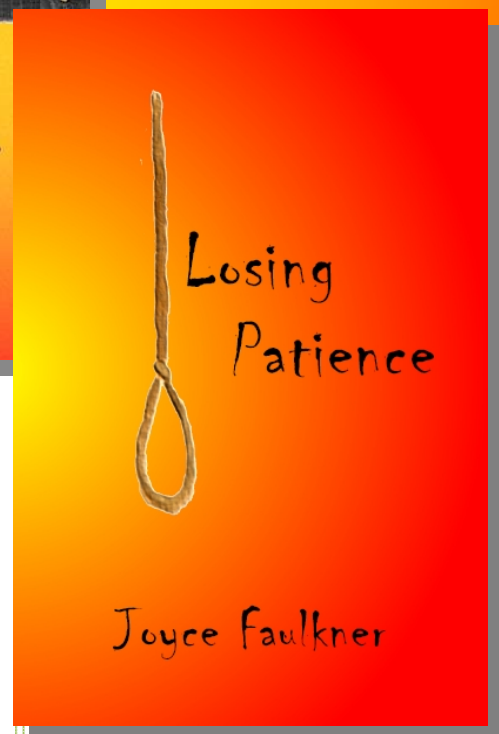
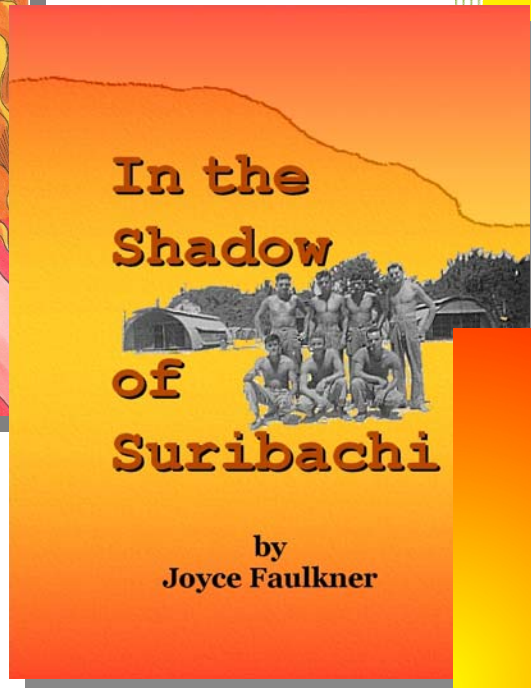




2007

# Media Kit for Joyce Faulkner



[www.JoyceFaulkner.com](http://www.JoyceFaulkner.com)

# Introducing Joyce Faulkner's new book

## For Shrieking Out Loud!

***Pre-publication copies available for purchase or review.***

***Publication date 10/2007***

***"For Shrieking Out Loud! One minute it's chortle-in-the-gut funny! The next so poignant it nudges at the heart! Joyce Faulkner may single-handedly bring the two-minute essay back into vogue." ~ Carolyn Howard-Johnson, author, poet, publicist, teacher.***  
<http://CarolynHoward-Johnson.com>

***"Joyce Faulkner's latest book is a quick witted, multi-faceted romp across thirty short stories that span topics from dog whispering to the relationship between nightmares and dark horses. I found her well-crafted stories entertaining, poignant, and highly amusing. I highly recommend *For Shrieking Out Loud!*" ~ Raymond Grant, Author of *Don't Be Impatient...Read a Short Story and Flashes in the Pan, Fifty Short Stories for the Impatient.****

***"One can't help but identify with the pictures Joyce Faulkner paints with her words in *For Shrieking Out Loud*. She is smart and funny; reading this book is like visiting with a very entertaining old friend." ~ Carolyn Scott, Publisher of [M.D. News](#), Greater Pittsburgh edition and [All Print Media Custom Publishing and Advertising](#)***

***"Faulkner takes scenes from life and gives them back to us with humor and an impish grin." ~ Jerry Bolton, author of *fairyl!: A Cautionary Tale and Mother's Revenge****

***"Joyce Faulkner's fresh tongue-in-cheek humor turns the grains of sand from the commonality of our lives into delightful pearls. Her Bombeckian style is sure to have Erma smiling!" ~ Julie Peters, *Aspiring Poet and Columnist****

***"For Shrieking Out Loud! is like *Sex and the City*, without a lot of sex or city...funny and thoughtful all at the same time." ~ Anna Marie Gire, Editor of *Women's Independent Press*.***

