

BIOGRAPHY: Lynne Handy

Lynne Handy grew up as the eldest child in a farm family in western Indiana where the tall corn drove her inward to create fantasy worlds. Books were her salvation. She was drawn to poetry in the beginning. Wordsworth and other poets taught her that metaphor, sound, and cadence made a good poem. From authors like Dickens, she learned that rhythmic sentences advanced plot. Hemingway taught her about verbs. Upon graduating from library school, she worked as a librarian in Illinois, Texas, and Michigan. In retirement, Handy co-founded Open Sky Poets, a collaboration of poets in the western suburbs of Chicago, and published poems and short stories in literary journals. She self-published four novels—three are mysteries in the Maria Pell Mystery Series. Current projects involve a new mystery series with main character author Jake Westin, who, like Christie's Miss Marple, somehow lands in the middle of murder investigations. Handy now lives in the western suburbs of Chicago in blue, yellow and brown house with a yucca plant out front and two rescue dogs who keep her company.