

Personalized Romance Novel Creators Encourage Dreamers to Act on Their Good Ideas

NC couple followed their hearts to create unique publishing company that changed their lives

RALEIGH, NC, USA, January 19, 2023 /EINPresswire.com/ -- "It changed our lives forever," said J.S. Fletcher reflecting back to 1992, when he and wife Kathy M. Newbern acted on a great idea.

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When we tell people what we do, that we're travel writers and romance novelists, they're in awe. We acted on our great idea, and we are able to work for ourselves, which is a dream come true."

J.S. Fletcher, YourNovel.com co-founder The pair, who create fiction under the pen name Fletcher Newbern, live in Raleigh, NC. That spark of an idea soon became a full-fledged business, and their concept has remained a year-round hit, but especially as one-of-a-kind Valentine's gifts.

That's because their big idea was to create a personalized romance novel where any couple could become the main characters. Thirty-one years later they're still at it as <u>YourNovel.com</u>.

The co-founders and their bright idea have been featured

in more than a thousand radio, TV, magazine and newspaper interviews including "The Today Show," USA TODAY, ABC-TV's "The View," People magazine, Elle, Bridal Guide, Reader's Digest, Entrepreneur and more.

What sparked the idea? While working in public relations serving on a conference panel, Newbern fielded the icebreaker question: "What would folks be surprised to find out about you?" She responded that she'd written a yet-to-be-published romance novel. Good-natured chuckling ensued.

Over lunch, a friend commented, "Wouldn't it be great if you could star in one of those novels?" The seed had been planted: On the long drive home, then-boyfriend (now hubby) Fletcher commented, "You know we could do that." Newbern agreed and grabbed a manila envelope from the glove box and started outlining a story that anyone could star in. After figuring out how to customize each book using personal information provided by each customer — names, workplaces, eye color, hair color, best friends, nicknames and many other individual details, they got to work.

The writers set their first novel, <u>Another Day in</u> <u>Paradise</u>, on a Caribbean island, and it still remains their best seller. "We are also blessed to be longtime travel writers," said Newbern, "so our personalized story lines are all in romantic locales we've experienced to inspire an unforgettable getaway for any couple — at least on paper."

"It's been quite the journey," Fletcher added. "When we tell people what we do, that we're travel writers and romance novelists, they're in awe. The big difference is we acted on our great idea, and we are able to work for ourselves, which is a dream come true." We also knew if we didn't take the plunge to see if we could create a whole new publishing genre that we'd always regret it."



YourNovel.com founders J.S. Fletcher and Kathy M. Newbern acted on a great idea in 1992.

Their idea has worked so well that a rash of similar companies popped up over the years. "We're proud to be the original creators of customizable adult romance novels and, more importantly, the gold standard of the industry," said Newbern. "We're equally proud to have worked with more than two dozen other writers to help them realize their dream of getting published."

The couple's first paperbacks featured a spiral, cookbook binding and a black-and-white silhouette cover. Their concept evolved into perfect-bound novels — now more than 50 choices — with full color covers available as paperbacks, hardbacks and ebooks. Story settings offer something for every taste — <u>tropical beaches and cruise ships</u>, exotic destinations and time travel, vampire themes and detective stories.

YourNovel.com is all about options — offering "wild" or "mild" versions of each book in terms of the romantic interludes; adding an uploaded photo to become part of a book's existing cover; or even using a treasured photograph to create the entire book cover.

"Over the years," said Fletcher, "our books have been called the 'Ultimate Vanity Valentine,' and we've been labeled 'Computerized Cupids.' We love that job title." And it all started with acting on a good idea.

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