

Shannon Taylor Vannatter

Inspirational Romance Author and Speaker



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Central Arkansas author, Shannon Taylor Vannatter is a stay-at-home mom/pastor's wife. It took her nine years and over two hundred rejections to achieve publication in the traditional market.

Her three book inspirational romance series, *White Roses*, *White Doves*, and *White Pearls* is set in Romance and Rose Bud, AR and published by *Heartsong Presents*, a division of *Barbour Publishing*. Each book releases to a eleven thousand member book club and to stores six months later. Her latest book, *Rodeo Dust* set in Texas releases to the *Heartsong Presents* book club in October 2011.

An award winning author, *White Roses* won the *Inspirational Readers Choice Award* in the short contemporary category. The *18th Annual Heartsong Presents Awards*, voted on my by over 11,000 HP book club members, named Vannatter #3 *Favorite New Author*, *White Roses* #1 and *White Doves* #8 *Favorite Contemporary Novel*, *White Doves* #1 *Favorite Contemporary Cover*, and, *White Roses* #2 *Favorite Contemporary Cover*. *The Arkansas Democrat Three Rivers Edition* voted Vannatter one of 20 to Watch in 2011.

Vannatter's short stories appeared in *Mature Living* and *The Writers' Journal*, in 2009. She has taught fiction workshops for several writers' groups and conferences including: *Life Press Christian Writers Conference* in Memphis, TN, the *Ozark Creative Writers Conference* in Eureka Springs, and the *Ozark Romance Writers Conference* in Springfield, MO.

She taught a ten session writing class as a continuing adult education course at the *Arkansas State University*, Heber Springs and is scheduled to teach at the *White Country Creative Writers' Conference* in Searcy, AR, and the *American Christian Fiction Writers' Conference* in St. Louis, MO.

Vannatter is available for writers' groups, workshops, conferences, schools, colleges, churches, ladies groups, libraries, community organizations, book clubs, media appearances, print interviews, speaking engagements, and book signings.



Contact Info:
stvauthor at yahoo dot com
shannonvannatter.com

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White Roses

**Can a heartbroken floral shop owner and a widowed pastor
reclaim romance after their happily-ever-afters collide among the thorns.**

Book #1 Heartsong Presents

White Dove

**When a promotion transfers the town-drunk's daughter too close to home,
can her new-found nephew and his guilt-laden guardian heal heart.**

Book #2 Heartsong Presents

White Pearls

**Can an apartment manager with a secret manage her landscaper
with a chip on his shoulder against the birth mother who gave him up?**

Book #3 Heartsong Presents

The books in this series are set in Romance and Rose Bud, Arkansas. Both towns are in White County, seven miles apart. Romance's claim to fame is worked into each story. Couples come to Romance to get married and mail their wedding invitations to the post office to be re-mailed with the Romance, AR handstamped postmark. A new unique Valentine's postmark is created annually and used from Feb. 1 - Feb. 15. Brides often have an invitation mailed to themselves on their wedding date as a keepsake. Shannon is available to discuss her books at bookclub meetings.

Rodeo Dust

**Can a city girl/ad exec and a country boy/bull-rider find common ground or will they
draw a line in the rodeo dust that neither will cross.**

Coming October 2011 Heartsong Presents
(Set in Fort Worth, TX)



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SAMPLE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Writing
 - A. What inspired you to write?
 - B. Do you put any of yourself in your characters?
 - C. Do you have a routine to get started writing?
2. Journey to Publication
 - A. What did you do to work toward publication?
 - B. Do you have advice for aspiring authors?
 - C. Can you recommend any particular craft books?
3. Setting Can be Everything:
 - A. How do you create settings for your books that intertwine deeply into the story?
 - B. How do you research your settings?
 - C. Do you include real landmarks or businesses in your books?
4. Living A Dream
 - A. Has living your dream been what you thought it would be?
 - B. What has been the most difficult adjustment?
 - C. How do you align living your dream with family life?
5. Pursuing A Dream
 - A. How do you know if pursuing a dream is feasible?
 - B. What tips do you have for making a dream a reality?
 - C. How do you know if your dream is something God wants you to attain?
6. Keys to Keep the Romance in Your Marriage
 - A. Do you have advice for keeping the romance in your marriage?
 - B. What do you do to keep the romance alive?
 - C. How do you raise a family and maintain couple time?

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JUST FOR KIDS/YOUNG ADULTS

Anatomy of a Short Story for Kids: For schools, libraries, and child-oriented organizations. This workshop is geared toward beginning writers, teaching children how to write a short story using all the creativity bottled inside them.

