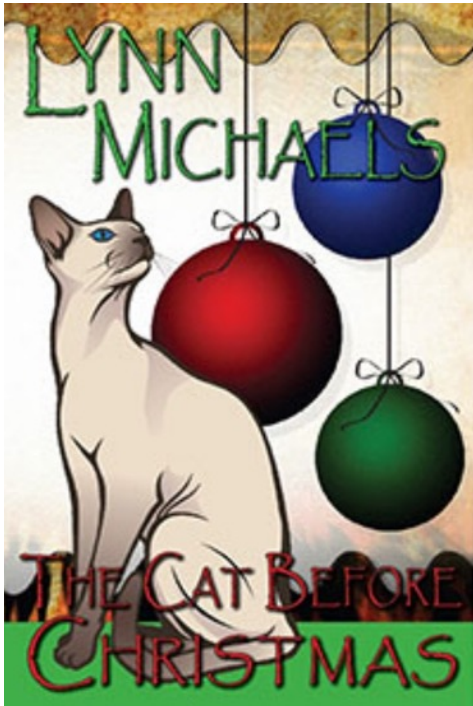




MEET YOUR INSTRUCTOR

Lynne Smith



Our backyard is my favorite place to be when I'm not writing. Playing in the dirt relaxes me, and almost always gives me fresh ideas. My garden is mostly day lilies and heirloom roses, tough plants that can fend for themselves when I'm crunched on a deadline.

I chose Lynn Michaels for my pen name because my husband's name is Michael. When I sold my first book he told me to never dedicate a book to him, so I stole his name instead.

I write romance fiction. I've published 15 novels with Avon, Dell, Fawcett, Harlequin and Ballantine, and two novellas, one of which I published myself, *The Cat Before Christmas*. I've written category romance, romantic suspense, romantic adventure, paranormal romance and romantic comedy.

Three of my novels were nominated for the RITA, the Oscar of romance writing awarded by Romance Writers of America. I've won 2 awards from Romantic Times magazine, Best Contemporary Romance for *Mother of the Bride*, and Best New Romantic Suspense Author for my first book. Suspense is spelled with a "c" on the trophy. You gotta love a misspelled writing award.

I attended Central Missouri University, (Go Mules!) and I belong to Novelists, Inc. My critique group has been together for 25 years.

I live in Independence, Missouri, Harry Truman's hometown, with Michael, our two grown sons, our three grandsons, and Bub the cat.

"Published writers don't wait until they find time to write. They make time to write."

-LYNNE SMITH