

About Paddy Eger



Paddy Eger began her writing career when she retired from teaching in 2000. Her publishing credits include dozens of newspaper and magazine articles, hundreds of blog articles, three book awards for her nonfiction book, *Educating America: 101 Strategies for Adult Assistants in K-8 Classrooms*, and praise for the *Educating America flip book and workbook*. These materials grew out of her twenty plus years as an elementary grade educator and her years leading parent training in the PCEP, a public school coop. Paddy continues to actively support and encourage adults to step-up and step-into our schools to support teachers and students.

Paddy recently began her fiction writing career. Her award-winning debut YA novel, *84 Ribbons*, is the first book in a trilogy. It focuses on the fiercely competitive world of ballet. The second book, *When the Music Stops*, and the third, *Letters to Follow*, shadow Marta and Lynne as they step into adulthood. These YA novels shadow two young women through their first years of professional dancing as they balance day-to-day life with the complex world of ballet.

Interest in dance began for Paddy when she was three and took her first lessons. Over the following years she took tap, character, jazz and ballet classes. Her performances in local recitals, area functions, musicals and a World's Fair inspired her to focus her initial fiction writings on dance. Her love of being raised as a small-town girl and a desire to write realistic stories created the foundation for the ballet trilogy. She believes writing and dancing share several traits. Both require practice and perseverance as well as a good sense of movement and a desire to explore personal expression.

In addition to ballet stories, Paddy is writing *Tasman*, a YA adventure novel inspired by a trip to the site of the brutal penal colony in Port Arthur, Tasmania. The story of Ean emerged after learning the true story of a documented inmate imprisoned for stealing a handkerchief. Paddy shares how he copes with his three-year prison sentence and poses the question: will he 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 her inner writer, Paddy attends writing classes and conferences, including Write on the Sound in her hometown of Edmonds, Washington—a creative, artistic and writing community along Puget Sound. She also participates in two writing groups, writing organizations and functions that support authors.

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



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Interview Introduction

Paddy Eger began her writing career in 2000. Her publishing credits include newspaper and magazine articles, blog articles, three book awards for her nonfiction book *Educating America: 101 Strategies for Adult Assistants in K-8 Classrooms* and praise for her *Educating America* flipbook and teacher workbook.

Paddy graduated from the University of Washington and taught elementary school for more than twenty years. She established a volunteer training program which became the foundation for her *Educating America* materials.

After she retired from teaching, Paddy discovered her enthusiasm for writing. Her award-winning debut novel, *84 Ribbons*, the first in a trilogy, exposes life off stage in the fiercely competitive world of ballet. Book two, *When the Music Stops*, and book three, *Letters to Follow*, shadow Marta and Lynne as they step into adulthood. Their stories sprang from Paddy's years of dance lessons, her love of being raised a small-town girl, and a desire to create realistic stories where skill and tenacity open doors for dancers.

In addition to the ballet trilogy, Paddy's is in final edits of *Tasman*, a YA adventure novel inspired by a trip to the brutal penal colony in Port Arthur, Tasmania. The story of Ean emerged after learning about a documented inmate facing three years of imprisonment for stealing a handkerchief. Readers will discover how Ean copes with his three year prison sentence.

Paddy's books are available at select bookstores, libraries and online booksellers. You may Chat, Comment and Connect with her at PaddyEger.com

Brief Introduction

Since 2000, Paddy Eger has written newspaper and magazine articles, and blogs. She's received three awards for her award-winning nonfiction book *Educating America* and praise for the accompanying flipbook and workbook.

Paddy's award-winning debut novel, *84 Ribbons*, introduces readers to the fiercely competitive world of ballet. Book two, *When the Music Stops*, and book three, *Letters to Follow*, continue the story of two dancer friends, Marta and Lynne. Paddy is also in final edits for *Tasman*, a YA adventure novel, inspired by a trip to the brutal penal colony in Port Arthur, Tasmania. Paddy's books are available at select bookstores, libraries and online booksellers. Chat, Comment and Connect with Paddy at PaddyEger.com

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



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