

About Paddy Eger



Paddy Eger has been a writer since 2000. Her publishing credits include dozens of newspaper and magazine articles, a hundred web and education blog articles, three book awards for her nonfiction book *Educating America: 101 Strategies for Adult Assistants in K-8 Classrooms* and praise for *Educating America Desktop Flipbook*. Paddy's debut novel, *84 Ribbons*, the first in a trilogy, focuses on the fiercely competitive world of ballet. Her books are available at select bookstores, libraries and online booksellers. For more information on Paddy's publishing credits and her writing blog visit PaddyEger.com

Paddy graduated from the University of Washington and taught elementary school for more than twenty years. Paddy produced original poems, dances and songs for her classroom students to encourage free movement activities that foster student creativity. She often organized classroom and school-wide talent shows. When Paddy taught in the PCEP, a co-op public school, she established a training program for classroom volunteers that became the foundation for her *Educating America* books.

After Paddy retired from teaching she discovered her enthusiasm for writing. Her first love, at the age of three, was dancing. She took lessons in tap, character, jazz and ballet until she was twenty. Her performing in local recitals, area functions, musicals and for a World's Fair inspired her first writings to focus on dance. Her love of being raised as a small-town girl and a desire to create realistic stories where skill and steady persistence open doors for dancers became the foundation for *84 Ribbons* and ultimately it became a trilogy. These YA novels follow two young women through their first year of professional dancing as they balance day-to-day life with the complex world of ballet. Paddy believes writing and dancing share several traits. Both require practice and perseverance as well as a good sense of movement and a desire to share self-expression.

In addition to the ballet trilogy, Paddy's soon to be released *Tasman*, is a YA adventure novel inspired by a trip to the brutal penal colony in Port Arthur, Tasmania. Intrigued by the true story of a documented inmate imprisoned for stealing a handkerchief, the story of Ean emerged. It began as a poem, grew to a short story and evolved into the novel, *Tasman*. The young Irishman travels from England to the prison, wondering if he'll survive the brutality during his three-year sentence or attempt a daring escape. Paddy says, "Stories come to me like an itch; they refuse to leave until I promise to scratch around for their meaning and write them down."

To foster and train her inner writer Paddy attends numerous writing classes and writing conferences, including Write on the Sound, a conference in her hometown of Edmonds, Washington—a creative, artistic and writing community along Puget Sound. She participates in two writing groups and attends area writing functions where she meets with other talented writers.

Paddy volunteers in four elementary classrooms and assists the United Way of Snohomish County, Washington training reading volunteers. She's frequently invited to share her ideas on volunteerism with community groups and teachers.

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Paddy actively looks for ways to encourage all citizens to step-up and step-in to our schools to support teachers and students.

In her free time, Paddy and her husband, Rich, enjoy travel in the United States and internationally and are avid supporters of the arts in the Greater Seattle area. They enjoy spending time with their adult children, Brent and Christine at their summer home on Hood Canal.

Chat, Comment and Connect with paddy at PaddyEger.com

Interview Introduction

Paddy Eger has been a writer since 2000. Her publishing credits include dozens of newspaper and magazine articles, a hundred web and education blog articles, three book awards for her nonfiction book *Educating America: 101 Strategies for Adult Assistants in K-8 Classrooms* and praise for *Educating America Desktop Flipbook*.

Paddy graduated from the University of Washington and taught elementary school for more than twenty years and fostered student creativity through original dances, songs and free movement activities. She established a volunteer training program which became the foundation for her *Educating America* books.

After Paddy retired from teaching, she discovered her enthusiasm for writing. Her debut novel, *84 Ribbons*, the first in a trilogy, exposes life off stage in the fiercely competitive world of ballet. These YA novels sprang from years of dance lessons, her love of being raised a small-town girl, and a desire to create realistic stories where skill and steady persistence open doors for dancers.

In addition to the ballet trilogy, Paddy's soon to be released *Tasman*, is a YA adventure novel inspired by a trip to the brutal penal colony in Port Arthur, Tasmania. Intrigued by the true story of a documented inmate imprisoned for stealing a handkerchief, the story of Ean emerged.

Her books are available at select bookstores, libraries and online booksellers. Chat, Comment and Connect with Paddy at PaddyEger.com

Brief Introduction

Since 2000, Paddy Eger has dozens of newspaper and magazine articles, over a hundred blog articles, and three book awards for her two nonfiction books *Educating America*.

Her debut novel, *84 Ribbons*, the first in a trilogy, about the fiercely competitive world of ballet. Paddy's soon to be released YA adventure novel *Tasman*, was inspired by a trip to the brutal penal colony in Port Arthur, Tasmania.

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300 DPI 8 x 10 Photo file available from Paddy's website

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