



Farm Grandma Tales

FarmGrandmaTales.com

Q & A / Tip Sheet

1) Why and how did you start writing children's books?

The first story I wrote was "Don't Let the Bull Prune the Orchard!" This was a true story about our bull, Uproar. I was originally going to write funny farm stories for adults. I wasn't sure if adults would appreciate these stories, so years later I had the idea of writing children picture books.

2) Are the stories true?

Most of my stories are based on experiences we have had with the animals on our farm. All the characters in the stories were real animals we have had. The actual event has been embellished to add fun and whimsy to the stories.

3) What are the names of your stories?

These are the stories I have written so far:

Uproar the Helpful Bull (*published Jan 2023*)
Farm Grandma's Surprise (*published July 2023*)
Chloe Finds a Friend (*published October 2025*)
Della the Wannabe Duck
Jasmine the Bouncy Goat
Banner's Special Farm Job
The Wallowing Pig Poem
Davey Learns a Lesson

4) What is the name of your next book?

Della the Wannabe Duck

5) Do you still have any of the farm animals?

We have retired from farming but I still have many fond memories.

6) Who was your favorite farm animal?

I have had many beloved farm animals. Some of these were Tess the miniature horse, Smokey one of my milk goats, and Chloe the short-legged Dexter cow and her daughter Clara Bell. I also loved Georgia Brown who was a dun (brown) Dexter cow. Davie was a wonderful farm dog who was always looking out for the farm and animals. It is difficult to say which animals were my favorites because I loved them all.

7) What advice do you have for young writers?

My advice to young writers is to never give up! I wanted to write books when I was young, but no one took me seriously. I didn't do well in my creative writing classes in high school and even college. I now know that the problem was that I wasn't writing about anything I was knowledgeable and passionate about. Once I realized this, the stories have not stopped coming.

8) Do you like writing these books?

I have found that each of the characters in my stories are my friends. I can bring them to life and give them personalities. I try to match their character to how they acted in real life. I try to imagine how our gentle horse Tess would be concerned about a sad little cow, and what Uproar was really thinking when he "pruned" the trees in the orchard. I am bringing my friends into a new world. That is something I love doing.

9) How long does it take to write a book from start to finish?

Some of my stories don't take too long to write. But the first draft is not the final one. I go over the stories many times to make sure the animals characters have been developed in a way that children and adults can relate to them.

10) How long does it take to write a book?

From the story being completed to editing and illustrations, to formatting and developing the cover, it can take 5-6 months. Maybe even longer depending on how many pages of illustrations there are.

11) Where did you get the ideas for your stories?

My story ideas come from actual experiences I have had with the animals on the farm, with a bit of whimsy thrown in.