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Anne Dawson's Bio

Age: 36

Married: Yes

Residence: Mercer County, NJ during the winter and a summer home in Dover Township, NJ

Education: BS from Syracuse University in Biology, MS from Rutgers in Biology

Employment: Anne works for a large NJ based company that manufactures household products

Motivation for Writing LOST Mind Games: Anne has purchased and enjoyed many of the LOST books that have been published by other authors. But she realized that the focus of these books falls into three main categories: 1) a simple compilation of lists of information that has been shown to the audience, 2) exploring concepts that have been included in LOST episodes or alluded to during the show, or 3) simply supplying recaps of episodes. **None of the books to date has been interactive.**

The LOST fan base is highly interactive in their focus. The success of the two Alternate Reality Games created by the LOST creative team (The LOST Experience during the summer of 2006 and Find 815 during this past winter) have shown just how much the LOST audience craves involvement, even when the show is on hiatus.

Like many LOST fans, Anne attempted some of the LOST online trivia quizzes and found them somewhat lacking as far as maintaining her interest. "All they required was that the person taking the quiz be able to regurgitate LOST facts that they have memorized." Anne's first thought when working her way through any of them had always been that she would have preferred something more fun and challenging than just a simple multiple choice type of quiz.

Anne remembered some of the interactive puzzles and mind games that she had created for her undergraduate students when she was a teaching assistant at Rutgers pursuing her MS in Biology. So she began creating some simple LOST related puzzles and mind games as a fun way to challenge her nephew John's extraordinary knowledge of all things LOST.

And they were a huge hit with John and his friends, and with every LOST fan that she showed them to. Before she knew it, she had developed six distinctive styles of LOST mind games, many of which use visual clues that must be deciphered to determine the correct answer. Many of the mind games also require the use of a pen or pencil to actually work through them.

"My primary focus has been to be sure that LOST Mind Games not only challenges LOST fans, but that it provides the type of interactive entertainment that LOST fans crave."

Book Dedication: “The book is dedicated to my husband Jay, who is always extremely supportive of anything I do. And without his help and support I could never have finished the book. Especially as it neared completion and I needed some extra time to finalize details.”

“The book is also dedicated to my nephew John who is as big a fan of LOST as I am. He is the only one in my family who can truly appreciate my addiction to the show. We dominate the conversations at any family gathering. The final dedication is to the rest of my family and friends who graciously accepted that I was unavailable for anything but LOST discussions during the last few months.”

Why Self Publish? It was a much faster way to get the book on the market and it gave Anne complete control over the book’s appearance. Anne was particularly concerned that it be printed on a good opaque paper stock that would make the illustrations as vibrant and crisp as they are. Plus, it is an interactive book where fans will be required to write in the book to work through all the mind games. Anne was concerned that it be a good quality paper that would allow fans to write in the book without punching a hole through the paper.

Distribution: Right now the book is exclusive to Amazon.com, but there are plans to expand distribution over the next few weeks and months. “The book has been submitted to a few select publishers, but I will be very discriminating if I do choose to work with a publisher.”

Public Relations: Anne is working exclusively with a local marketing firm to handle some of the Public Relations work.

Sales of the Book: The response to the book has been overwhelming.

Book Demographics: LOST fans, of all ages. Many of whom are active on the LOST related websites and chat rooms. LOST Mind Games has also been developing a strong following on the large social networking site like MySpace and Facebook.

Favorite LOST Characters: Hurley, Sawyer and Jin. Give me a scene with any two of them, and I am in LOST heaven. Desmond is also quickly becoming a favorite.

Favorite LOST Episodes: “Numbers”, “Tricia Tanaka is Dead” and “Flashes Before Your Eyes”

Favorite LOST Writers: “There are writing two teams that I think are just outstanding. Of course, Damon Lindelof and Carlton Cuse, but I also really enjoy the Eddy Kitsis and Adam Horowitz episodes.”

Favorite LOST Theory: That Jin is still alive despite the grave marker we saw in “Ji Yeon”

Favorite LOST Websites: Long Lost List, Lost Hatch and Lost is a Game. They are excellent references for facts about the show.

Where do I think the series is headed: “I’m not sure, but I can guarantee that I’ll be along for the ride.”

What’s Next For Anne Dawson? “A great summer at the beach reading some good books. I also have some other ideas for additional types of LOST Mind Games. I’m never far from a pen and paper to jot down more Mind Game ideas as they come to me.”