

Frequently Asked Questions Archive

Q: Of all your books, what is your favorite?

A: Although all my books are special, I would have to say my very first book, Justin and Lorren's story in *Tonight and Forever*, is my favorite because it was my first.

Q: Will you continue to write books about the Madaris Family?

A: Yes, I will continue to write about the Madaris Family. I like keeping readers up to date as to what is going on with that family. I plan to write Slade, Blade and Lucas' stories, with Slade book coming out in 2007. Then I'll decide if I want to write about some of the other cousins from the family tree or start writing about the kids.

Q: Your cruise in 2005 drew over 300 of your readers. What do you think is the reason you have such a large following?

A: Because from my first book, I let my readers know they were special. It wasn't any planned strategy I used, it was me being me, and wanting to treat my readers the way I would want to be treated. I was a reader before I became a writer, and I had encountered a lot of authors who wanted me to buy their book but didn't have the time or inclination to respect me as one of their readers. I refuse to be that way with my readers. I appreciate them.

Q: If you had a chance is there a book you would like to rewrite?

A: No. I'm sure all authors think after they finish a book it could have been better, but I'm happy with the way I presented all my books to my readers. The story was written the way I thought it out at the time.

Q: You write a lot of sequels. Do you ever think enough is enough?

A: As long as I have readers who want to know about a particular family, then I let them decide when enough is enough. But I'm hoping that they will continue to enjoy the new families I plan to introduce.

Q: Do you have a favorite book?

A: Yes, *Night Song* by Beverly Jenkins. I'm almost embarrassed to say how many copies of that book I own. And recently one of my readers sent me the hardback version so I'm in hog heaven. I fell in love with Chase Jefferson the moment I read the story. I also like the model on the cover of the book and thought he represented Chase well. In fact, years later I asked for that same model (Kendall McCarthy) to be on the cover of one of my books. He is Uncle Jake on the cover of *Secret Love*.

Q: Does it bother you to be considered a "romance writer"?

A: No, because that's what I am. Although I like to try different things and have written stories that are considered mainstream, I still like giving whatever story I write a romantic twist. I love reading love stories and that is why I enjoy writing them. I truly am a romantic at heart. I'll take a happy ending over an unhappy one any day.

Q: Do negative reviews of your book bother you?

A: No. Although I put out what I consider my best work possible, I don't expect everyone to pick up a Brenda Jackson book and enjoy it. A review is one person's opinion of the book and does not represent the views of the masses. Everyone has a right to their opinions, although I have to admit I've seen a number of reviews that were more author bashing that were done under the guise of book reviewing. I usually ask readers to read the book for themselves and form their own opinions. And I believe my readers are doing that because some of the books that I receive the worse reviews turn out to be my biggest sellers. People who read romance novels have varied tastes and preferences. There is such a diverse range of stories that readers today can find a large number of books to suit what they are comfortable with reading. I write hot, steamy romance stories. Hot and steamy isn't for everyone. Romance is a work of fiction and is for entertainment purposes. If a person has read my books and continuously not enjoy them, then I recommend they stop buying them and spend their money on books they do enjoy.

Q: You still work outside the home and maintain a tight writing schedule. How can you do both:

A: Time management. I love my day job. I'm a supervisor for a major insurance company. I like the work I do and the people I meet. I also enjoy being in the business sector. I've been working at my place of employment for 35 years. Writing is my fun time. I don't consider it as work and that's why I enjoy doing it. Writing is the time I come home from work and relax. It's my stress reliever. I put everything out my mind and go into my office and escape with my characters. Taking them to places I've never been and involving them in a love story that I feel is just right for them. And writing is a way for Mr. J and I to spend time together. With both of my sons grown and out, I love taking Mr. J with me for weekend trips to places I want to write about in my stories while I do research of those places.

Q: Will Delaney's Desert Sheikh ever be reissued?

A: Yes! Thanks to all my readers who had made their desires known to Harlequin, a decision was made to reissue Delaney's story as an e-book in early 2007. Now for those of you like me who prefer the hard book instead of reading a book off the computer or IPOD, I am working with Kimani to make Delaney's story as a reissued 2nd story in another sheikh book I plan to write. For those who have kept up with my Madaris Series, you probably remember a sheikh by the name of Prince Rasheed Valdemon (Fire and Desire and Unfinished Business). I plan to write his story and connect his family to Sheikh Jamal Ari Yasir's family through marriage. More information about this union will be posted in future newsletters so make sure you are on the list to receive my monthly newsletters.

Q: A number of your Madaris Books are out of print. Will there be a reissuance of them as well?

A: Yes!! Due to the overwhelming success of my 3-books-in-one, The Madaris Saga, Harlequin plans to come out with a couple more books 3-in-one-books that will include the remaining books in the Madaris Series such as Fire and Desire, One Special Moment, Secret Love etc. Check future newsletters for more information about this huge reissuance program.

Q: What is your next woman fiction book, WHAT A WOMAN WANTS about?

A: This book looks into the lives of 4 women to determine just what they want. I had fun writing his book, as well as introducing the 4 heroes. One particular couple in his book is very near and dear to my heart. Those of you who have read Ties That Bind, will remember Anna

Ross-Fuller and Zack Wainwright. After that book I received a lot of requests for Anna and Zack's story. Most readers wanted to know did they eventually fall in love and marry. That question will be answered in this book. Also, I wanted to write about heros that are connected to other guys I've written about before. In this book you will meet Shane Masters (brother to Quinn Masters from A Family Reunion and brother to Grey Masters from The Savvy Sistahs. Then there is Adam Corbain, brother to Linc Corbain (Welcome to Leo's) and Sydney Corbain (Let's Get It On). And last but not least is Lyle Montgomery - brother to Lance Montgomery (The Playa's Handbook and No More Playas). I'm hoping my readers will enjoy meeting these handsome men as well as the reunion of characters from former books. What A Woman Wants will hit the stores in January and in some places will be in the stores in time for Christmas.