

## FEATURED TITLE

### LOOKING BACKWARD, GOING FORWARD Reflections on a Writer's Life



JAN YAGER

Award-winning author of 50+ books,  
in 35 languages, including *When Friendship Hurts*,  
*How to Finish Everything You Start*,  
*Untimely Death* (novel) and *Victims*

### LOOKING BACKWARD, GOING FORWARD

#### Reflections on a Writer's Life

Hannacroix Creek Books, Inc. (2023)

Available as a Kindle e-book from Amazon.com

Paperback available from Amazon and other retail outlets

Audiobook by Gale Cruz (forthcoming)

Prolific author Jan Yager goes beyond the typical memoir by providing insights into writing, getting published, appearing on major talk shows, overcoming trauma, teaching college, and running a small press. Just as Anne Lamott's memoir, *Bird by Bird*, captivated a generation 29 years ago, *Looking Backward, Going Forward Reflections on a Writer's Life* is destined to become a classic memoir on writing and publishing.

#### **An excerpt from Chapter 14, Summing Up and Concluding Thoughts**

"Write when the words are so strong in your brain, in your psyche, in every part of your being, that you cannot *not* write. That is when you have the most passion. That is when you no longer must find the time to write, or even make the time to write, because the writing finds you."--Jan Yager, Ph.D.

#### **PRAISE for LOOKING BACKWARD, GOING FORWARD: Reflections on a Writer's Life:**

"If you are a writer, you know someone who aspires to write, or you just enjoy reading about writers, this many genres author's memoir is a must."

—Jeffrey J. Fox, bestselling author, *How to Become a Rainmaker*

"Personal memoirs by non-celebrities are often written for purposes of legacy or family interests. I found Jan's book, *Looking Backward, Going Forward* more than that. I felt like I was invited into her family while learning from her engaging and impactful writing style. Buy this book. I'm sure you'll feel the same."

--Vince Poscente, *New York Times* bestselling author, Olympian, and Hall of Fame Speaker

"I loved Jan Yager's memoir, *Looking Backward, Going Forward: Reflections on a Writer's Life*. It is inspiring and insightful. It has even motivated me to keep going on a writing project which had stalled for me. I was also moved by the author's openness and honesty, and resonated with her willingness to follow what she knew was right for her, particularly when others had a different idea. And her unwavering belief in herself is key. For any aspiring writer or author out there, this book will uplift and inspire you."

--Lorna Patten, Australia-based personal development coach

“A fascinating autobiography that takes the reader behind the scenes of a life well-lived as an author and freelance writer. Full of personal anecdotes and insights; rich in drive and passion.”

—Helen Errington, United Kingdom-based writer and editor

“Running through both success and adversity, the thread connecting Jan Yager's many adventures and multiple careers is writing: writing as a career (she's written more than 50 books!), writing as therapy, and most of all--like so many of us writers--writing because she can't NOT write! Jan is also a model of aging creatively, full of future writing projects she'd like to do through her 70s and into her 80s, as well as advice to nascent writers”

—Shel Horowitz, Massachusetts-based author, *Grassroots Marketing*, and book shepherd

### About the Author

Jan Yager (a/k/a Janet Barkas) is an Adjunct Associate Professor in the Sociology Department of John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York. She also teaches at Baruch College. Jan has an MA in Criminal Justice from Goddard college Graduate Program and a Ph.D. in Sociology from CUNY Grade Center. Her 50+ books, with translations of one or more titles into 35 languages, include the textbook *Essentials of Victimology* (Aspen Publishing, 2022), *When Friendship Hurts* (Simon & Schuster), *Victims* (Scribner, updated edition, 2021, Hannacroix Creek), the novels *On the Run*, *The Pretty One*, illustrated children's books, and more.

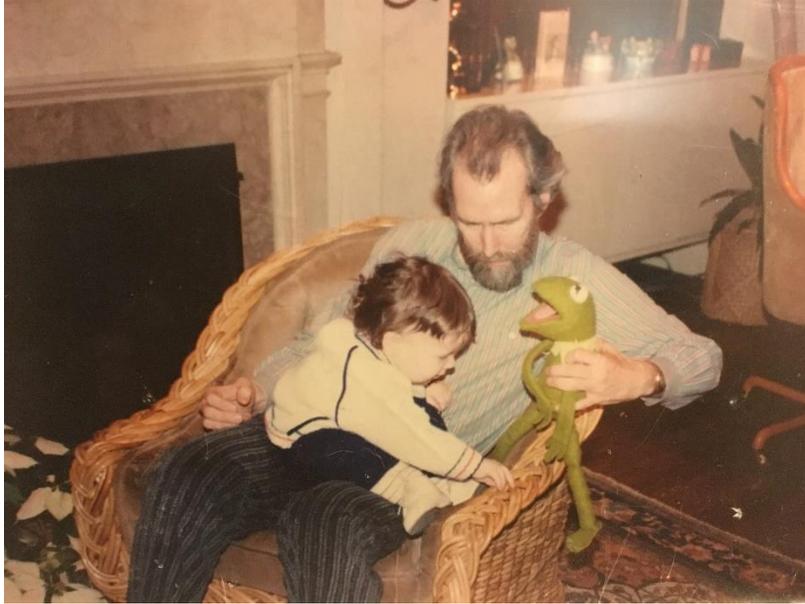


A book coach and workshop leader, Jan's been on several cross-country and three international author tours to Sweden, Australia and New Zealand, and throughout the UK. The major talk shows she's been interviewed on include *The View*, *Today Show*, *good Morning America*, *Oprah*, *CBS This Morning*, *CBS Sunday Morning*, *To Tell the Truth*, and lots more. Her articles have been published in *Harper's*, *Redbook*, *The New York Times* (Op-Ed piece), *Wall Street Journal* online, *SHRM.org*, *Parade*, *Woman's Day*, and other publications. In 1996, she founded Hannacroix Creek Books, Inc. ([www.hannacroixcreekbooks.com](http://www.hannacroixcreekbooks.com)) For more on Jan, or to sign up for her mailing list or newsletter, go to: <https://www.drjanyager.com>



Author Jan Yager being interviewed on the TODAY Show by Katie Courie two days in a row about friendship and her self-published book, *FRIENDSHIFTS*

(Reprinted from *Looking Backward, Going Forward: Reflections on a Writer's Life*)



Jim Henson with author's 2-year-old son Scott during interview for her book, under contract with Doubleday, *Making Your Office Work for You* Photo credit: Jan Yager

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