Just for Young Adults: For high schools, graduations, and colleges. Encouraging teens to find their dreams and seek higher education to attain them.

Writing as a Career or Side Income: For high schools or colleges. Insight into career paths, opportunities in the business of writing, and how to get started.

FOR CHURCHES & LADIES GROUPS

Living Your Dream: Do you have a dream close to your heart? Trying to decide whether to pursue it or not? If you're at a crossroads in your life, ask yourself three simple questions to determine your next course.

Getting Past Setbacks: Are you struggling with something you can't seem to get past? Can't see the silver lining? Learn about tools to get you looking toward the future and achieving the next goal.

The View From the Second Pew: This program will debunk myths and draw the ladies in the church into a closer relationship with one another and their pastor's wife.

Keeping the Romance in Your Marriage: After the kids are born, couples tend to forget each other in the overwhelming task of raising Godly children. When the kids are gone, they discover they've grown apart. Learn tips to keep the romance in your marriage so that time, stress, and life can't sever your connection with your spouse.

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WORKSHOPS FOR WRITERS' GROUPS OR CONFERENCES

Anatomy of a Short Story

Tips on the journey from first draft to published. How to get that short story into print, despite the supposedly waning market, and use it as a stepping stone to bigger and better things.

To Be POD Published or Not To Be

Understand the pros and cons of Print on Demand Publishing. Firsthand experiences and naming some names. The good, the bad, and the ugly in POD companies.

Crafting Effective Dialogue

Dialogue isn't just conversation. Learn what it is and how to make your character's words advance your fictional world.

Crafting Gender Appropriate Dialogue

Does your guy sound like a guy and your girl sound like a girl? Learn techniques and tips to craft gender appropriate dialogue no matter the author's gender.

Making a Scene

What is a scene and how do you make it effective? Learn the three things a scene must do.

Cut the Fluff

Learn the integral ingredients for a great read. What belongs? What doesn't and how to determine the difference.

Blogging, Branding, Marketing, & Publicity: Tips on creating your brand and getting your name out there using traditional marketing plus tools to help you think outside the box.

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Mom Writes

You can find time to write and be a great mom. Without neglecting your kids or burning out. Learn the key to finding a workable, flexible schedule no matter your children's age.

Writing Romance

No matter the economy, romance sells. Learn the formula to craft a riveting read. What keeps the reader reading, even though they know there'll be a happily-ever-after?

Writing Inspirational

Learn how to seamlessly weave the spiritual thread into your novel without coming across as preachy.

Plotting the Synopsis

In today's competitive and fast-moving market, effective synopsis writing is essential. Writers are often asked for a synopsis before they've even written the book. Learn the key information editors are looking for and how to make your synopsis shine. With the right tools, writing the synopsis can be a painless, even fun process.

Working with Your Editor

Contrary to popular belief, your editor is not your enemy. An editor is your champion, a cheerleader working along side you to make your book the best it can be. Learn how to take the content review as constructive criticism and implement all those changes in a month.

What I Learned from My Editors: Tricks of the trade, tips, & techniques straight from the professionals.

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Writing Basics

Learn the do's and don'ts of good writing. What is manuscript format? This workshop covers headhopping, POV, clarity, passive voice, telling verses showing, and more.

GMC

Learn how to create goals, motivations, and conflict for your characters. These tools will make every character action or reaction believable and true to character.

Setting & Description

How to ground your reader in the setting, describe details and characters, without grinding the story to a halt. Your novel must have setting the reader can see, but not become static.

Emotion & Character

Learn how to create three-dimensional characters, who leap off the page. Evoke emotion from your character and your reader. Make your readers worry, hurt, or feel embarrassed right along with your character.

Query Letters

Before you submit, you have to summarize your novel in a one page query letter. Learn the key information editors are looking for and how to make your query shine.

Submitting

How do I get my book published? Learn who's looking for just the book you've written and how to submit it in a professional manner that will impress an editor enough to make them request more.

Let's Write a Novel: This workshop rolls ten workshops into one in ten separate hour-long sessions or condensed into 8 and taught over a two day conference. Includes: Basics, GMC, Setting & Description, Emotion & Character, Crafting Effective Dialogue, Crafting Gender Appropriate Dialogue, Making a Scene, Cut the Fluff, Query & Synopsis, and Submitting. Can be taught in 5 weeks, 10 weeks, or monthly meetings.

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