

# Frequently Asked Questions

## 1. Where were you born?

In Pennsylvania! But, as Lee Smith says, I moved to North Carolina quick as I heard about it. (I was one year old then.)

## 2. What was your family like?

Noisy! There were ten of us. 4 boys, 4 girls, 2 parents. We usually had a cat or a dog but they lived outside because we didn't have extra room inside. Also because my mom believed that's where animals belonged.

## 3. Where did you go to school?

Mtn. View Elementary (1st –8th grades. There was no kindergarten back in the day.) I also graduated from Fred T. Foard High School and Lenoir Rhyne University. I studied Art at Catawba Valley Community College and James Madison University.

## 4. What jobs have you held?

I've taught special education in North Carolina public schools, drama classes in a summer camp, literature to homeschool support groups, and I've even had a few cleaning jobs.

## 5. Where have you traveled?

I love this question. I've been to Hawaii, Germany, Belgium, Lithuania, The Czech Republic, Ukraine, Canada, Nigeria and a bunch of the United States. Also Texas which apparently thinks it's a whole other country.

## 6. What unusual jobs have you held?

While in high school I drove a school bus. Back in the day, North Carolina hired student drivers. (The buses were set so they wouldn't go very fast!) I also did cleaning on a farm for show horses.

## 7. Why did you write BLUE?

Before going to a writing workshop, I received an assignment to research a local story. I discovered a 1944 polio epidemic in Hickory, North Carolina. I fell in love with the story and decided to incorporate that into the life of a fictional character.

## 8. How many books have you published? Seven.

- Best Friends Forever (now out of print)
- Aim
- Blue
- Comfort
- Drive
- Equal (publication date May 5, 2021)
- Healing Water (in E-book only)

## 9. How many books have you sold?

Um, I don't know. I could look that up I suppose. But anyway - not as many as Jeff Kinney or Cynthia Lord.

## 10. Are you rich?

Yes and No. The no part is that I haven't spent my life trying to make a lot of money and being an author rarely makes a person rich. The yes part is that I feel rich in all the things that matter. I have a strong happy family, good health, and many friends. Also I have strong coffee and dark chocolate. And my Christian faith!