



Judy H. Tucker was born in Hopoca in Leake County, Mississippi, and is a sixth-generation Mississippian who now resides in Jackson. She wanted to write and had a need to write from her early childhood. “Perhaps it sprang from being born into the middle of a large family and trying to be heard,” she posits; “it surely had to do with the fact that books were revered in my household and were devoured by all of us along with newspapers and magazines—any form of the printed word.” Judy is certain that her need to write has to do with a nervous energy that demands that she keep busy at something that has a concrete product at the end of the work—writing, painting, gardening. She asserts: “For far too many years, I had such reverence for the work of writers that I thought publishing was beyond my capability. By the time I was fifty, I knew one thing: I didn’t want to die without trying. I was ready for failure.

I was ill-prepared for success.” After finding that the barrier to publication can be breached, Judy feels a responsibility to help other beginning writers see the possibility in themselves, to encourage them to keep trying if they have a strong desire to write for publication. You can e-mail Judy at: dtucker6@comcast.net.

PUBLICATIONS:

- ***Christmas Stories from the South's Best Writers*** (Pelican, 2008). A collection of holiday short stories.
- ***Growing Up in Mississippi*** (University Press of Mississippi, 2007). Essays by outstanding Mississippians.
- ***From the Sleeping Porch*** (Queen’s Hill Press, 2006). A collection of short stories.
- ***A Dixie Christmas*** (Algonquin, 2005). A collection of holiday short stories.
- ***Christmas in the South*** (Algonquin, 2004). A collection of holiday short stories.
- ***A Very Southern Christmas*** (Algonquin, 2003). A collection of holiday short stories.
- ***Christmas Stories from Mississippi*** (University Press of Mississippi, 2001). A collection of holiday short stories.
- ***Painting Home*** (Water Press, 1998). A collection of Wyatt Waters’ paintings.
- ***Another Coat of Paint*** (Quail Ridge, 1995). A collection of Wyatt Waters’ paintings.



OTHER CREDITS:

- ***“The Visit,”*** a one-act play presented at Fondren Theatre Workshop and The Alabama Shakespeare Festival’s Southern Writers’ Project.
- ***“The Brooch,”*** a play produced at New Stage Theatre in Jackson.
- ***“The Wives,”*** a play, portions of which have been presented at Fondren Theatre Workshop.
- Tucker has contributed book reviews, essays, and features to local news media and periodicals.