***"For Shrieking Out Loud! is a delicious box of chocolate for the soul! This light, breezy and fast-paced read is full of gentle smiles, chuckles and out-loud belly laughs. With titles that entice and intrigue, Joyce reveals the many touching and***

**funny moments of her life with an occasional twist or bawdy moment. Her slices of life out Bombeck Bombeck. These are more than slices of life. They're the whole damn pie! An entertaining must read!" ~Douglas R. Bergman "Names I Can't Remember" (Shelton Award Winner) ISBN 0975917714**

**"For *Shrieking Out Loud!*, had me laughing out loud at those moments when I realized how I could relate to many of Joyce's stories. Having worked in finance for over 30 years, I read "Roll the Dice and Cross Your Fingers" and found myself saying "your right , Joyce, you are so right."~ Mary Grace Musuneggi, Wealth Management Consultant, Pittsburgh, PA**

**"Whether it's an Amazon short or a column, novel or nonfiction, I love to read Joyce Faulkner. She makes me laugh. She makes me think. Faulkner deserves best-selling recognition, and I wager she is well on her way to receiving it." ~ Allyn Evans, author of "Grab The Queen Power" and professional**



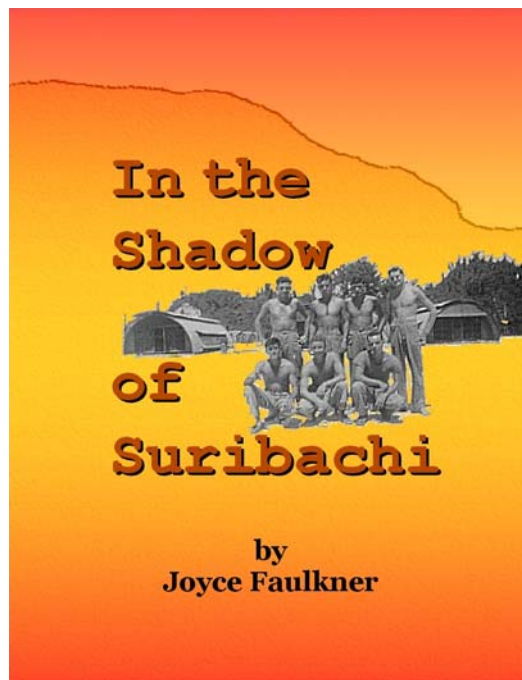
*Joyce Faulkner*



*The Best Gifts are Dreams!*



*Illustrated by Kathe Gogolewski*



***In the Shadow of Suribachi*, Winner of the Military Writers Society of America (MWSA) 2006 Gold Medal Award for Historical Fiction**



[www.militarywriters.com](http://www.militarywriters.com)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Mindy Lawrence, Publicist  
Red Engine Press  
614 Wal-Mart Drive #114  
Farmington, MO 63640  
573-330-4015

**Pittsburgh Author, Joyce Faulkner, Receives Military Writers Society of America's Gold Medal Award for *In the Shadow of Suribachi***

Farmington, MO: September 10, 2006

Pittsburgh Author, Joyce Faulkner was recently honored with the 2006 Gold Medal in historical fiction by the Military Writers Society of America (<http://www.militarywriters.com/>) for her book *In the Shadow of Suribachi*. *Suribachi* tells the story of seven young men who, for different reasons, decide to join the Marines in World War II and meet on the beach at Iwo Jima. The story is told by means of individual fictional stories backed up by Faulkner's interviews with veterans, historical research and her remembrance of her father's tales of being a Marine caught in that hellish battle over 60 years ago.

The Military Writers Society of America, with a current membership of 500, was the brainchild of Founder and President, W. H. (Bill) McDonald Jr., a crew chief/door-gunner on UH-1D Huey helicopters in 1966 and 1967. It was McDonald's vision to promote the works of other warriors who are driven to explore and reveal their experiences through fiction, non-fiction, poetry and art. McDonald read and reviewed Faulkner's book and said of her, "She gives you such an honest and intimate portrayal of men who are in combat that one would think that she was actually there. Her WWII novel about the battle on *Iwo Jima* "*In the Shadow of Suribachi*" is compelling, intense, and realistic. She writes with a male energy unbeknownst to most female authors. She will draw you into her storyline and into the people she writes about."

In October, Faulkner will attend the MWSA awards dinner in San Diego, California and receive her gold medal award for *In the Shadow of Suribachi*. Additional information on *Suribachi* and other winners can be found at <http://www.militarywriters.com/review-In%20the%20Shadow%20of%20Suribachi.htm>.

Faulkner is also scheduled to appear at the National Women's History Organization in Little Rock, Arkansas on October 20, the Prisoner of War Network Gala in Branson, Missouri on November 9 and on Veterans' Day in Branson.

