

[Subscribe](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate ▼](#)[View this email in your browser](#)***The Heart to Heart***

NTRWA

Founded March 1983

Chapter 33, Region 5

June 2022

Volume 40, Issue 6

JUNE 2022 Newsletter**CHAPTER MEETING INFORMATION**

3rd Saturday of each month, Zoom or In Person

June Meeting in Person Begins at 10:00 a.m.[La Hacienda Ranch](#)[5250 Highway 121, Colleyville, TX 76034](#)**2020-2021 BOARD**Audra Lewandowski
*President*Chrissy Szarek
*President-Elect*Clover Artrey
*Secretary*Jen FitzGerald
*Treasurer*Celia Naples
*Programs Director**Membership Director*Marsha R. West
Newsletter Editor**HARD TIMES**

It's with a heavy heart I write my president's letter.

No parent should have to bury their child. But here in Texas, that's exactly what's happening. I cannot even fathom the pain these families must be going through.

I ask all of you to pray for the families of the victims of Robb Elementary School, and for the survivors who have witnessed something so heinous, and yet they must continue on with life.

I also ask your prayers that we find a resolution to

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*Texas Two-Step
Conference*

satisfied.

God bless,

Audra



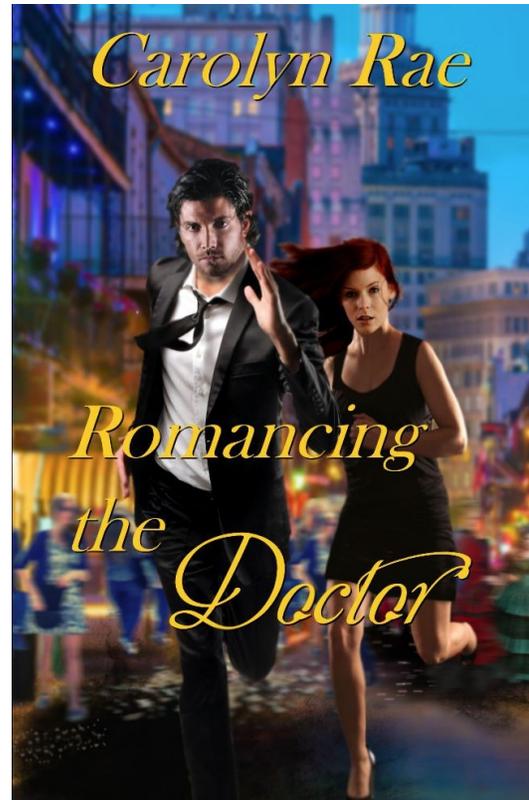
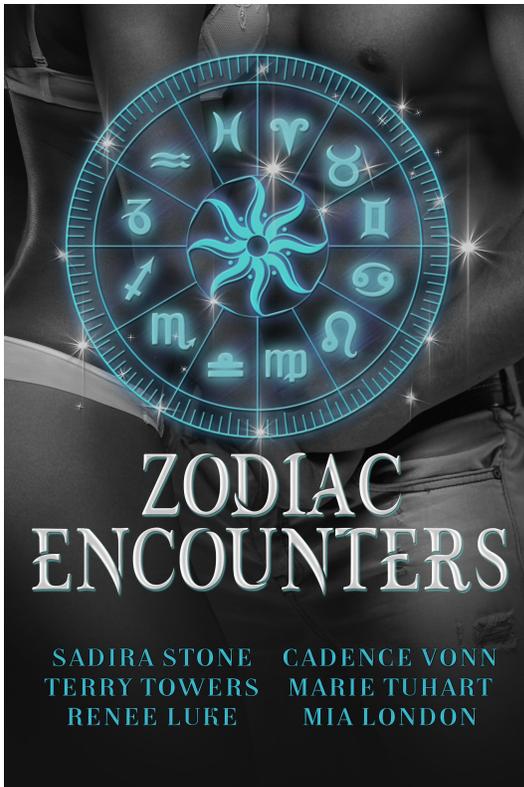
We're meeting in person on **June 18**, but there won't be a speaker. Bring your writing / publishing issues with you, and we'll break out in small groups to chat and brainstorm.

**Gathering begins @
10AM.**

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Don't you want to be in our next anthology?
Here's how.

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In 5-year increments from 2018 back to 1983.

Class of 2018 ~ 5-year

Class of 1998 ~ 25-year

Class of 2013 ~ 10-year

Class of 1993 ~ 30-year

Class of 2008 ~ 15-year

Class of 1988 ~ 35-year

Class of 2003 ~ 20-year

Class of 1983 ~ 40-year

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In March of 2023, NTRWA will celebrate its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary with yet another anthology, and we hope you'll join us, whether for the first time or once again.

