



The Memoir Network

helping people turn memories into memoirs

Hello,

The memoir continues to be one of the best selling and most popular forms of writing today. Everyone it seems is penning one—from presidential candidates to Aunt Pat.

The memoir has become a democratic form of writing, permitting individuals to honor their lives and its struggles as it has never before been possible to do so.

Below (and linked) is a press release announcing our latest memoir publication: *A Sugary Frosting / A Girlhood Sent in a Parsonage* (Soleil Press, 185 pages, 2016, photos). This is no ordinary “funny things that went on in the parsonage—haha—” sort of book. It is a serious look at the consequences of living in a “fish bowl” with every member of the church believing s/he has a right to comment.

A Sugary Frosting / A Girlhood Sent in a Parsonage is a courageous book about surviving this atmosphere in which the parents participated.

Many of your readers will find this memoir an interesting read.

A review copy in either hard copy or e-version is available as is an interview with the co-author.

An image of the cover is included. (See page 3.)

Best wishes,
David Soucy
Marketing Assistant

Publication date: May 6, 2016

A Sugary Frosting / A Girlhood Spent in a Parsonage by Martha Blowen and Denis Ledoux, 185 pp, Soleil Press, 2016, photos, \$17.95, no S/H

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“The recently-published memoir *A Sugary Frosting / A Girlhood Spent in a Parsonage* is the story of one girl who grew up in specific parsonages in New England at a specific time,” says David Soucy, an editor and marketing assistant at The Memoir Network which has released the memoir, “but, it is also the story of a generation.”

A Sugary Frosting exposes a side of being the “preacher's kid,” a public role that is rife with challenges of supporting your minister father and your minister's wife mother and of becoming yourself. Within this memoir are relationships that are portrayed honestly and sometimes not flatteringly. *A Sugary Frosting*, a phrase derived from Martha Blowen's journals, is a memoir of surviving religious idealism and inherited beliefs and of undertaking to become one's self.

“Yes, this memoir can be labeled a personal history,” said David Soucy. “But in its pages, you will find not only the story of an individual who progressed from girlhood to young womanhood, but the story of an entire generation that was looking for greater authenticity during the turbulent 60s when a generation came of age. The storyline proceeds from the days when middle-class women wore gloves to church or to a luncheon to days when young middle-class women, dressed in jeans and tank tops, smoked pot as they worked on their college assignments. Because of its ambitious scope, *A Sugary Frosting* is justly praised as a social and cultural history set in a literary form. It can even be seen as an ‘every person’ story.”

“Our minister father was preaching the superiority of a belief,” one reads in *A Sugary Frosting*, “so it was essential that we children demonstrate not only the viability—but also the superiority—of that belief. My parents had made this decision for me. They lived in a world of family and of church and their take on reality did not fit me,” we read in the closing pages of this tightly-written, well-crafted memoir as Blowen describes leaving her parents for college.

A Sugary Frosting / A Girlhood Spent in a Parsonage is a production of The Memoir Network, a Lisbon Falls, Maine-based company that has helped people to write personal and family stories since 1988. “Martha was an integral part of creating and sustaining The Memoir Network,” said Denis Ledoux, who co-founded the company along with Blowen. “It was a natural for me to want to honor her by collaborating on her memoir which she was not able to complete due to her premature death.”

Ledoux has ghostwritten many books and is widely known as a memoir writer. He has been cited in various media for his work—from Time Magazine to The American Library Journal's *Booklist*, the *Christian Science Monitor*, *Yankee Magazine* and elsewhere. “I don't think the reader will pick up where the stories she wrote end and where the ones I ghosted start. That is as it should be. A ghostwriter must be invisible—or else why call us *ghostwriters*?”

A Sugary Frosting is available in both hardcopy and electronic versions through the publisher at www.thememoirnetwork.com/asfbonus where bonuses are to be had with a purchase or at 207-353-545. The book is also on sale through Amazon.com or at local bookstores.

Review copies (hard copy or electronic) and photos available.

Interviews with Denis Ledoux being scheduled

A Sugary Frosting

A MEMOIR OF A GIRLHOOD
SPENT IN A PARSONAGE



MARTHA BLOWEN & DENIS LEDOUX

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