

Where's Stephanie? Book Review

By Teri Lloyd, Publisher

Each month as I search for wonderful and interesting content for the Cane Bay Living magazine, I am blessed with introductions to amazing people, museums I didn't know existed, clubs and groups, generous people and stories to share that are inspirational and captivating. Today, I share a novel written by a Summerville resident. This story will draw you in, make you cry and make you smile. There is such love and pure determination in *Where's Stephanie?*

Where's Stephanie? is a story about a grandmother's hope to be reunited with her granddaughter, who was given up for adoption. When her granddaughter Stephanie was born, Anna Weber got to hold her just once before saying goodbye. Longing to see her granddaughter again, she placed clues in unlikely places, including a letter in Stephanie's Social Services file, hoping that one day, by some miracle, Stephanie would follow the clues and find her.

Based on actual events, this inspirational novel follows Anna on a long journey about loss, separation and the power of redemption. Summerville, SC has many, many talented people living within our community and Lenora Livingston is one. She writes this book to share a true, painful and beautiful story of the loss of her granddaughter and the experience of a miracle; or two! It is a story about the tenacity of family love.

Ms. Livingston believes that an unlikely, long awaited reunion is God's way of saying thank you for never giving up hope. When I spoke to the author, I was thrilled to find out that this novel was originally written as a screenplay and the plans to create a movie from the story are in the works.

The *Where's Stephanie?* screenplay has won the following awards since late December 2018:

- Platinum Remi Award at the 52 Annual International Worldfest Houston International Film Festival
- Best Feature Screenplay at the Twister Alley International Film Festival in Woodward, Oklahoma
- Platinum Winner of the Independent Film Awards in Encino, CA
- Best Drama Screenplay at the Festigious International Film Festival in Los Angeles, CA
- Best Drama Screenplay at the TopShorts online Film Festival
- Best screenplay finalist at Park City International Film Festival 2019 in Utah

The screenplay adds some additional depth to the story by taking the audience back in time to particular events that were mentioned in the book but not elaborated on. The true underlying message of *Where's Stephanie?* is to never give up on your dreams, but to persevere and expect good things to happen. You can pick up *Where's Stephanie?* locally at Main Street Reads or Antiques and Artisans in downtown Summerville, Tomlinson's on Dorchester Road, as well as Books a Million, Barnes and Noble or order on Amazon.

Lenora Livingston is a retired educator who earned her BA and MAT degrees from the University of AC and continues post masters studies at The Citadel. She has also written one history book and numerous articles for various publications. www.lenoralivingston.com