Originally from Fort Smith, Arkansas, Faulkner is a chemical engineer turned writer now living in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She studied creative writing at the University of Arkansas before she obtained a degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh and an MBA from Cleveland State. Her education, along with her private

passions of aviation, history, travel and philosophy, allowed her to use her sharp observation and creative skills to write a unique literary novel like ***In the Shadow of Suribachi***.

For more information, or to schedule Ms. Faulkner for a book signing or presentation, contact Mindy Lawrence at [mplawrence@redenginepress.com](mailto:mplawrence@redenginepress.com) or 573-330-4015. Additional information on Faulkner and ***In the Shadow of Suribachi*** can be found at [www.intheshadowofsuribachi.com](http://www.intheshadowofsuribachi.com) and at [www.joycefaulkner.com](http://www.joycefaulkner.com).

# Media Kit for *In the Shadow of Suribachi*

By Joyce Faulkner



At the *Meet Me in St. Louis Book Fair*  
October 31, 2004

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## Joyce Faulkner: Biography

Joyce Faulkner holds an MBA and a Bachelor's Degree in Chemical Engineering with a Petroleum Option. She worked with Consolidated Natural Gas (CNG) for sixteen years in a variety of positions in engineering, information technology and business. In 1995, she began speaking at seminars about the role of the Internet in business relationships. After spending years using knowledge management and business re-engineering techniques to help restructure the corporation, she was put in charge of creating and maintaining the corporate Internet and Intranet sites. She left industry in 2000 to concentrate on writing full time.

Her writing credentials include feature articles, instructional pieces, manuals, profiles, technical white papers, business analyses, ghostwriting and short stories. Her column, "The History of Aerial Applications," ran in *Ag Pilot International* and "Crop and Prop International". She also had a column for *Inscriptions* called, "Where to Go When You Want to Know" and is a contributing writer for *Scribe and Quill*. She has also several ghostwriting and editing assignments to her credit. Her popular humor column, "The Weekly Shriek" appears on [www.theCelebrityCafe.com](http://www.theCelebrityCafe.com). She has written articles and reviews for *The Writer*, *Curled Up with a Good Book*, *Foreword Magazine*, *Inkwell Newswatch*, *American Oil and Gas Journal*, *Clever Magazine* and *ByLine*. She co-edits two newsletters -- the "Yarnspinner & Wordweavers Newsletter" for writers and "Salute!" for veterans and friends of veterans. Joyce also is a director of the Authors' Coalition. She's been interviewed by Paul A. Toth in his Tothworld Podcasts and has appeared on *The Lounge* a talk show hosted by Carol Espy on KDKA radio. With four other authors, she has published a series of audio classes on writing from *Double Dragon*

Press called *Audio Classes for Writers* focusing on the promotion, the art of writing and technology for writers. Along with three other award-winning authors, she recently signed with Double Dragon Press to do a second series of CDs called *Head to Head: A Writer's Audio Handbook*. She is also partner of *RRP Consulting ... STORYTELLERS* focusing on author services.

Aside from *In the Shadow of Suribachi*, Joyce has four novels in varying stages of completion and a short story collection called *Losing Patience* also from Red Engine Press. She is also co-author for a new book on writing called *The Complete Writer: a Guide to Tapping Your Full Potential* and co-editor of *The Complete Writer's Journal*. Her next book will be a collection of humorous essays called *For Shrieking Out Loud!* It's due out in spring 2007. She's also working on two non-fiction projects – *The Sharon Rogers Band* and *The Sunchon Tunnel Massacre Survivors*. Both are due out in 2007.

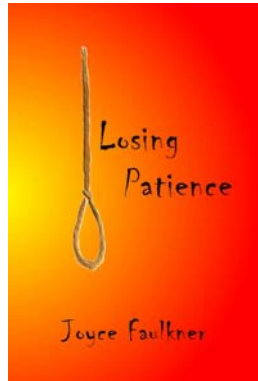
Her speaking engagements have included appearances at the Pittsburgh Junior League Book and Author event in March, 2006, readings and in writing classes at various colleges and junior colleges across the country. She and writing partner, Pat McGrath Avery, performed "Role" Call for Women Who Served at the National Women History Project Conference in Little Rock, Arkansas. She regularly appears at the American History Framery and Gallery in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania for events like "History and the Arts". In March, 2007, she presented "The Amazon Whisperer: Harness the power of this online giant to promote your books" at the First Annual Women Author Speak in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

