

Questions & Answers

Jane Pinel, Author
Dolly: Her Story

Q: *What is Dolly's story about?*

A: A totally engaging story focusing on the life of one woman whose life represents the drama and turmoil of the entire 20th century and the challenges of starting over.

Q: *Why did you decide to write this story?*

A: It's a universal story of immigration, wars, loss, starting over, love, and triumph.

Q: *What was the most challenging part of writing this book?*

A: Trying to decide whose voice to use in the telling, third person, Dolly's, or mine. I ended up using all three.

Q: *How different was life for women in the farm community of Canada from life in Boston?*

A: Farming and having babies was the life of a woman in Black Rock, New Brunswick. The city of Boston offered many other choices.

Q: *How was life different in 1912 from the life of women today?*

A: Women were still expected to stay home or work as secretaries, nurses or teachers. If you married you could no longer teach.

Q: *What research did you do? What were your best sources?*

A: My best sources were the tapes I made over many years of my mother's memories, the stories of her brothers and sisters and the help of the Bathurst, New Brunswick library.

Q: *What are the important themes of your book?*

A: Creating one's one life while trying to fulfill a loved one's dying wish.

Q: *How long did it take you to write Dolly?*

A: Many years off and on.

Q: *Did writing your mother's life change you in any way?*

A: It made me wiser in seeing my mother's life as an adult, feeling her losses and loves.

Q: *What was the most satisfying part of this project?*

A: Finally finishing it and seeing the book.

Q: *What do you hope that readers take away from reading this book?*

A: Hope, and the courage to take positive steps in life.

Q: *Why did you choose to publish independently?*

A: Time. I'm too old to wait for a publisher to be interested and then wait two more years to see the finished product.

Q: *Where can readers get a copy?*

A: At most bookstores, Amazon.com, and on the Gallery at Wellsweep website