

## My Process for writing is usually lead by my ability to see the subject matter.

I have become a prolific photographer of everything in the garden since lockdown, my plants have beautiful flowers that I paint, any birds, animals, or insects the garden, bees, moths, butterflies, beetles, ladybirds, ants, spiders, snails. They are photographed in their natural environment and become part of the stories being weaved in my mind. So my visuals lead my writing. On a rare occasion it works the other way, it is usually with an animal that is in wood, and I will not be able to see it and I have to find the pictures to paint.

I will think about it for a few days and then brainstorm for names that suit, its environment, who it is going to meet with or will it be a stand-alone character. When I am winding down, I am thinking of it, then I wake in the middle of the night and generally information will filter down and I will get out pen and paper usually any scraps, writing all ideas as they drift through my mind. It often leads to writing all night as other characters that support this character are fleshed out and the story takes shape.

The next day I will research for information and read all that, my mind will assemble the information and the words flow generally as they are written in the books, I may need to tweak them, but the essence of the story emerges.

I now type it up next morning into manuscript A4 whereas my original format writing for my aunt, it was recorded on to Audio in the morning and put on cd for her, from the scraps of paper then typed up later from the notes. As I am working from the original 40 stories, in notes only, no illustrations. The books have started with the writing being transferred to A5 book form each illustration sketched and painted in vignette's, photographing them to be inserted where I need them, working now until all of the illustrations are completed for each book. With a larger full painting done as the books covers.

Both of the books 1 & 2 have been completed, they are being exhibited on our new website, Until we find a Publishing house to take them on, I will continue to hunt until I find the perfect one, or they find us. I am giving away free copies until then to get any reviews.

Books 3 & 4 are only written in manuscript form and will be my on-going work until they are completed one at a time as the illustrations are painted from the photographs that I have collected.

I will eventually catch up and my process will be to write the story then illustrate or vice versa. The titles for book 5. Natures backyard, have already been decided and the stories outlines have already been planned out.

An example is the story of Kit the lost baby bunny Book 3. Story Number 11. The illustrations are already done as I was drawing bunnies for my great niece Alara one day. This may be extended to be the meadow where she lives, it may become a book cover if the painting is fantastic enough for book 4.  
The Cycle of Life. Spoiler Alert!!

