

Author Interview With Susan J Berger by Itsy Bitsy Book Bits

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

- Susan writes children's books as Susan J. Berger. And second chance romances with a touch of magic as Susan B. James. She writes older heroines because she is chronologically gifted and enjoys creating characters who remember that change is only on the outside. Inside our older shells is a much younger psyche. She writes picture books because she never grew up.
- Susan's other career is acting. On IMDB She is Susan Berger.

What lessons have you learned as a writer?

- Don't give up. Write the book. Then Fix it. The first draft is the starting point. I wrote My first picturebook, Jamie's Dream in 1993. It went through at least twenty drafts and five critique groups. Jamie's Dream found a publishing home at Guardian Angel Publishing in 2005 and was published in 2007

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

- Buy houses in Hawaii for me, my sister and my two sons.

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

- I volunteer as a tutor, volunteer with Reading to Kids and Volunteer as a tax preparer with VITA. I do taxes for people for free.

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

- Climb Every Mountain and Happy Talk

Name two authors you wish more people knew about

- Oh, so many!!! Victoria Jamieson When Stars are Scattered. My book Just read it at Reading to Kids. Sarah Addison Allen Garden Spells

What are some of your hobbies?

- Reading (Bookaholic) Doing jigsaw puzzles. pre COVID I like to do musical improv with my son Christopher Corbin. And Beach walks.

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

- That the book moved them in some way and that they like my voice.

What are you currently working on?

- The Witch's Garden. A contemporary paranormal set in Vermont with a seasoned heroine and a magical black cat named Lucifer. This is for my adult brand Susan B James

What books are currently in your to-read list?

- Jayne Castle new paranormal Guild Boss, Mel Jolly's Becoming Future You, a self help book that's a game changer for authors.

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

- The Brigerton's

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 liked your presentation

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

- I hate to speak in public. I get VERY nervous. I am better one-on-one.

Have you ever met a celebrity?

- "MY wasband, Barry Corbin is a celebrity. So I've met lots and lots of celebrities.
- I am in Joel Coen's new movie The Tragedy of Macbeth and working with Frances McDormand and Denzel Washington was a delight. My most exciting meets for me were Jimmy Stewart, and Roy Rogers and Dale Evans,"

Do you collect anything?

- pigs, frogs and unicorns and BOOKS I have ten floor to ceiling bookshelves/

Would you change your ending to any story you've written and why?

- I don't think so.

When writing from the characters point of view, do you prefer to do so on an emotional level or just physical descriptions?

- I have to get into the skin of the character and find the voice. My writing strength is dialog. My weakness is plot. (I think it's hilarious that the reviews of my first romance Time and Forever all praise the plot. It took me so long to find it.

If you were offered a movie deal for just one of your books, which would you choose and why?

- Maybe This Time has more awards, but Time and Forever has two women in their 60's transported into the bodies of their younger selves when they time travel to 1969, I would love to see that one on screen.