

Sheri McGuinn
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Fiction Writing Achievements

- 2017 *Running Away* Lifetime movie – Screenwriter and Based on Book by credits
2016 Short story “Maria Angelica’s Baby” – published in Best Short Stories from Saturday Evening Post’s Great American Fiction Contest 2016
2011 Screenplay *Michael Dolan McCarthy* – finalist in Sacramento International Film Festival
2009 Novel *Michael Dolan McCarthy* – Quarter-Finalist in Amazon Breakout Novel Awards
2008 Novel *Running Away* – Honorable Mention in Writer’s Digest International Self-Published Book Awards
2008 “The Development” short story – published in The Maverick, Show Low, AZ
2007 “A Single Christmas Tale” short story - published in The Maverick
2007 “Bad Mommy!” short story - Honorable Mention, Writers Digest Short Story Writing Competition
2006 *Eye of the Dolphin* movie - Creative Consultant for early work on script

Professional Writing Credits

- 2015 Article in *Literacy Today* July/August issue: “Publishing on Demand”
2015 Write/design promotional materials for White Mountain Nature Center
2015 Article in GYMOAZ *Get Your Mountain On Arizona*: “Leave Them Wanting More”
2014 Complete Masters of Administration: Emphasis Professional Writing
2014 Book shepherd for picture book by Kathryn J. Reed: *Freebie the Cat*
2013 Book shepherd for picture book by Phyllis Trella: *All Our Relations*
2011 Producer on trailer for *Our Wild Coast*

Self-Publishing Expertise

- 2012-2017 Durare Publishing: Publisher/author of paperbacks & e-books
2015 Article in July/August 2015 *Literacy Today*: “Publishing on Demand”
2015 Art Space, Show Low TV: Panel member
2014 White Mountain Arts Alliance: Self-publishing workshops
2014 National Council of Teachers of English Annual Convention: Poster presenter *Self-Publishing for Schools*
2013 & 2014 Northland Pioneer College: Self-publishing workshops
2012 Women Who Write (Louisville, KY): Keynote speaker & workshop presenter
2012 Connect at the Library, Show Low TV: Panel member

Pitching Today

Peg’s Story: One Woman’s Journey in Search of Self

In *Running Away* the mother drops everything and goes to find her daughter because she herself had run away as a teen – and her parents thought she was dead for ten years. Readers have asked for her story. That’s the adult novel I’m pitching today.

An innocent girl loses her sense of self through a series of traumatic events ending in being trafficked. The story follows her through disastrous detours and lives built on lies, until she finally stops suppressing her past and rebuilds herself as a whole.

While it reads like a memoir, this protagonist is not based on any one woman, but every woman who has gone through victimization and the search for self that follows.

Peg's Story: One Woman's Journey in Search of Self

Looking Back

At fourteen my biggest fear was that my life would always be boring. I never would have believed there would come a time when I worked at making my life predictable, when I would cling to rules and routine.

I never told my girls what my life had been before they were born. They assumed they knew me, just as I assumed I knew my parents when I was young. It was only when Maggie ran away and grabbed my first journal that pieces of the truth came out. I'm writing this for them. While we discussed the most embarrassing parts while Maggie and I went through counseling, it seems important to put it all in context.

Do not be fooled by the beginning – this book is for adults. The only teens who should read it are those who have already been exposed to the darker sides of life. They might gain some hope or avoid some destructive detours. But to understand my journey, you need to know where I began.

So the story starts the Christmas I was a freshman in high school.

In 1971, telephones were all land lines with long distance charges, no one had a personal computer, there was no world wide web, and married people on television had twin beds. It was easy to be innocent—or naïve—so I missed the little signs that things were about to change. By the next spring, my life had gone a direction I could never have imagined.

There was little co-ordination among police of various states and missing children couldn't even be put into the FBI's database.

It was easy for me to disappear for ten years.