For more information on Ms. Faulkner, check out [www.joycefaulkner.com](http://www.joycefaulkner.com), [www.losingpatience.com](http://www.losingpatience.com) and [www.intheshadowofsuribachi.com](http://www.intheshadowofsuribachi.com)

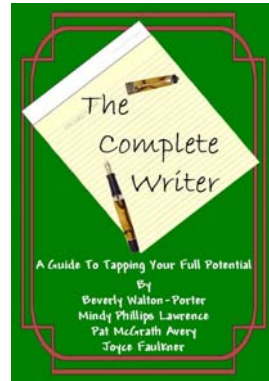
Email: [JoyceFaulkner@redenginepress.com](mailto:JoyceFaulkner@redenginepress.com)



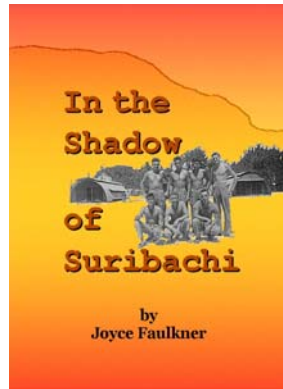
**Books by Joyce Faulkner currently available!**



[www.losingpatience.com](http://www.losingpatience.com)



[www.thecompletewriter.com](http://www.thecompletewriter.com)



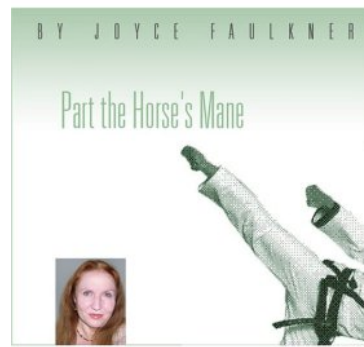
[www.intheshadowofsuribachi.com](http://www.intheshadowofsuribachi.com)



[www.redenginepress.com](http://www.redenginepress.com)



**Amazon Short**



**Amazon Short**

Joyce Faulkner is also a member of the Audio Divas who produce *Head 2 Head: A Writer's Audio Handbook* series of CDs published by Double Dragon Press.



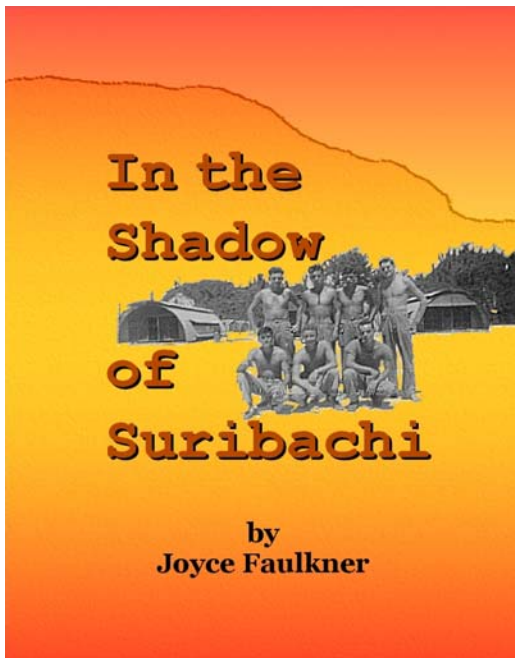
Now available for pre-publication orders & book reviews.

Joyce Faulkner's books are available through Red Engine Press. Bulk pricing is available.

Call 417-230-5555 or email [Pat@redenginepress.com](mailto:Pat@redenginepress.com)

Distributor is Biblio. [www.bibliodistributor.com](http://www.bibliodistributor.com)

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## Review

Many times children pay a heavy price for a father's war wounds. That is what adds both emotion and accuracy to *In the Shadow of Suribachi* by Joyce Faulkner.

"In a way, I began writing this book when I was a child and my father suffered a nervous breakdown," Faulkner says. "Twelve years after the Battle of Iwo Jima, the stress of those thirty-six days haunted his days and nights."

*In the Shadow of Suribachi* tells the stories of seven young men who became Marines. There's Emil Kroner who survived the Labor Day hurricane of 1935 and Bill Zimmer who lost a brother in 1937. Arty Lieberman's

relatives were victims of Hitler's fury. Danny Kline lived through the Cleveland Circus fire in 1942. Smitty fell in love with the wrong woman. Cordell was the lucky one. Kirby learned to live with the pain of war. All were strangers until their lives changed forever during the battle of Iwo Jima.

Suribachi is a powerful work. Faulkner makes you care about each character then takes you with them through one of the deadliest battles of World War II.

