

Sharon White

Sharon White lives and writes in Temple, Texas. After receiving a BA in elementary education from Notre Dame College and teaching Kindergarten, 1st, and 4th grade, she got the job of a lifetime: stay-at-home mom with her two daughters. Even during the years at home, she fed her interest in writing -- entering local writing contests, attending conferences, and writing book reviews and short pieces for literary magazines. She always encouraged her girls to write, too. "I remember when our family took a driving trip to the Grand Canyon," White recalls, "I had the girls create Haikus and draw pictures of the canyon, while they were in the car."

White got to know Janna Beatty first as a friend, then as a professional image consultant. "I'd known Janna for years before I approached her with the idea of creating a book," White says. "Janna had 30 years of great information in her head, and I wanted to get inside and write it all down. It began with a few notes written on college-ruled paper, then came the audio tapes." Chapters were sent back and forth by snail mail in the beginning, because White lives in Temple and Beatty lives in Waco. After 2 ½ years of writing and rewriting, Wheatmark Press published the manuscript.



"Writing Quintessential Style has truly been a family affair," says White. Her oldest daughter, Becky, who happens to be a writing/publishing major, helped during the editing process. And her younger daughter, Sarah Jo, who is a theatre costume designer, created the cover. She says she can't leave out her husband, who has always been her biggest supporter.

"I never thought I'd be publishing a book at my age," White confesses, "But I guess George Eliot's quote rings true: It is never too late to be what you might have been."