

Jo-Marie's Bios

2-line bio:

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Short Bio:

Jo-Marie, a retired educator, shares life lessons through her children's books. Her first series, Adi's World, helps readers deal with real-life challenges. She can be reached through her website: www.josjourney.com and at: jos_journey@yahoo.com.

Medium Bio:

Jo-Marie, a retired, award-winning educator, shares life lessons through her books with children ages nine through fourteen. Her first series, Adi's World, helps children deal with real-life challenges such as leadership, teamwork, trust, and dealing with bullies. Jo-Marie draws her stories and characters from her life experiences: developing from a shy, socially-clumsy girl into a leader and teacher; experiencing the joys and concerns of raising two amazing sons; and stepping out of the familiar educational arena into the world of writing and entrepreneurial business. She can be reached through her website: www.josjourney.com and at jos_journey@yahoo.com.

Long Bio:

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Jo-Marie has always been a teacher. Even as a child, whenever she learned anything, she immediately shared that knowledge with everyone she knew. She would often corral a

friend, teaching the 'captive student' her latest nugget of wisdom, including how a baby tooth comes out, and why we should knock before opening a closed door. These lessons were shared in narrative form, with Jo-Marie cast as the hero.

Narration became an important tool in Jo-Marie's teaching repertoire. She loved creating simulation learning experiences for her students. In one favorite history unit, the students pretended to be patriots and loyalists during the American Revolution, being led by their sovereign queen. Yes, Jo-Marie has been a storyteller most of her life.

After retiring from teaching, Jo-Marie stepped into a new career as a writer. Adi's World, was her first book. She never meant to expand it into a four-book series, but as with many of her school lessons, the story simply grew. Writing a book was always one of her dreams, but she never believed she could do it. It was a group of her fifth-grade students who gave her the kick she needed.

Jo-Marie always insisted that her students could achieve their goals, if they put in the required time and effort. She taught them that life is a journey and to live their dreams. However, she never expected them to take over the lesson and make her the student.

One afternoon a boy asked her about her own dreams. He wasn't satisfied with her answer that she already was a mom and teacher. He pushed her to share her secret childhood goal of writing a book. The teacher learned a valuable lesson that day. Once fifth-graders know your secret, they never let it go. From

that day on, she was given the 'homework' of drafting her story. The last day of that academic year, she was instructed to not return to school in August without the story written. Jo-Marie did her homework. That summer Adi's World was drafted.

Reaching this goal inspired Jo-Marie to step out even further and start her own company. Jo's Journey, LLC is now the home of

Adi's World and all her future books. The company's motto is: Life's a journey. Live your dreams.

Jo-Marie loves visiting schools, sharing her love of storytelling and her passion for writing. Her presentations include: why she wrote her series, the inspiration for her books, the writing process, developing teamwork and leadership skills, learning to trust a respected advisor, and dealing with bullies. She also presents these topics to parent and community groups, and looks forward to sharing her stories to a larger audience, both local and world-wide through media interviews and public appearances.

It is Jo-Marie's goal for Adi to be known and enjoyed world-wide, reaching audiences of all ages. She looks forward to the time when her current readers share Adi with their own children and grandchildren, just as she shared her favorite characters with her sons.

Jo-Marie can be reached through her website: www.josjourney.com and at jos_journey@yahoo.com. She is available for interviews and media appearances, in person or through media access.