Reading *In the Shadow of Suribachi* should be mandatory for all Americans, especially for those with loved ones in the military and those who are serving in it. It speaks of the horrors of war and the memories that soldiers lock inside themselves, often never telling their closest family members. Faulkner brings us very close to feeling the way the Marines must have felt as they took on the gargantuan task of taking a small island in the Pacific.

If you read nothing else this year, read this book.

[www.intheshadowofsuribachi.com](http://www.intheshadowofsuribachi.com)



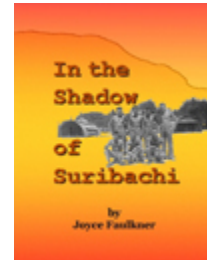
# MWSA Book Review

## In the Shadow of Suribachi

Authors: Joyce Faulkner

Publisher: Red Engine Press

Reviewer: Bill McDonald – President of the MWSA



## **War is Hell!**

You have to believe that author Joyce Faulkner was an old warrior from some previous lifetime – if you believed in reincarnation at all. She gives you such an honest and intimate portrayal of men who are in combat – that one would think that she was actually there. Her WWII novel about the battle on *Iwo Jima* “***In the Shadow of Suribachi***” is compelling, intense, and realistic. She writes with a male energy unbeknownst to most female authors. She will draw you into her storyline and into the people she writes about.

Faulkner allows you to meet and get to know the main characters prior to the battle and this makes the story more emotional and gripping. She uses her words like precious ammo and delivers her story with emotionally deadly accuracy. As a combat veteran, I felt the author was telling it like it was. Her obviously gifted writing skills make this literary journey through her book a pleasure. It is at all times entertaining, as well as insightful.

I think the word “*authentic*” applies to this accounting of the battle of Iwo Jima even though it is a fictionalized portrait of that event. This is destined to become a classic WWII book. My guess is that the author did a lot of research on this subject before undertaking the story itself. It just feels like it is so right!

I enthusiastically give this book the MWSA’s **Highest Rating of FIVE STARS!** A must read book for all fans of this genre.

***MWSA's 2006 Gold Medal Award for Historical Fiction***



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Reviewer: Joe Fabel – MWSA Review Board

Joyce Faulkner opens her novel with a review of the early growing up years of her future Marines. She portrays them as average young people from a variety of backgrounds, some well adjusted; some still seeking their role in life.

We see them facing challenges as they deal with others. Their responses are as different as they are from one another: the good, the bad, and the somewhat ugly.

Boot Camp is completed and they are on their way to a world at war in the Pacific. Each Marine brings his own psychological baggage which affects their relationships with each other. Iwo Jima is the battle zone, a fight which exposes one and all to death of self or the buddy next to him. Each discovers that the danger of battle is beyond their control. The enemy's resolve is a new experience and most frightening.

Not all return to life after war. Those few who do find their personal battles are not over. This presentation will grab your attention and hold your interest to the very end.

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What others are saying about **Suribachi...**

"I, being a combat veteran, was always under the impression that in order to write about combat you had to experience it first hand. After reading "In the Shadow of Suribachi" I was pleasantly surprised to find that, that is not always true. Author Joyce Faulkner has brilliantly captured the essence, the terror of war and the life long brotherhoods forged in the heat of battle that only those that have been through the fire and lived to tell about it could truly comprehend. Required reading for anyone, veteran or non-veteran, that wants to know what combat is really like." -- *Charles J. Slezak, Crew Chief/Door Gunner, Co. A, 101<sup>ST</sup> Aviation Battalion, 101<sup>ST</sup> Airborne Division, Vietnam 1965-1966*

"Joyce Faulkner has captured the spirit of one of the most trying times in American War history. She has created realistic characters based on people she has interviewed, and she has unified them into an interesting story --making all the characters human beings. I strongly recommend it, not only for historians, but for the relatives and those close to the men involved in that period of American history." -- *Russ Spencer, Author of "The Naked Twilight"*

"...one of those rare books that compelled me to read almost non-stop...[it] should be required reading for upper grades in high school and college. If there are those who doubt or are unaware of the horrors of war they would be well-served by this gripping narrative. As a veteran of the Pacific Theatre of Operations in W.W.II, I can vouch for the portrayal of painful conditions in that theatre... a masterful accomplishment" -- *A. J. Harris MD, FACS*

"This is a book that will remain etched in the reader's own memory, for many years to come." ~ *Hugh Rosen, author of the novel, Silent Battlefields*

