

WELCOME TO HOUSE OF SHORT STORIES. PUBLISHING. & FINE ARTS GALLERY.

MY PROCESS FOR WRITING, IN ANY GENRE OF WRITING. OPEN UP YOUR IMAGINATION & LET THE WORDS FLOW.

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 in 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, that I am not able to see, so I must find a pixabay pictures to paint it. I will think about it for a few days, then brainstorm for names that suit, its environment, who it is going to meet with or will it be a stand-alone character, weaving their stories in my mind.

When I am winding down, I think of it, then I wake in the middle of the night, all the story 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, reading up on it, 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 Audio in the morning and put on CD for her, from the scraps of paper then typed up later from the notes. As I was working from the original 40 stories, in notes only, no illustrations. The books started with the writing being transferred to A5 book form each illustration sketched, painted in vignette's, photographed for 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 and I always include after painting so many cute animals in woodland scenes a large painting for the Minty Collection, for the website. I have 125 stories written for the Minty Stories with more often in my mind, but I am slowly working my way through the illustrations on books 3 to 8.

After speaking to several publishers, they were interested in only the picture book versions and not in producing both my categories of the books. I have designed a smaller version, using the art from the larger ones into interesting designs with a snippet of the essence of the original stories. So after taking the discision to become a publisher of my own books, I have taken their advice and gone ahead and published them first as picture books, which are for sale now in our website store, or in our Etsy store at Kassiesstorybooks. Then we came up with the new concept books the same size of the Picture books called Chester & Miley Millone, with stories of their everyday activities, with everyday photographs changed with a new App of camera art to insert a more personal touch about our pets.

As writers we evolve, I love writing children's short story books as the characters live forever in story world and the books have no endings. I feel that you have to be worthy of the well-known authors we admired as children, with whom they have inspired thousands of books to be written. So it was always in my mind, that I must write a complete chapter book, in what genre? So I envisaged a three-part book trilogy of full chapter reading books, with the concept planted in my mind and all of my pixie characters already painted into a family tree, my mind weaved the story. It was written into manuscript in two weeks (evenings only) In 21 days the books cover was also painted, 92,000.00 words my book was complete, bar the editing, that took longer than writing it. `Tales of the Woodland` emerged.

I even wrote two stories to introduce a new pixie called Piccolo, in book 6 of My Minty Stories, Natures Backyard with all the art finished, I also made using at least 12 slides a video on You Tube to introduce Piccolo pixie from Tales of the Woodland into a new story called Minty and the Tales of the Woodland.

As we evolve further, when a writer attempts another genre, & steps out of their comfort zone, wonderful things can happen, things of a fabulous nature, Now Looky Here ! A book of Prose Poetry has been created, using all of those oversized stories from the Minty Collection not being used, with descriptive pieces of even more genres coming to take show, using stunning magical artwork that also tell our stories, what a magical world a writers world can be, if we just open up our imaginations. KSJ