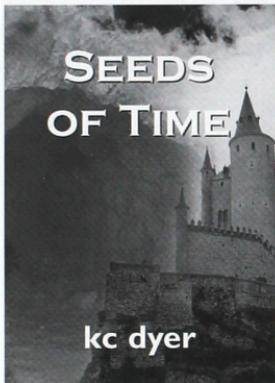


# Two Women Authors Celebrate the Birth of Their 'Other' Babies



Unpublished authors dream of a special day - the day the phone rings and someone tells them they will soon see their names on the front cover of a book. Never mind that the fee translates to less than minimum wage for time spent for writing. It's the day, the moment, that authors look upon in the same light as marriage proposals and positive (wanted) pregnancy tests. That day has come for two mothers, both members of the North Shore Writers Association (NSWA).

The *Seeds of Time*, a time travel novel for young adults, came out last October and is available in bookstores across Canada. The author, kc dyer, also known as Karen Dyer, is president of the NSWA and editor of the

local monthly newspaper. Raised in Alberta where she later taught school, Dyer started to write in earnest when she was at home with her kids. When one of her short stories was chosen for the North Shore Millennium Anthology, *Shore Lines*, Dyer felt encouraged to pursue her dream of writing a novel for young adults.

Dyer wrote a story about an unhappy girl who embarks on time travel adventures when she attends an unusual art school on the west coast. The concept grew out of a single moment when Dyer envisioned the character drinking a cup of coffee. The writing of the story was fairly easy and pleasurable. "If you compare producing a book to having a baby, then the writing is really like sex; enjoyable but over too quickly," says Dyer. "The 'getting published' part of the process was like a lo-o-o-o-ng labour."

Sending her book off to publishers was laborious and frustrating. She and a friend from her Internet writers group challenged each other to collect the most rejection letters. The winner would be dubbed the Rejection Queen, a title that was passed back and forth between them over several months. Still, the competition motivated them to keep trying. Finally Dyer got a nibble from The Dundurn Group and after doing some determined slash and burn rewrites, she got the phone call that sent her spirits soaring. The second book of the trilogy, *Secret of Light*, will be out this fall.

Janine Cross was in the midst of a maelstrom when the phone rang. Her little boy was firing grapefruits at his baby sister, there was a package of crackers spilled on the floor and a pizza burning in the oven. She was so preoccupied that she hardly listened to the person on the other end of the line. "Just put the contract in the mail," she said brusquely and hung up. A couple of

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## SUMMER EVENTS

### Intersections

July 18 - August 31, 2003  
CityScape Community Art Space  
This exhibit explores physical spaces that provide people with an opportunity to meet and interact. Drawn from juried community artwork

### Wild Lights Lantern Festival

August 22, 2003  
Edgemont Village  
Celebrate the summer in a festival of rhythm, light, music and dance!  
The parade ends with a spectacular fire show performed by Public Dreams.  
Lantern Workshop 7 - 9pm, Lantern Procession 9pm

### Lantern and Parade Workshops

Make your own lantern for the Wild Lights parade!  
Workshops will be held during July and August at Capilano Mall, Park Royal Mall, Lynn Valley Mall, and Edgemont Village on the night of the Wild Lights event! Giant puppet making, music and masquerade workshops available at Christie House. Call 604-988-6844 for dates and times.

### Art Rental Exchange Days

12 - 4pm August 7, 8, 9, 2003  
Members in good standing may rent pieces starting at \$8 a month

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