I admit there are parts of me in her. I'll include my tastes or reactions and attitudes. But I am a fiction writer. So my imagination does a lot to bring in a book. Research helps a lot, too. My latest release, [Night Glitter](#), takes a modern woman back to the 1929 and the early 1930's, which meant that I had to spend hours researching—and I enjoyed every minute of it. I really loved looking through old microfilm and digging for details which helped the material come alive.

But I am not the sexy heroine who inhabits my novels. And it really makes me nervous when a male friend has read one of my books and seems to think I'm writing from experience. Because my books include a certain amount of heart stopping passion – I hope. But even though my main character Jeri Devlin spends a lot of time in silent film star Franky Wyatt's pool house, in [Night Glitter](#), that doesn't mean I have.

How do you like your heroines? Do you prefer someone you can identify with? Or maybe you'd rather read about someone who is your opposite - someone who you can live vicariously through? Leave a comment for a chance to win copies of all three NIGHT books by Jill Shure - [Night Jazz](#), [Night Glitter](#), and [Night Caps](#). Be sure to leave your email address so that you can be contacted if you're chosen as the winner. Due to shipping costs, the contest is open to US and Canada residents. The winner will be chosen randomly on Friday, April 30.

For more information about author Jill Shure, visit <http://www.JillShure.com>. Connect with Jill on Twitter @JillShure. And check out Jill Shure, [Night Glitter](#), and [Night Jazz](#) on Facebook.



About Us

We (Jessica and Jen) are two friends, who met in junior high and are still friends 20 years later and share a love of reading. We rarely agree on what to read, but at least we are opened minded to try new things (books that is... you'll never catch either of us bungee jumping).

This site was started as a place to review books, but has since become a place where our readers can get to know their favorite authors... maybe even some new ones. Every week, we interview and promote authors. Most of them are kind enough to giveaway a copy of their book to our readers. So, please follow us or come back often for our newest contests!

If you have general questions or inquire about setting up a promo, contact us at [admin.bookblog\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:admin.bookblog[at]gmail.com)
To enter a contest: [contests.bookblog\[at\]gmail.com](mailto:contests.bookblog[at]gmail.com)

Of course, you can always post comments on the blog and they'll remain up, provided they aren't spam.

Current Contests on Book Talk

The following contests are currently running on Romancing the Book. Follow the links to the post with contest rules and directions.

Jill Shure (4-30)
Debbie Macomber (5-6)
Susan Wiggs (5-9)

Contest Rules

Since we hold several contests each week on the blog, we have a few simple contest rules. So, here's the small print.

1. You can only win once a month. The two exceptions to this: a. If an author holds a "first to comment/answer" contest and b. If all the entries are from previous winners.

2. *Because of the number of unclaimed prizes, in June 2009 we added this rule.* All entries into the contests need to either include their email address in the comment **OR** after commenting, they need to email us at admin.bookblog@gmail.com and let us know to include them in the drawing. All comments where there is no email address or message in our inbox are not valid entries into the contests.

Promotions in 2010

Jan 4- Elizabeth Boyle
Jan 6- Sheila Boneham
Jan 9- Mark Freeman
Jan 11- Nolwynn Ardennes
Jan 13- Shauna Glenn
Jan 16- Liara Covert
Jan 18- Helen Scott Taylor
Jan 20- Angie Fox
Jan 23- Judith Guralchuk
Jan 25- Katie O'Sullivan
Jan 27- Annay Dawson
Jan 30- Bob E. Sherman

Feb 1- Liz Fenton & Lisa Steinke
Feb 5- Jennie Marsland
Feb 8- Irene Zutell
Feb 12- Donneil Jackson
Feb 15- Jennifer Estep
Feb 19- Imari Jade
Feb 22- Donna Russo Morin
Feb 26- Deborah Ledford

Mar 1- Adrienne Brennan
Mar 5- Dena Celeste
Mar 8- Sarah Pekkanen
Mar 12- Louisa Edwards
Mar 15- Kelly Abell

Barnes & Noble



Jen has purchased a nook and highly recommends it!

SheKnows Book Club