"Ms. Faulkner's book is a literary novel of the first class. It appears that nothing is impossible to her pen, and no feeling, impression, or picture is beyond the power of her words. Your heart will ache for these young men and break when confronted with their deaths. Nonetheless, this is an amazing book that will allow those who never have known a WWII veteran to understand a little more about what this greatest generation was all about." ~*Sylvia Cochran, Roundtable Reviews*

" War became real and the human struggle unfolded right in front of my eyes, mind and soul...The reality of what so many are dealing with today to protect us at home and spread the freedom of spirit around the world is priceless."~*Denise Pepin*

"Seeing the world from another's eyes is always a unique experience but looking through Joyce's eyes is looking at the past with the same passion and pain as those who experienced it." -- *Dominick Miserandino, [TheCelebrityCafe.com](http://TheCelebrityCafe.com)*

"What a splendid work! It is a handful of gem shards, fragments of jewel-like lives, each a precious object in its own right, sharp and fragile, cast down seemingly at random. Then, at the end, each piece comes into focus in a stunning mosaic of humanity: still fragile, but ever more beautiful and transcendent when viewed as a part of the whole." -- *Lt Col Dave Grossman, Author of "On Combat" and "On Killing"*

**"In the Shadow of Suribachi is a collection of intense and realistic stories that explain and define the impact the Battle of Iwo Jima had not only on history, but on countless Marines' psyches as well. This book left me haunted and yearning to educate myself even more. Faulkner's work will render her readers humbled and contemplative." -- Beverly Walton-Porter, Editor, Scribe & Quill**

**"Faulkner put me right in the middle of the battle of Iwo . All that was missing were the sounds. I was amazed at how she could have described the details of the battle and not have been there herself. She wrote of things that "we" who have fought, still have nightmares over." Edward J. Wilson, TSgt, (Ret) USAF Security Policeman**

**"What's the difference between Vietnam , WWII, and the Civil War? Ask the students: quite a lot. Ask the soldiers? It's all the same. In her gripping novel, *In the Shadow of Suribachi*, Joyce Faulkner brilliantly captures that eternal truth, *War is hell*, from inside the hearts of the soldiers who fight them. In the end, we all perish, on the battlefield and in our souls." -- Ken Goldberg, Clinical Psychologist and Author of *Peter Squared***

**"Author Joyce Faulkner has introduced the main characters in this story leading up to their experience in the Marine Corp during the battle for Iwo Jima. By doing this, you feel you know how each will react in the carnage of war. There are some surprises that make this one of those books that's hard to put down. My time in the service was during peace time, both in the Marine Corp. (active duty) 56- 58 and the PA National Guard (Army) Reserve- 54-56. I have the deepest respect and appreciation for those who have served in combat." -- Tony Dissen, Pittsburgh , PA**

**"Historical fiction at its best combines authenticity of historical events with a human touch. In the Shadow of Suribachi exemplifies just such historical fiction. The reader is introduced by several vignettes to a varied array of youthful personalities before WWII. Then in ten crisply written chapters these young people come together in one horrific battle at Iwo Jima . Graphic realism combined with artful dialogue lends an emotional intensity and immediacy to a famous battle. Joyce Faulkner has written a real page turner that draws the reader inexorably into the suffering and pain of war and deepens one's appreciation for the immense human cost of all war." -- Fran McGrath, High School History Teacher for 34 years, Pittsburg , Kansas**

**In the Shadow of Suribachi is an earnest and compassionate book. Through her story, Ms Faulkner conveys a deep interest in her subject and she writes with empathy and sincerity of a battle that should not be forgotten, and of the men who fought it." ~ BlogCritics.org**

**"I finished the book and was done with it long before it was done with me. I was so sad that the read was over. I wanted more! More of their lives, more of their children's lives. Sequel? One can only hope. ~ Georgia Richardson, Author of *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Throne*.**

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**JUNIOR LEAGUE OF PITTSBURGH**  
Women building better communities.

## Book & Author Event: "Coffee, Tea and Read"

**Date:** Sunday, March 19th, 2006 , 2:00 p.m, Carnegie Library Lecture Hall

# COFFEE, TEA and READ

**Sunday, March 19, 2006, 2:00 p.m. at The Carnegie Lecture Hall, 4400 Forbes Avenue in Oakland**

Spend a Sunday afternoon with three featured authors at the Junior League of Pittsburgh's Book & Author event, "Coffee, Tea and Read." You'll feel revitalized on this spring day from lively discussions and satisfying samplings of coffees and teas, followed by a book signing.

### JOYCE FAULKNER

Joyce Faulkner is a novelist and freelance writer living in Pittsburgh, PA.

