



Jill K Willis
WRITER



February 2023 Newsletter

HAPPY GROUNDHOG DAY!

An early Southern Spring!

I don't know why I find the myth that groundhogs can foretell the weather so fascinating. But I do. Check out my [Facebook page](#). You'll see years of Feb. 2 posts about groundhogs.

This year, Punxsutawney Phil in Pennsylvania predicted six more weeks of bad weather for the north. But heavy cloud cover kept General Beauregard Lee in Atlanta from seeing his shadow, so we'll have an early Spring. Yay!



UGA 65 - TCU 7

Go Dawgs!

I have to give a shout-out to my alma mater for a perfect 15-0 football season and bringing home the National Championship trophy! Marvin and I joined the University of Georgia Alumni Association for the trip of a lifetime. We flew on a charter plane from Macon, GA to Long Beach, CA and stayed at the beautiful Millennium Biltmore in Los Angeles. We toured LA, Hollywood, and Santa Monica, snapping zillions of touristy photos. The game itself was surreal—from the crazy cold, wet weather in a half-open stadium to the surprisingly lopsided score. The TCU fans should win the Best Sportsmanship Award. What nice people! They cheered those Horned Frogs from the frigid side of the stadium all the way to the end. I can't wait for football season this fall!

Mom's on the mend

I took this photo of Mom Christmas Day. She had a ball with those reindeer antlers. Sadly, she fell in her apartment Jan. 9, shattering her left shoulder, and had to wait until Jan. 31 for shoulder replacement surgery. She has endured so much pain, but should be feeling much better within a couple weeks. She loves to receive cards, so if you'd like to send her one, I'll be happy

to give you her address. Just email me at jill@jillkwillis.com. And I'd greatly appreciate it if you'd add her to your prayers.



GOOD NEWS!

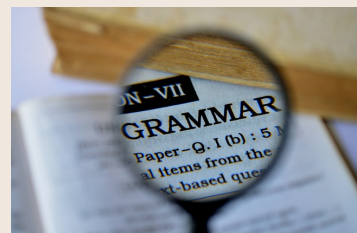
I'm writing again

After a frustrating year of extreme writer's block, I'm behind the keyboard again. I've always heard about the vexing nature of this challenge, but never experienced it until last year after two surgeries. It's a discouraging demon that steamrolls into an utter lack of confidence. Thankfully, I've pulled myself from the non-productive pit through lots of prayer and am working on two projects—a YA historical novel and a YA devotional. Please cover me and my writing with prayer this year.

GRAMMAR TIPS

Who vs That

My writer friend, [Ane Mulligan](#), posted an hilarious pet-peeve meme on Facebook expressing her frustration with the misuse of WHO vs THAT. Let's make it simple. Use **WHO** when referring to people. Use **THAT** for inanimate objects and classes of people, like teams.



Correct examples:

I know a writer **who** meshes mystery with romance.

This is the knee **that** has the scar.

My nephew is on the team **that** is headed to the state championship.

My Bookshelf

Following are my ratings for the books I read in January.

Follow me on [Goodreads](#) to view how I've rated books since 2010.

A World of Curiosities, Louise Penny ██████

The Journey, Adam Hamilton ██████

Back to the Garden, Laurie King ██████

Big Secrets, Little Lies, Pat Nichols ██████

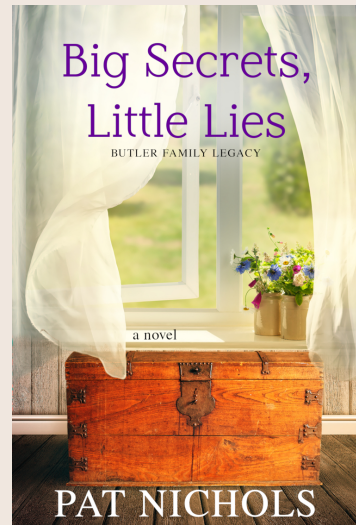
The Winners, Fredrik Backman ██████

Pork Pie Pandemonium, Steve Higgs ██████

CHECK OUT THIS NEW ROMANCE/MYSTERY

Big Secrets, Little Lies

My writer buddy, [Pat Nichols](#), has done it again. She's delightfully meshed my two favorite genres—mystery and romance—in [her latest family-focused series](#). I love the down-to-earth characters she created. If I could, I'd give an encouraging hug to Daisy and pop a trinket in the mail to Aunt Pansy (my favorite). This heartrending story, full of twists and turns, held my attention from the first page to the last. Be aware that Nichols does not tie up the plot with a neat bow at the end. Thankfully, its sequel will launch next month.



MY NEW FAVORITE VEGGIE RECIPE

Air-Fryer Ranch Broccoli

The slow cooker has always been my go-to kitchen appliance for easy meals, but I'm learning that the air fryer can be just as user friendly. This is one of the recipes I found in the [Hungry](#)

[Girl](#) email newsletter. I highly recommend subscribing to it.

5 cups (about one 12-oz. bag) fresh broccoli florets

1 tbsp. olive oil

1/2 tsp. ranch dressing/dip seasoning mix

Place broccoli in a large bowl. Add oil, and toss to coat. Sprinkle with ranch seasoning mix, and toss to coat.

Place 2 tbsp. water in the base of an air fryer. (This will prevent smoking.)

Set air fryer to 400°F. Cook until tender on the inside and crisp on the outside, 8–10 minutes.

MAKES 2 SERVINGS

Quick Links

[*The Demons Among Us* Book Trailer](#)

[*The Demons Among Us* on Amazon](#)

[Order autographed copies](#)

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