

Inca Author Information Page

Sebnem E. Sanders

Currently living in: Marmaris, Muğla, Turkey. Originally from Istanbul.

Main works: Ripples on the Pond, The Child of Heaven, The Lost Child and The Child of Passion

I started writing because: I've written stories and poems since my childhood. When I found the time, after my career, I began to write the stories in my mind.

My main writing interests are: Women's Fiction and Contemporary Fiction with a touch of fantasy.

My sources of research and information are: Internet, books, interviews

My inspiration comes from: Life experience, human stories, news

My stories are planned like this: I need a plan and I must know the end, otherwise I can't start. The plan can change according to character developments, yet the ending remains.

I have written a series of books based on: I don't have a series, but the Child name continues in three different stories.

My future plans are to: I prefer to spread out. After writing a fantasy, I wanted to ground myself and write a contemporary love story. Writing short stories gives me the opportunity to try many different genres. I'm not genre specific in my writing or reading.

My own favourite character is: I like Leila and Kai from The Child of Heaven. I can relate to her and Kai as a product of higher intelligence with no feelings.

I sometimes find myself thinking like: I think I'm like all my characters, male or female, androgynous in writing their stories. I have a female character Lara, in the Child of Passion, who doesn't believe in love. I'm trying to get inside her head and understand why. The story is from the POV of a man, her lover, Robert. How does a man in love deal with a situation like that? In the Lost Child, the first half of the story is from the POV of August. He's a character with many weaknesses and strengths. When given the opportunity to put things right and find happiness, he still repeats his past mistakes and loses the chance to achieve his dream..

I also have a few other books I'd like to highlight as follows: My first published book will be my collection of flash fiction and short stories, Ripples on the Pond, I have been writing during the last 3-4 years. Out of over 100 stories, I chose 70 that represent the ripples of life. There are many characters, male and female, who struggle to make a difference, deal with disappointments, illusions or try to find happiness in the real world or in a fantasy setting. Each story is a glimpse into human existence, with our weaknesses and strengths, and aims to highlight our connection to life and its meaning on Earth and within All there is.

My advice to new writers would be: Just write what you want to write the way your heart tells you to. Take criticism with a pinch of salt and improve your work. Read and research widely. A writer must read in order to write well. Reading is inspirational.

Writing has its ups and downs: Criticism and rejections are the downside of writing, but these are part of the deal. I don't take them to heart, anymore, but try to listen and read between the lines. There are messages there that tell me I must improve my work. I know I cannot please everyone, but if I please some, that's a bonus.

When I'm not writing: I listen to music, go for walks, watch life and read.

For copy editing and proofreading: I post my chapters on Scribophile and get great feedback and critiques. I edit my work accordingly and get more feedback if I'm not satisfied.

I accept criticism from: I have learned not to take it personally. It took a while, but now my skin is tough, and I try to understand their POV:

My experiences with self-publishing: This is my first experience. My Australian author friend, David J. Meyers, whom I met in Istanbul, four years ago, after the virtual world of Authonomy, kindly offered to help me with the formatting and design. He is doing a wonderful job and I'm very lucky not have gone through the frustrations of the process. I'm forever grateful to David.

I promote my books via: I use Twitter, Instagram, my Blog, join writer groups and read other writers' works.

My favourite mainstream authors are: Many, but to name a few, Paul Auster, Paulo Coelho, Margaret Atwood, Sylvia Plath, Louise Doughty

I am currently reading: All the Light We Cannot See, by Anthony Doerr, my author friend, Rikon Gates' new work, When the Cuckoo Barks on Scribophile, and David J. Meyers' stories in Paper Cranes.

I prefer to read books in: Paperback or hardback

A bit about my other interests: I collect things, I'm a hoarder. I watch TV, sometimes silly soaps to rest my mind. I love the cinema and watching DVDs of new or old films. I find cinema inspirational.

My most unattainable ambition is: I'd love to fly and watch the world from above. I can only do that in my dreams.

Last thoughts before we go down the pub/club/library/boot-sale/exercise yard: I watch the sky and imagine what there is in the Great Beyond. I know we're not alone in the universe. I'm connected to All here is. I'm stardust.

Author Links

Website: www.sebnemsandersatwordpress.com

Amazon Author page: not yet, will do when I have one

Twitter: @sebnemsanders

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sebnem.sanders>

Any other links: Instagram : www.instagram.com/sebnemsanders/
<https://www.goodreads.com/user/show/34678207-sebnem-e-sanders>
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/sebnem-sanders-b3593263/>