



Bloomington Public Library

Home Services Newsletter

Spring 2017

Spotlight on Jen Turano

Jen Turano is a *USA Today* best-selling author of primarily humorous historical romances. Her classic, inspirational romances feature strong female characters with wit and charm. Ms. Turano's "novel, *After a Fashion*, was chosen as a top pick from *Romantic Times...*," and she has been nominated several times as an *RT* Reviewer's Choice Award Finalist. Several of her books have been named a top ten romance by *Booklist*. We are pleased to present Jen Turano's personal message for you below.

(Above partially based on Jen Turano's website www.jenturano.com and *Literature Resource Center* database.)

"Allow me to start by saying how delighted I am to contribute to your newsletter for your library. I spent many an hour as a child at the library in St. Clairsville, Ohio, and can still remember the scent of the encyclopedia room (remember those?) and the special pink bindings of the Nancy Drew books they stored on the shelves in their basement – a rather dark and gloomy place to hold the children's department, and one I was convinced was haunted.

Odd as this may seem, it was never my life-long ambition to become an author. I was always a voracious reader, but my family was far too practical to encourage me to pursue a career geared toward the arts, believing I should choose an area of study that would allow me to eat and perhaps pay rent. I cannot put into words the look on my dad's face when I announced I'd signed up to study fashion when he'd wanted me to follow in my brother's footsteps and go into medicine. Unfortunately, given my strong aversion to blood, that wasn't a possibility, so off I went to learn how to become a buyer, a career I enjoyed until I gave it up after the birth of my son.

Traveling into the world of parenthood was one of those eye-opening moments for me because this child of mine did not come with a specific manual, nor did any of the child-rearing books I bought have much advice to help me deal with a little boy who was, well, a terror. Luckily, he would set aside his mischievous ways every time I picked up a book to read to him, or made up a story to keep him in his jogger stroller, and that is how it came to be that I wrote my very first book.

My son was in third grade, we'd just finished book six in a series I'm afraid I never admitted to my son went on for at least seven more books, and after I read *The End*, my son remarked that the stories I'd made up for him over the years were more interesting than the book we'd just read. Together, we wrote a cute little book by the name of *Fanglers*, and while that book will never see its way into print, it led me to realize that allowing my odd imagination out of my head wasn't a horrible thing. (continued)



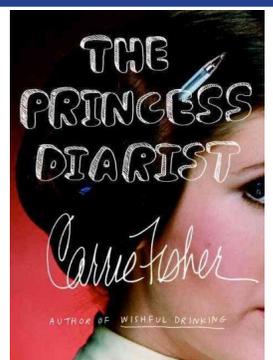
I began writing more and more stories, and finally, after many different genres, many rejections, and many classes taken to perfect my writing craft, I finally settled on historic romances set during the Gilded Age. After securing an agent when my son was in middle school (which shows you how long this writing journey can take) this agent then sold my work to Bethany House with my first book releasing from them in November, 2012.

While publishing is unlike any business I've ever been involved with, I find writing to be an incredibly rewarding career, allowing me to share my stories with the world, but more importantly, allowing me to meet wonderful readers like you.

Wishing you all the best,
~ Jen ~"

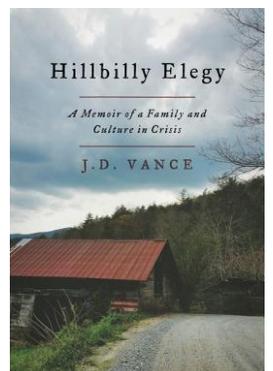
New Audio Books

The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane by Lisa See
First Women by Kate Andersen Brower
The Princess Diarist by Carrie Fisher
Humans, Bow Down by James Patterson
Steven Spielberg by Molly Haskell



New Large Print Books

Hillbilly Elegy by J.D. Vance
Tom Clancy True Faith and Allegiance
by Mark Greaney
Most Dangerous Place by James Grippando
Hidden Figures by Margot Lee Shetterly
In Such Good Company by Carol Burnett



Movie You May Have Missed

My Big Fat Greek Wedding 2—The Portokalos Family is back as the original cast of the 2002 blockbuster hit reunite in this hilarious sequel. This time, Nia Vardalos (Toula) and John Corbett (Ian) are joined by new cast members, Rita Wilson and John Stamos. After spending most of their time focusing on their troubling teenage daughter, Toula and Ian are facing marital problems while also having to deal with yet another Greek wedding—this time, even bigger and fatter.



Homebound Services

If you are a senior without a car, physically handicapped, recovering from surgery, or limited by illness, you are entitled to receive free delivery of library materials to your home. You must be a Bloomingdale resident with a valid library card.

Contact Merrill or Lisa at 630.924.2730 for delivery.

