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SHORT BIOGRAPHY



Born in Roswell, New Mexico, Jo Ann grew up in a military family. It was on a brief layover in Hawai'i on the way to Japan that she fell in love with Hawai'i. Years later, she found her way back to Hawai'i. She married, became a nurse and worked in the neonatal unit Kapi'olani Medical Center. As a coach and referee for AYSO soccer, she enjoyed helping children develop positively and gain confidence in themselves. She has taken Hawaiian language and culture classes. Volunteering at a local Punana Leo preschool, (a Hawaiian medium education preschool) helps her further her learning of Hawaiian. Her writing focuses on events in Hawaii as well as other stories that have ties to Hawaii.

Bio. Sound Bite:

Jo Ann, a 35 plus year Hawai'i resident, is a children's book writer focusing on events and children in Hawai'i.

Memberships:

Daughters of the American Revolution - 1

year

Independent Book Publishers Association - 8+

years

Sigma Theta Tau - since 1994

Society of Children's Book Writers & Illustrators

Have You Seen Tucker?

***Published:** March 2021

***On Sale Date:** January 30, 2021

***Price:** \$18.95 Perfect Bound

***Price:** \$24.95 Hardback

***Price:** \$9.99 Ebook

***Pages:** 28

***Trim Size:** 11 x 8.5

***Binding:** Perfect Bound

ISBN: 978-1-949711-39-4 Perfect Bound

ISBN: 978-1-949711-40-0 Ebook

***Format:** Available in printed copy, perfect bound/ paperback, hardback and on eBook.

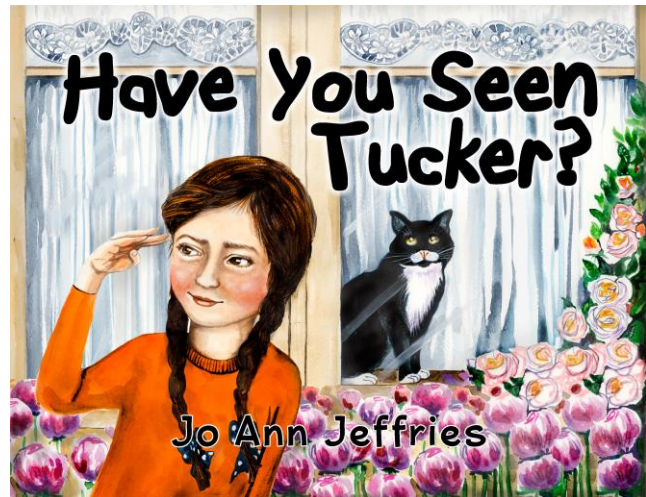
*** *Have You Seen Tucker?*** Interested in stocking these books on your shelves? Contact IPS at ingramcontent.com or call (800)-215-2608

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Have You Seen Tucker?

Overview:

A young girl has lost her pet cat, Tucker, and sets out to find him around her rural home in Idaho. She runs across many other animals out in the wilderness and asks them about her cat. Great book for young animal lovers!



Interview Questions for Tucker Book

1. How did you get interested in writing?

Growing up my father would, among other things, write short stories and try to get Readers Digest to publish them in their magazine. He also was in a country/western band and wrote a few songs. I always thought that was great that he did that. In high school and periodically in college, I wrote a some poetry. After my children were born, occasionally I would write a little story about whatever was of interest at the time. I always thought it would be nice to write a story well enough to get it published.

2. What gave you the idea to write 'Where's Tucker'?

I got the idea for the Tucker book when our tuxedo cat went missing from our home in Payette, Idaho. He was the biggest cat I've ever had and was so friendly. We went on a weekend trip and when we returned home I couldn't find him anywhere. He used to frequent the bird feeder, our garden and all around our house. We had so many interesting animals and birds that I thought it would be cute to make a little picture story about finding him. It was a bit therapeutic for me because I really missed him.

3. What is the main concept of the book?

The main concept of this book is to find Tucker by asking all the birds and animals that frequented our home. The birds and animals are found easily in Idaho and I thought it would be fun to show them in this book.

