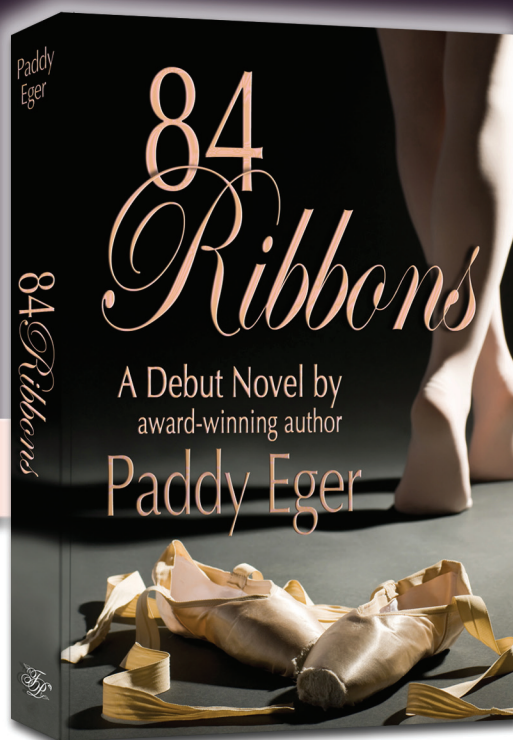


Tendrill Press

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*A compelling coming-of-age novel,
Eger's look inside the world of ballet
offers inspiration and heartbreak.*

—Miriam Wenger-Landis,
former ballerina with the Miami City Ballet and
author of *Girl in Motion* and *Breaking Pointe*

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Any young dancer will find herself in Marta's story.

—Newbery Honor author Kirby Larson (*Hattie Big Sky*)

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Refreshingly Different. **The First in a New Ballet Trilogy** *from multiple award-winning author Paddy Eger*

84 Ribbons follows Marta Selbryth, a young ballet dancer, as she realizes her dream: to become a professional dancer. We walk beside her as she approaches each twist and turn in her new life: the exhaustion of long hours of practices and rehearsals, mounting health issues and the need to compete for roles, all challenges she hadn't fully anticipated.

"Stories come to me like an itch; they refuse to leave until I promise to scratch around for their meaning and write them down." Like many writers, Paddy's novels arise from her background. She grew up in a small town near Seattle, WA. where dancing was her first love. At the age of three she began lessons in tap, character, jazz and ballet. Over the next seventeen years she performed in local recitals, area functions, musicals and a World's Fair. Those years of dance, her life experiences, my travels and my ongoing involvement in supporting ballet and the arts inspired me to satisfy my story itch. *84 Ribbons* became the first book in what is now a ballet trilogy.

Dancers are excellent examples of physical, mental and emotional tenacity. They are strong yet agile, dedicated and driven while attempting to keep open the doors to a normal life. Since writing *84 Ribbons*, I've been told Marta's character is strong and resilient; 'I couldn't do what she did'. That's not true. Every time we face challenges and disappointments, we discover more about our inner strength and our resiliency. I hope people who read *84 Ribbons*, *When the Music Stops* as well as *Letters to Follow*, will come away saying, 'if Marta can do it, so can I.'

Find Paddy on



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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, and three book awards for her nonfiction book *Educating America*. She writes with a unique voice that bring to light the themes of friendship, a budding romance, and learning to balance the rigors of pursuing a dream while building a balanced life.

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.

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

Praises for *84 Ribbons*

...believable characters who tell an engaging story, *84 Ribbons* is sure to please YA readers, giving them a true heroine, who dares and strives to dream big.

—**Lauraine Snelling** Author of the *Red River of the North* series, *Wild West Wind* series, *Wake the Dawn*, *S.A.V.E. Squad* series and more.

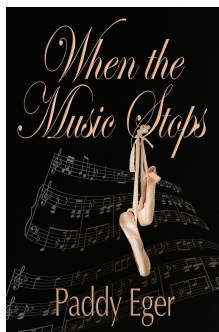
...*84 Ribbons* brings Marta into womanhood and onto center stage. We feel the music swell and the moment arrive—for Marta, and ballerinas everywhere..

—**Emily Hill** Author of *The Ghost Chaser's Daughter*

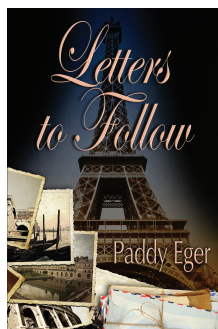
I'm a high school junior and I've danced competitively since elementary school. I enjoyed *84 Ribbons* because it's about an ordinary girl from a small town who has the talent and the passion to pursue her goal to dance! The heroine, Marta, gave me hope for any challenge I might face.

—**Riley H.**
Student and dancer

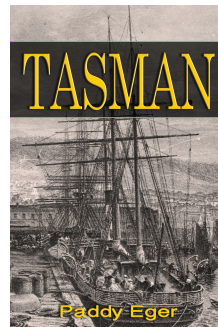
COMING SOON FROM PADDY EGER



Marta struggles to regain her ability to dance. As she finds a job to support herself, her personal life takes several unexpected, harrowing turns. Will she dance again? Will she find the inner strength she needs to meet these challenges head-on?



Marta's best friend Lynne, begins an adventure to Paris on a dancer exchange and lives in a wacky boarding house. When not performing, she travels Europe with her uncle and sends Marta postcards, promising *letters to follow*.



In 1850, Irish lad, Ean McCloud, steps off the ship, his legs in shackles. Falsely convicted, he steps into serving his sentence in Tasmania's Port Arthur Penal Colony. Follow Ean's adventures as he not only seeks to survive but to escape!

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