

Author Interview With Andrea Matthews by Itsy Bitsy Book Bits

For those new to your work, please tell us a bit about yourself, your books and your genre/s

- Andrea Matthews is the pen name of Inez Foster, a historian and retired librarian, who writes historical and paranormal romance. She also writes a historical mystery series under the pen name I. M. Foster.

What lessons have you learned as a writer?

- To write what you love. The best stories always come from a subject close to your heart.

If you won the lottery what would you do with the money?

- Take care of my kids mortgages, give an endowment to a few of my favorite charities, go on a big family and friend vacation, and save the rest.

In your everyday life how do you give back to the world?

- Mostly volunteering with outreach at my local church.

If your life was a song what song would it be and why?

- You'll Never Walk Alone - because I never have.

Name two authors you wish more people knew about

- G K Brady and Elizabeth St. John

What are some of your hobbies?

- Genealogy

When reading reviews, what is something you love to see written?

- That the reader is invested in the characters, that they care about what happens to them.

What are you currently working on?

- The 4th book in my Cross of Ciaran series, "The Ring of Eagna"

What books are currently in your to-read list?

- Murder on Bedford Street - Victoria Thompson
- A Fatal Illusion - Anna Lee Huber
- Murder at the Merton Library - Andrea Penrose
- Opulence and Ashes - Kate Belli
- Who Cries for the Lost - C. S. Harris

What is your favorite book made into a movie/tv show?

- The Harry Potter series / The Lord of the Rings series

What is something people would be surprised to know about you?

- I was on my college fencing team

If you could slip into the life of one of your characters, would you? If yes, who and why?

If no, why not?

- I'm not sure. They do tend to get into a lot of trouble.

What is your favorite family tradition?

- Getting together to decorate the Christmas Tree

Its Release Day! How do you celebrate?

- Start my next book

If you came with a warning label, what would yours say?

- Never underestimate

What gives you inspiration for the stories you write?

- Mostly things I come across while doing genealogical or other research

What is your writing routine with a new book? Do you outline your stories or do you do what the characters tell you to do as you go along? Mix of both?

- Mix of both. Usually I have an idea where it's going - a beginning and an end - but then it's by the seat of my pants, letting my imagination and the my characters lead the way.

What is your favorite reading spot?

- Anywhere I have a book

What has been your most rewarding experience since publishing your work?

- Speaking with my readers about what they like or don't like in my books, and realizing people are actually reading and enjoying them.

How do you overcome writer's block?

- Sit back, relax, and let my mind wander. A little daydreaming goes a long way.

Is there a genre you would want to write in in the future that is different than ones you currently write in?

- Perhaps a fantasy.

**You are filling out this interview as part of a tour with Itsy Bitsy Book Bits.
What made you choose Itsy Bitsy Book Bits?**

- I've used IBBB for each of my books as they come out, and the results are always great.