

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. *Many of your poems are written in first person. Are they autobiographical?*

B. My poems are inspired by what I see and what I feel. But, like almost everything else I write for publication these days, they are fictional.



Q. *What does F.I. stand for?*

B. My first name and my middle name.



Q. *Why don't you tell anyone what your name is?*

B. It's more fun that way.



Q. *What do people call you?*

B. F.I.



Q. *Where do you get your ideas for your poetry?*

B. For me, poetry is a camera. With each poem, I offer up a snapshot of a moment in time through my eyes -- an image, an emotion, an insight. And with each poem, I hope to influence how other people see things.



Frequently Asked Questions

(Continued)

Q. *Where do you get ideas for your fiction?*

B. I'm always asking "what if?" For example, the idea for the Magic of Lower story started with a ruby ring and the question, "What if it was missing?" That led to the five W questions: When was it taken? Where was it taken? Why? Who will retrieve the ring and how?



Q. *How long have you been writing?*

B. Since I learned how to form letters. My love affair with words began when my parents read stories and poems to me. I would learn them by heart, hold the book, and "read" them to my baby brother. When I could read myself, I was a voracious consumer of books. I also would make up stories and tell them to whomever would listen. Then I began to write them down. I chose journalism as a career because it was a writing job. Even when I worked in marketing/public relations, my jobs required writing every day.



Q. *Don't you get discouraged, knowing how hard it is to get published?*

B. Many famous authors were rejected dozens of times before they were published. There will always be room for good stories that are well-written.



Q. *How should a new writer deal with rejections?*

B. Not take them personally. Learn from them if you can.