All current and former NTRWA members are invited to submit a short story for the next anthology, tentatively called "The Stars at Night."

In case you couldn't tell, we're going with a class reunion theme, but here's the twist: Your graduating class member must have been featured in their high school yearbook in the "superlatives" section and voted "Most likely to..." or "Best... / Worst..." or something along those lines. Be creative and think outside the box. A list of 150+ superlatives has been assembled and is available for your use, but feel free to come up with your own.

Also! I'm asking you, if at all possible, to turn that superlative sideways or on its head. For example, if you want your character to have "Had the worst case of Senioritis," then have your character now be a high school teacher. If your character was voted in as the "Worst Driver," have him or her now be some sort of crash test driver or perhaps a (winning?) race car driver.

It'll be way more interesting if superlatives aren't repeated, so one to a customer, if you please.

Claim yours here:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1VxrlwDrAjGFhUUY5VlwXfK4RpNhA7b9jY27h7fmGCDk/edit?usp=sharing>

If you don't see the one you want, feel free to add it.

You are, of course, more than welcome to write more than one story, which would require an equal number of superlatives, naturally.

In addition, we'll sort stories by reunion year, and if authors writing stories about the same graduating class would like to collaborate or share characters, for the sake of uniformity, then by all means, do so.

\_Here's the basic participation list:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1AUrMJMDhsjEK-yPBStHoRac-cjH7ggKQLD5WJ-ajJoo/edit?usp=sharing>

## School / Reunion Information

School: Metroplex High School

School Colors: green & purple

Mascot: Dragons

Location: Reunion takes place at a five-star hotel in Dallas

Room Description: The ballroom was suitably decked out with a dozen or so round tables covered with white tablecloths; small, purple-flowered centerpieces sat in the center of each table. A banner hung across a small dais announcing the "Class of XXXX Reunion" in dark green letters. A dance floor was set up on the far side of the room. Three portable bars lined the wall right inside the ballroom doors.

## Submission Guidelines:

Submissions are open to all NTRWA members, past and present.

Submissions should be between 4000 and 5000 words.

Up to three stories may be submitted by each author.

Entries must be romance.

All sub-genres except erotic are welcome: young adult, romantic suspense, inspirational, sweet, etc. 1983 will be as historical as it gets this time around.

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yearbook at some point.

Entries are due to Jen FitzGerald no later than January 21, 2023.

The anthology will go live early in March of 2023.

Have we missed something? Please send your questions to Jen FitzGerald at [jen.fitzgerald.writer AT gmail DOT com](mailto:jen.fitzgerald.writer@gmail.com)

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## New Loop

Communication with chapter mates used to be a whole lot easier...

It was quick and easy and could be done via email. No one had to login to a website to send a message.

Well, gang, we're trying to get back to that.

After some research, the board has agreed that a communications loop through Groups.io is the way to go.

Groups.io has all the ease of our former Yahoo Groups loops, with far fewer issues. In fact, it was created by the same guy, but he was able to eliminate many of the issues people struggled with in the old Yahoo format.

So, if those of you who are members (or are pretty sure you are still) would create an account at Groups.io (if you don't already have one), that would be super. Then about mid-February, I'll send invites to join our chapter loop. If you don't get an invite, that probably means your membership lapsed along the way.

If you don't get an invite, feel free to reach out to me (Jen, your humble treasurer) for confirmation of membership / lapse.

Many thanks!

Jen FitzGerald  
NTRWA  
Treasurer

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**Please remember to like our FB page:** [\(20+\) North Texas Romance Writers | Facebook](#) This is the best way to get notifications on meetings.

## Inspirational Thought

"Promise me you'll always remember: You're braver than you believe, and stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think."—Christopher Robin to Pooh, *A.A. Milne*

"Tough times never last, but tough people do."—*Robert H. Schuller*

"When you come to the end of your rope, tie a knot and hang on."—*Franklin D. Roosevelt*

(Thanks to Audra Lewandowski for these. Please feel free to send in your inspirational quotes. Also, remember to send me your new book covers.)

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### **New Officers for 2021-2022**

Thanks to our members willing to serve on the NT Board. They are:

President-Elect—Chrissy Szarek

Secretary—Clover Autrey

Treasurer—Jen FitzGerald

Membership Director—Carolyn Williamson

Communications Director—Marsha R. West

Program Director—Celia Naples

Contest Director—Kaylene Greenig



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NTRWA Online

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