In her latest book, *IN THE SHADOW OF SURIBACHI*, Faulkner tackles that most delicate of stories -- what war means to those who go, those who return and those who are alive because their fathers survived the unthinkable. This collection of fictional stories is a compilation of the stories the author heard from her father and interviews with veterans, young boys sent to war, and caught in a hellish battle at Iwo Jima.

Joyce Faulkner is the humor columnist for [www.thecelebritycafe.com](http://www.thecelebritycafe.com), *Clever Magazine*, and author of several books of fiction and nonfiction. A successful writer, she holds a degree in Chemical Engineering and a Masters of Business Administration.

### ABBY MENDELSON

Award-winning writer Abby Mendelson has written countless magazine and newspaper stories, written, edited or ghostwritten more than 24 books on subjects including government, sports, business, history, education, religion, and the arts.

In *PITTSBURGH: A PLACE IN TIME*, he brings us a collection of his writings about Pittsburgh neighborhoods. These essays will present Pittsburghers this fond yet clear-eyed view of their city, and for non-Pittsburghers or those new to the region, it provides a window into a city of neighborhoods and colorful individuals who defy and confirm stereotypes simultaneously.

Abby Mendelson holds a Ph.D. in English from the University of Pittsburgh, is an Adjunct Professor at Point Park University, and a community volunteer.

### WINIFRED GALLAGHER

Noted journalist and cultural critic Winifred Gallagher is the author of *HOUSE THINKING*, a psychological tour and study of the American home.

Stressing the home's substance over its style, *HOUSE THINKING* is a surprising look at how we live -- and how we could. Gallagher presents the American way of life and the notion of space in an innovative and engrossing manner—by examining how our homes reflect our identity and affect our daily lives.

In addition to writing books examining a wide range of subjects, Gallagher has written for numerous journals and magazines including *Atlantic Monthly*, *Rolling Stone*, and the *New York Times*. She lives in Manhattan and Long Eddy, New York, and grew up in Pennsylvania.



## **For Immediate Release**

Mindy Lawrence, Publicist  
Red Engine Press  
614 Wal Mart Drive #114  
Farmington, MO 63640  
mplawrence@redenginepress.com

## **In a Time of War, A New Book from Joyce Faulker about Iwo Jima**

Author Joyce Faulkner has a new book coming out in September 2005 from Red Engine Press called ***In the Shadow of Suribachi***, a fictional retelling of the Battle of Iwo Jima. It follows a group of seven young men who become Marines in World War II. ***Suribachi*** is Faulkner's second book from Red Engine Press.

Emil Kroner survived the Labor Day hurricane of 1935, Bill Zimmer lost a brother in 1937, Arty Lieberman's relatives were victims of Hitler's fury, Danny Kline lived through the Cleveland Circus fire in 1942, Smitty fell in love with the wrong woman, Cordell was the lucky one, Kirby learned to live with the pain of war. All were strangers until their lives changed forever during the battle of Iwo Jima.

After reading an advanced copy of ***Suribachi***, Charles J. Slezak, Crew Chief/Door Gunner, Co. A, 101<sup>ST</sup> Aviation Battalion, 101<sup>ST</sup> Airborne Division, Vietnam 1965-1966 said. "*Author Joyce Faulkner has brilliantly captured the essence, the terror of war and the life long brotherhoods forged in the heat of battle that only those that have been through the fire and lived to tell about it could truly comprehend.*"

Joyce Faulkner is the author of *Losing Patience* and a former engineer. Her writing credits include *The Weekly Shriek* for [TheCelebrityCafe.com](http://TheCelebrityCafe.com), blah, blah, blah.

Additional information on Faulkner and ***In the Shadow of Suribachi*** can be found at [www.intheshadowofsuribachi.com](http://www.intheshadowofsuribachi.com) and at [www.joycefaulkner.com](http://www.joycefaulkner.com).

Category: Fiction  
Title: *In the Shadow of Suribachi*  
Author: Joyce Faulkner  
Publisher: Red Engine Press  
# Pages: 224  
Perfect Bound  
ISBN: 0-9745652-0-2  
Pub Date: September 2005

## **An interview with Joyce Faulkner**

### **Intro:**

Faulkner's second book, *In the Shadow of Suribachi*, was released from Red Engine Press on September 30, 2005. It tells about the lives of seven fictional young men who became Marines and fought together in one of the bloodiest battles of World War II.