4. Where in Idaho does the story take place?

The story takes place in Payette County about 12 miles from the border of Ontario, Oregon. Our home was in a valley called Little Willow Valley and our street name was Little Willow Rd. The area has mainly farms and cows and plenty of other wildlife.

5. Tell the readers a little about your life.

My father was in the Air Force so we moved around about every 3 years or so. Even though I was born in New Mexico, I never lived there. My mother's side of the family is mostly from Kansas and my Dad's is from Tennessee. In my life I have lived in at least 6 states and Japan. I worked as an RN for over 30 years, 8-10 years of which were in neonatal and pediatrics. I have 3 adult children. I currently volunteer for a pre school/day care called Punana Leo which is an Hawaiian speaking facility. My hobbies are reading, writing, running, baking cookies, and, learning to speak Hawaiian.

6. How did you come to live in Idaho?

After living in Hawaii for 25+ years, my husband retired and wanted move back to Chico, California. We lived there for about 6 years before finding our home in Payette after looking in many states. The area was beautiful and there was so much wildlife around us. Even though we lived in the country, we were only about 20 minutes from town. It was a beautiful place to live. We lived there for 7 years before returning to Hawaii. And now, after 7 years living on the Big Island of Hawai'i, we are back in Idaho.

Puanani and the Volcano

***Published:** March 2, 2020

***On Sale Date:** January 2, 2020

***Price:** \$16.95 Perfect Bound

***Price:** \$9.99 Ebook

***Pages:** 68

***Trim Size:** 6 x 9

***Binding:** Perfect Bound

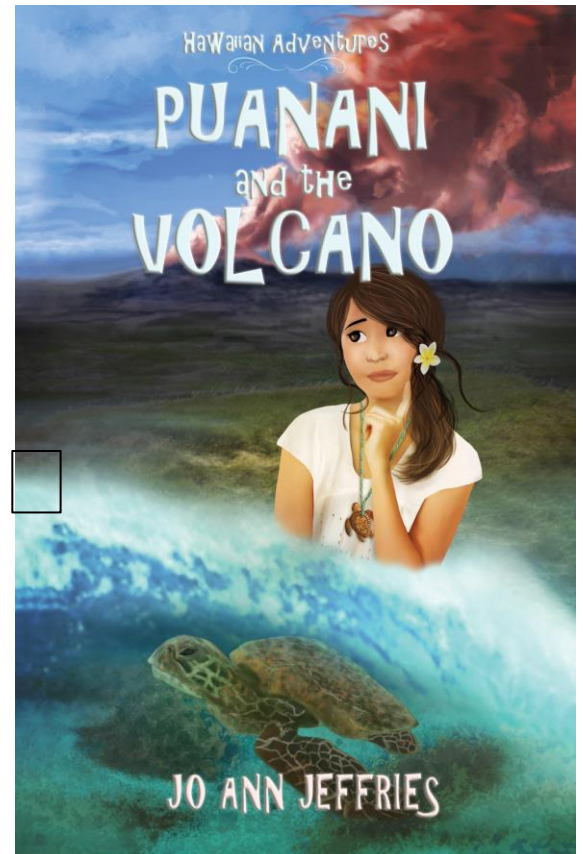
ISBN: 978-1-949711-05-9 Perfect Bound

ISBN: 978-1-949711-06-6 Ebook

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Contact: Angela.Broyles@gmail.com or 256-762-7153



Puanani and the Volcano

Overview:

Kilauea's eruption on the Big Island of Hawaii affected an elementary school girl Puanani. It is her encouraging this meaningful story that shows Puanani turning her feelings of helplessness about the lava flowing into the ocean into a dogged determination to save as much sea life as possible—especially the turtles. Her persistence inspires her family and canoe club to help her in the quest to make beaches and shorelines a cleaner and safer place for the animals and people who love them.

Short Review:

Puanani was in her elementary school class when Kilauea erupted, creating despair for her island and her loved ones. After a trip to the beach, she finds a way to turn her helpless fear into motivation to save some of the sea animals who live around the island of Hawaii. But can a young girl have enough power to face the aftermath of a volcano? With persistence and courage, anything may be possible!

