

Peggy Sue Got Pregnant - A Rock 'N' Roll Love Story

Interview with Author Deanna Adams

By Helen Marketti

Please join Deanna Adams for her book release launch party on Sunday, June 23 at the Firehouse Grille & Pub in Willoughby Hills from 3:00 pm - 7:00 pm with music entertainment by Trendera Entertainment.

The 1950s were certainly a time when life seemed more simple and innocent as long as you kept to the patterns set and molded by your parents and stayed the course of what was expected. However, when you're a young girl living in Hereford, Texas and not only are you in love with your rocker boyfriend, Frankie London, but also pregnant, then things get complicated. Peggy Sue Lawrence found herself in such a situation during 1957. You can barely tell your parents but how will you tell Frankie who is fast becoming a very popular musician on the local scene and set to soar nationally?

Peggy Sue Got Pregnant (Soul Mate Publishing, 2013) is a page-turner written by author, Deanna Adams. It is a cast of characters each playing their role in a way that will touch readers emotionally and place them in the story with Peggy Sue as she travels a journey that is filled with anticipation, heart ache, happiness and every feeling in between with a great music soundtrack in the background to keep with the times. We have Libby who is Peggy's best friend, her kid brother, Patrick, along with Aunt Jo and Uncle Ray, Angela and DJ Billy Mercury who all play their roles as expected for 1957 and beyond.

"I really wanted to write the book so people could see how much things have changed for women," said Deanna. "Times have changed with how teen moms are treated now compared to then. My book is for the baby boomer generation. I want readers to reflect back on a time that is long gone."

"I have always wanted to write a novel. I love history, and at first I was thinking about doing a novel where the setting was in the 1940s. The more I thought about it and being known as a pop culture, rock and roll writer, I figured

I would write a book with that kind of setting instead," explains Deanna. "I started thinking about what kind of name would be relative to rock history and of course the name Peggy Sue makes you think of Buddy Holly. I originally had the idea of the Frankie London character to be sort of like Buddy Holly but then decided to go with more of an Eddie Cochran feel and have Frankie be more "punky."

During the 50s, to be pregnant and unwed was very taboo and young girls found themselves in what seemed to be hopeless situations. "That was a huge ordeal for a young girl to go through," said Deanna. "Most of the time, the girls were sent away. I had read a book called, The Girls Who Went Away. The author interviewed several women who were sent away when they were young for being pregnant. Many of the parents didn't want anything to do with them so some were sent away to homes for unwed mothers or sometimes the grandmother became the "mother" and things like that were done in secret. I thought this would be a great plot for a novel."

Deanna continues, "I chose the setting of Hereford, Texas for Peggy Sue as it was near

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Deanna Adams

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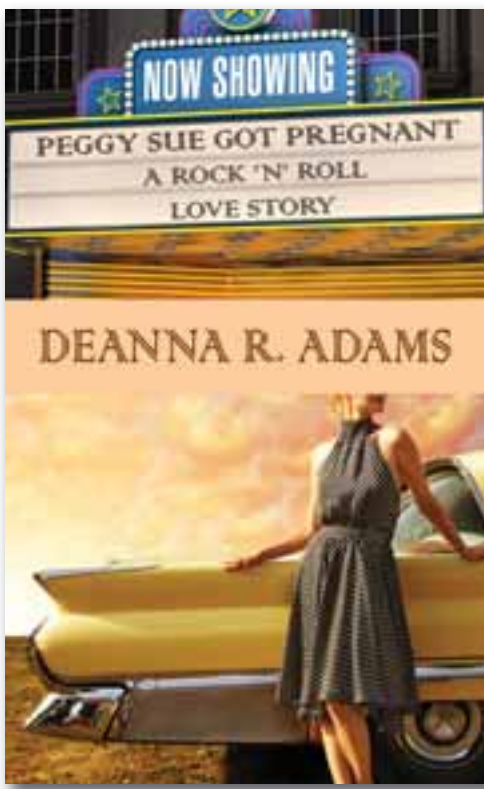
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to Lubbock where Buddy Holly was from and she needed a place to go when she was sent away so I chose Cleveland. After I had those ideas in place then the book just took off. I started making outlines, the story flowed and the characters came to life. It was a fun process. When you're used to writing nonfiction, you have to stick to what's true so there really isn't any room for imagination and creativity whereas writing Peggy Sue Got Pregnant kept things open for me to do so because it is fiction. The characters do change over time in the book; they mature, become stronger and in essence, grow up."

Inspiration for writing seems to come easy for Deanna. "This is my fourth book but my first novel. I always seem to be inspired. I never get bored. I like to play music a lot when I'm not working and that inspires me, too. I like watching VH1 and things like that. It took two and a half years to write the book and then about another year to find the right publisher. After you write your first draft, there are always tweaks to be made and more ideas come to you. You need to be true to the setting you have in your book. You have to keep with the fashions of the time, the lingo, the music; everything needs to go with the era. There is a lot of research when writing a book. I need to be sure of dates, historical events and keep everything consistent. Sometimes I merge personalities of people I have known for characters in my book."

Deanna has many great projects in the works and is currently working on a sequel to Peggy Sue Got Pregnant. The story line will continue with the characters as the years pass into the 80s and 90s. In addition to working on her next book, Deanna is an instructor and event coordinator at Lakeland Community College.

Readers will enjoy having their own copy of Peggy Sue Got Pregnant. It is a story that will pull you in and hold you there until the last page. Deanna knows how to hook the reader, "It's about falling in love, losing love and finding love again. It's navigating all of life's issues, human nature and relationships."

Peggy Sue Got Pregnant will be available at Amazon.com, Barnes & Noble, Indie book stores and Soul Mate Publishing. www.soulmatepublishing.com
For more information about Deanna Adams, please visit: www.deannaadams.com

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