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### **1. Q: What motivated you to write *In the Shadow of Suribachi*?**

JKF: Stories about the battle of Iwo Jima are part of my earliest childhood memories. My father was a Marine and a World War II veteran. He had an album of photographs that I thumbed through so many times that it began to fall apart. We had to have it rebound. A scrap of newsprint told how his squad was killed off leaving him the only survivor -- twice. At the time, I was too young to understand just how devastating that was to him. When I was ten, he had what was then termed a 'nervous breakdown' and the stories turned darker. When I began writing full time in 2000, I began with this novel because it was so much a part of my own life. However, the research affected me more than I expected. Things Dad told me began to make sense and I gained a new appreciation of what he and his friends faced. Although I never thought about abandoning the project, it was the most personal and heart wrenching journey of my life.

### **2. Q: You chose to use a fictional format for the book instead of nonfiction. Why?**

JKF: Fiction allows the author to go after deeper truths than are possible in the nonfiction format. Many of the men who spoke to me asked for anonymity. Aside from that, there were things I wanted to leave out, philosophical ideas I wanted to include. I wanted to choose settings that would educate readers on the world these boys knew. I wanted to work with parable and metaphor. I wanted to create a work that was both historical fiction and literary novel.

### **3. Q: *Suribachi* tells about an event that took place 60 years ago. What about this topic makes it universal and ageless?**

JKF: In the Civil War, the damage war wreaks on a man's soul was called 'Soldier's Heart', in World War I it was known as 'Shell Shock'. What was 'Battle Fatigue' in World War II is now 'Post Traumatic Stress Syndrome'. Whatever the label, this sorrow is the universal toll of combat. Young men are both idealistic and innocent. They go to war for many reasons – patriotism, adventure, a search for worth, because there are no other options, as a rite of passage. The profundity of war often leaves them deeply troubled. In defense of what they hold most dear, they sometimes face choices that run

counter to their core beliefs. *In the Shadow of Suribachi* reflects on who these boys were before the war and what they became afterwards.

**4. Q: When you were doing research for the book, what was the most interesting thing you learned about Iwo Jima that you didn't know before?**

JKF: In preparing this book for publication, I came across the work of Lt. Col. David Grossman who is the head of the “Killology Department” at the University in Jonesboro Arkansas. His two books, “On Killing” and “On Combat” provided me with a better understanding of how war damages the participants. *In the Shadow of Suribachi* reflects many of his studies on how people integrate this experience into their lives.

**5. Q: Your first book was *Losing Patience*, a collection of short fiction that dealt with human emotion and frailty. What connection do you see between that book and *Suribachi*?**

JKF: Like *Losing Patience*, *In the Shadow of Suribachi* is a multi-layered study of human nature. The novel is a circle – from *Finding Paulina* where old soldiers search for lost innocence to *The Brafferton* where Kirby and Jack reach out to each other over the centuries for comfort. In between, we see Bill's growth from a stuttering little brother to the man who tries to save everyone.

**6. Q: What techniques did you use to get inside the mind and emotions of a Marine in World War II?**

JKF: First of all, the years spent observing my father's struggle to get past what happened to him when he was nineteen gave me a good feel for the ambivalence old soldiers might feel. I studied the sequence of the battle itself – trying to pinpoint where the boys were and what they would have seen during each important event during the thirty-six days of the battle. In addition, I interviewed other Marines who participated in the Battle of Iwo Jima to get their perspectives. I spent a good deal of time verifying the social mores of the era. These boys were Depression era children. Their material expectations were considerably less than those of today's kids. There was no television. They learned about world events through newspapers, magazines and pre-movie newsreels. As a result, European and Asian troubles seemed very far away. Although the war loosened the rules, young men still wanted their wives to be proper young women. I went back to the magazines of the times – Saturday Evening Post, Life, Time. I spent many hours in the library reading letters to the editors of these publications trying to get a feel for the jargon as well as the popular issues of the time.

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**Joyce Faulkner**

*Author of **For Shrieking Out Loud!**, **In the Shadow of Suribachi**, & **Losing Patience***

Ms. Faulkner is available for readings or speaking engagements. She enjoys working with book clubs, libraries, bookstores, veterans groups, high school and college classes.

Her topics include "Using Humor to Make a Point", "Finding Fun In a Traffic Jam", "'Role' Call"(Customized for your group), "So You Want to write a Book", "Harnessing the Power of Amazon" and "Don't Let the Big Bugs Byte: Technology for Writers", & "Dealing with Personal Trauma through Writing".

To book an event with Ms. Faulkner or to request a review copy of one of her books, contact Carolyn Scott at [AllPrintMedia@yahoo.com](mailto:AllPrintMedia@yahoo.com) or call 412-377-6688