

Kaki's e-Newsletter

November 23, 2009

A light-hearted e-newsletter designed with my fans, fellow authors, and anyone thinking about writing someday, in mind. I'll be chronicling what it's like to promote my first book, providing tips on how I got published (finally!), and keeping you posted on how I'm surviving my first year as a published author.

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The Blood Rose Trilogy?

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HOT OFF THE PRESS!

Pieces of Sky was named a Top Pick in the latest issue of *RT Book Review Magazine*. It received a 4 ½ star review! Kathe Robin wrote:

"[Warner's] western romance is a striking portrait of the [New Mexico] territory in all its reality, harshness and beauty. [She] creates a novel of the human spirit's ability to conquer emotional and physical obstacles... [and]... conveys her characters

Hi Folks!

Well, we're back in town after a relaxing cruise to Mexico. We had a wonderful time eating, enjoying the views of the Baja coastline, and soaking in the sun before settling into the snowy winter routine here in the valley. I did manage to learn two very important lessons while aboard ship: 1) No amount of bacterial wipes will protect you on a floating petri dish, and 2) If the Captain comes over the intercom and mentions a small weather disturbance that has an actual name attached to it, skip dinner, find the lowest point at the rear of the ship, and try to think happy thoughts. Other than that, the cruise was amazing and I can't wait to take another trip sometime next spring.

Now that we're back home, we're busily gearing up for the holidays and my first book's release (finally!) shortly thereafter. I can't believe in less than two months [Pieces of Sky](#) will be on the shelves! Actually, it's only 43 days to be precise...but who's counting?

Since my last newsletter, there have been some exciting developments. *Pieces of Sky* was picked up by the book clubs—Doubleday Book of the Month, Rhapsody, etc., where—if I understand it correctly, which I rarely do—it will be the featured alternate. Also, the book will be showcased in an upcoming article in "RT Book Reviews" magazine, under the Clubhouse section for new authors. PLUS (I know, you're probably getting as giddy as I am about all this) it was given a wonderful write-up by Michelle Buonfiglio, a Barnes & Noble Book Club blogger. She definitely has her finger on the pulse of this genre and especially women's literature. [Click here](#) to read her blog and keep up with the latest publishing doings and newest releases.

As for Book 2, [Open Country](#), it passed muster with my editor

perfectly."

WOW! What a thrill! Woohoo!

"Generates enough heat to light the old New Mexico sky. A sharp, sweet love story of two opposites, a beautifully observed setting, and voilà—a romance you won't soon forget."

- Sara Donati, author of Into the Wilderness

(discerning woman) and the cover art is done (fabulous!) and now I'm going over the copy-edited proofs line by line. Once that's done, the book goes on to printing, and by next April I'll be fretting all over again as *Open Country* nears its June launch.

Meanwhile I've been sending out thank-yous to the writing organizations that sponsored contests I entered when I was putting *Pieces of Sky* through the paces. The real value of contests is the feedback you get from the readers and judges. Often you never know who these readers are, so you don't get a chance to thank them for their help. It's hard work being a judge, reading so many manuscripts and trying to be encouraging while pointing out areas of the work that need improvement. If you're a writer and interested in learning more about contests, check out the [Author Bio](#) section on my website where I've posted the contests that helped me.

And to the rest of you, "Have a safe and delicious Thanksgiving!"

Kaki

What I'm Reading

Life been hectic lately? Try escaping into a good book. Here's what's on my nightstand.

***Agincourt*, by Bernard Cornwell**

One of the best writers of historical fiction *ever*. Set against the backdrop of one of the most dramatic battles in British history, *Agincourt* tells the story of a young archer and the woman he loves as they follow Henry V in his quest for the French crown. A bit gory for some, but it definitely pulls you into another time.

***Twisted Creek*, by Jodi Thomas**

Another gifted writer whose heart-warming stories have made her a best-selling author many times over. *Twisted Creek* is funny, sad, intriguing, and filled with lively characters as a young woman and her grandmother try to make the best of a café/bait shop they inherited out of the blue. Oh, and there's suspense and romance, too.

***The Husband*, by Dean Koontz**

Unlike many of his other storylines, this one might actually happen, in a creepy, scary, terrifying sort of way. More reality-

based than most, *The Husband* is a fabulous read—and just another example of why this author makes \$25M a year.

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