Q & A for Puanani

1. How did you get interested in writing?

Growing up my father would, among other things, write short stories and try to get Readers Digest to publish them in their magazine. He also was in a country/western band and wrote a few songs. I always thought that was great that he did that. In high school and periodically in college, I wrote a some poetry. After my children were born, occasionally I would write a little story about whatever was of interest at the time. I thought it would be nice to write a story well enough to get it published.

2. What gave you the idea to write 'Puanani and the Volcano'?

Actually, the idea for this book was a suggestion from my publisher, Angela Broyles. We were discussing another book I had sent her and she thought it would be a nice idea to write about the earthquake and subsequent lava flow. We brainstormed it for a bit and this is the result.

3. What is the main concept of the book?

The main concept of this book is that no matter what happens around one, there is a way to make a positive outcome. At first Puanani felt helpless about the lava flowing into the ocean, but, later on she turned that into a positive by being persistent in her desire to take care of the sea life where ever she went.

4. On what island does the story take place?

The story takes place on the Big Island of Hawaii. There are eight major islands that make up the State of Hawaii. Ni'ihau, Kaua'i, Oahu, Moloka'i, Maui, Lana'i, Kaho'olawe and the Big Island of Hawai'i. The Big Island, also known as Moku 'O Keawe, is the biggest of all the islands. It is the furthest south and has two main cities, Kona on the west side and Hilo on the east side. This story focuses on Hilo which is the side where the Kilauea Volcano erupted.

5. Tell the readers a little about your life.

My father was in the Air Force so we moved around about every 3 years or so. Even though I was born in New Mexico, I never lived there. My mother's side of the family is mostly from Kansas and my Dad's is from Tennessee. In my life I have lived in at least 6 states and Japan. I worked as an RN for over 30 years, 8-10 years of which were in neonatal and pediatrics. I have 3 adult children. I currently volunteer for a pre school/day care called Punana Leo which is an Hawaiian speaking facility. My hobbies are reading, writing, running, baking cookies, and, learning to speak Hawaiian.

6. How did you come to live in Hawaii?

When I was 9 my father was assigned to Yokota Air Base in Japan. On our flight there, we stopped in Honolulu to refuel. I thought then that I would love to live there. After college, I was a flight attendant for United Air Lines and met my first husband. He was from Hawaii. We married and I have lived in Hawaii for over 30 years. I currently live on the Big Island of Hawaii. Because I raised my family here and my grandchildren are part Hawaiian, I have an affection for Hawaii and the Hawaiian culture.

Praises & Reviews

After the 2018 eruption of the Kilauea volcano, a young girl organizes a beach cleanup in this debut illustrated chapter book for kids ages 5 to 8.

Puanani, a brown-skinned Hawaiian elementary schooler who loves turtles, is feeling nervous about giving a science presentation to her class. Then a mysterious earthquake interrupts the day's lessons. After the students emerge from under their desks, school ends for the day. Puanani and her brother, Kua, learn from the night's news reports that Kilauea is erupting and sending lava into the sea. Both of them are afraid until their parents talk with them about how to stay safe if another earthquake strikes. Puanani gives her science presentation without a hitch the next day, but she's sad when a park ranger at Volcano Park later tells her that Kilauea's lava kills sea life, including the turtles she loves, as it spills into the sea. She's also unhappy to hear that people cause more harm to the sea than volcanoes—she wants turtles and other creatures to have “a clean place to live”—and sees refuse like fish hooks and partial fishnets along a shoreline that she and her family visit. Puanani begins to pick up trash, and eventually gets help from her parents and a hui wa'a (canoe club) after she plucks up the nerve to speak to its board. Very little conflict occurs in the book's 11 quick chapters; while Puanani is afraid of public speaking, she prepares copiously, and encounters no significant difficulties in the moment.

Young readers interested in sea life and volcanic activity will appreciate paragraphs detailing lava flow, and others may enjoy learning the italicized Hawaiian words that occur throughout the text and are defined in a box at the beginning of each short chapter. Bright, full-color illustrations depict key scenes; most adults and children are shown with different shades of brown skin and dark hair.

For high drama, look elsewhere—but a diverse cast and contemporary setting set this book apart from other volcano books.

Kirkus Review