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Frequently Asked Questions

Q. How long have you wanted to write fiction?

A. I started telling stories as soon as I could talk, writing them down as soon as I learned how to form words. My fifth grade teacher encouraged me to become a writer. I got sidetracked by careers first in journalism then in marketing.



Q. Are *Broken* and *Shattered* your first novels?

A. They are the seventh and eighth that I have written, the first two I've had published.



Q. What is the connection between the two books?

A. The protagonist in the first book is the antagonist in the second.



Q. Where did you come up with the ideas for the novels.

A. Although both books are fictional, *Shattered* was inspired by a real person I know. When I tried to understand how someone could have done

such horrible things to him and struggled to make my antagonist three-dimensional, I ended up with a complete additional story.



Q. Will you write another book featuring these characters?

A. I currently have no plans to do so. My next novel, *Dommemoir*, which was actually written before *Broken* and *Shattered* is about Genevieve, a forty-something divorcee who tries to spice up her life and get her chores done by dabbling in the BDSM lifestyle. Instead she discovers her true nature. It also tells the story of Nicolas, a bank executive who hides from his need for enslavement most of his adult life. Told in their own words, *Dommemoire* reveals how they defied cultural norms and suffered through numerous obstacles to find what they need despite society's condemnation.

Q. Are all your books set in the Chicago area?

A. No, my next book, *Playing with Dolls*, is about a young man who enjoys playing with dolls and wearing girls' clothes as a child. His liberal parents, resigned that he will be gay, encourage his involvement in the gay youth culture of Eugene, Oregon where they live. On his eighteenth birthday, Richard has his first sexual experience with his boyfriend of six months. He hates it and seeks escape in politics and pain.