

Author Bio – Carol Bodensteiner

Super Short Bio

Carol Bodensteiner finds writing inspiration in the places, people, culture and history of the Midwest. Her World War I-era debut novel GO AWAY HOME published in 2014. <http://carolbodensteiner.com/go-away-home-a-novel/>

Short Bio

Carol Bodensteiner is a writer who finds inspiration in the places, people, culture and history of the Midwest. After a successful career in public relations consulting, she turned to creative writing. She blogs about writing, her prairie, gardening, and whatever in life interests her at the moment. She published a memoir GROWING UP COUNTRY: MEMORIES OF AN IOWA FARM GIRL in 2008. Her debut novel GO AWAY HOME was published in 2014. <http://carolbodensteiner.com/go-away-home-a-novel/>

Medium Bio

Carol Bodensteiner is a writer who finds inspiration in the places, people, culture and history of the Midwest. Born in Iowa and raised on her family's dairy farm, Carol grew up with a love of the land and an appreciation for family that form the foundation of her writing. A graduate of the University of Northern Iowa and Drake University, Carol built a successful career in public relations consulting before turning to creative writing. She is a regular participant in the University of Iowa Summer Writing Festival. Carol blogs about writing, her prairie, gardening, and whatever in life interests her at the moment. Her writing has been published in several anthologies. She published a memoir GROWING UP COUNTRY: MEMORIES OF AN IOWA FARM GIRL in 2008. Her debut novel GO AWAY HOME was published in 2014. <http://carolbodensteiner.com/go-away-home-a-novel/>

Long Bio

Carol Bodensteiner is a writer who finds inspiration in the places, people, culture and history of the Midwest. Born in Maquoketa, Iowa, and raised on her family's dairy farm in eastern Iowa, Carol grew up mixing work and play. Living on a family farm, she developed a love of the land and an appreciation for family that form the foundation of her writing.

After graduating from the University of Northern Iowa with a degree in speech and English education, Carol joined the American Soybean Association as editor of Soybean Digest magazine.

Subsequently, Carol spent twenty-three years as public relations advisor to clients at two agencies. For ten years, she was president of CMF&Z Public Relations, one of the Midwest's largest business-to-business public relations firms. In that capacity, she worked with local, regional, and national clients on everything from product introductions to community relations, legislative issues, and crisis management.

After a successful career in public relations, she left CMF&Z in 1999 and turned to creative writing and independent consulting. During that time she was also Special Assistant to the President for marketing at the University of Northern Iowa and a visiting assistant professor at Drake University where she earned her MA in mass communication.

In 1999, Carol also followed her heart into creative writing. A frequent participant in the University of Iowa Summer Writing Festival, Carol is dedicated to continually honing her writing skills.

She blogs about writing, her prairie, gardening, and whatever in life interests her at the moment. Her writing has been featured in The Iowan magazine and several anthologies. Her first book, *GROWING UP COUNTRY: MEMORIES OF AN IOWA FARM GIRL*, a memoir about her childhood on the farm was published in 2008. In her memoir, Carol preserves in words for her son and generations to follow, this natural, deeply textured way of life that has been nearly lost in our country.

Her debut novel, *GO AWAY HOME*, is set in Iowa in the years leading up to World War One. Published in 2014, *GO AWAY HOME* is a captivating coming of age novel that explores the enduring themes of family, friendship, and love, as well as death and grief.

Carol is professionally accredited by the Public Relations Society of America in 1985 and named a Fellow in the society in 1999. She has been active in the Public Relations Society of America's Counselors Academy. She has been a contributing author for various publications in her career, including *Public Relations Review* and *Public Relations Quarterly*.

She lives with her husband on an acreage near Des Moines where a prairie, a vegetable garden, and hostas too numerous to count occupy her time when she's not writing.

Five Fun Facts You Didn't Know About Me

1. I went skydiving. Once.
2. I planted a prairie in a portion of our front yard and each year take over more of the lawn. To my husband's dismay.
3. In the course of writing *GO AWAY HOME*, my writing buddy and I inspired our writing with retreats in Utah and Italy, in addition to several in Iowa.
4. My son and I hiked to the bottom of the Grand Canyon, spent the night, and hiked out the next morning.
5. Most of the year, all the vegetables my husband and I eat come from the garden he plants each summer. I harvest and preserve. (We farm kids can't leave the farm behind.)