

Valerie J. Clarizio

**USA Today, Amazon and Barnes & Noble Bestselling Author, and Co-Host of
Inside the Romance Buzz**

Publishing and Professional History, and Education:

I began my publishing career in 2012 with Melange Books, LLC., then wrote for two other small publishers before venturing into the world of self-publishing. Going into business on my own seemed like the right thing to do, considering my educational and professional background. I hold a Master of Business Administration (MBA) degree, the Certified Public Finance Officer (CPFO) designation (akin to the private sector CPA designation), and have worked in finance and accounting for the past thirty-two years. I've taught accounting classes at the local technical college and polished my customer service skills while working with the public during my years at City Hall and my many years of waitressing.

To date, I have published 17 romance books comprising both novels and novellas in the following genres: Romantic Suspense, Contemporary Romance, and Time Travel Romance. I write both standalones and series. Migrating from traditional to self-publishing has honed my entrepreneurial skill set, particularly in the areas of strategic planning and critical thinking.

During my years in finance, twenty-four of them have been as the Finance Director for my city. This position not only sharpened my finance and accounting skills, but cultivated my leadership, communication, and public speaking skills. I work regularly with the Common Council, committees, and outside organizations to not only inform and educate them on city business, but to also work collaboratively with them on projects, bringing them to fruition effectively and efficiently. My professional experiences have led me to serve on the Sunshine Resources Board (501.C(3) Organization) and the Write On Door County Board a not for profit whose mission is to inspire and engage writers and readers of all ages, at all stages.

Besides writing and my finance career, I also teach accounting classes at the local technical college. It is here where I learned to create course curriculum and how to deliver instruction using diverse types of learning experiences to meet the needs of visual, auditory, and kinesthetic learners.

Leveraging my over 10 years of publishing experience and 30-plus years of professional experience in finance and accounting, I've cultivated my professional public speaking side of the business.

Topics I offer:

Business Topics:

- Create a Business Plan
- Financial Record Keeping for Writers – The Basics
- Excel Basics

Writing, Craft & Motivational Topics:

- Making a Name When You're No One – Becoming a USA Today and Amazon and Barnes & Noble Bestselling Author
- Productivity/Time management

- Embracing Risk
- Building Your Publishing Team
- Self-Publishing – All the things I wish I'd Known
- Getting Started as a Romance Writer
- Always a Bridesmaid, but Never a Bride and You Can Still Make Money
- Lessons Learned During my Writing Career
- Write Your First Draft Fast
- Writing series - Create a series book map/bible and plotting (characters, overarching plots, dates, time, world building)

I am open to tailoring existing topics or developing new ones to suit your needs

Prior Speaking & Workshop/Teaching Experience & Testimonials (Attached):

Write on Door County

- Paths to Publication Conference
 - World Building and Writing Series
- Workshop
 - Write Your First Draft Fast
- Wine and Mystery Tasting Program

Wisconsin Romance Writers

- Workshop
 - Write your First Draft Fast

UWGB Clerk & Treasurer Institute

- Workshop
 - Duties and Responsibilities of the Treasurer
- Keynote Speaker

NWTC – Adjunct Instructor

- Classroom Instruction
 - Accounting & Finance Classes
 - Windows, Word, and Excel

I enjoy speaking to women's groups and book clubs about my writing journey and why I write

Contact Information:

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