

LESLIE EVA TAYLOE TALKS FISHING, BOOKS, AND CAREER



I'm Fishing with Pop-Pop Today, Austin Macauley Publishers, Ltd., 2022.



I always wanted to write a book and now my dream has come true. Published by Austin Macauley, Publishers, Ltd., *I'm Fishing with Pop-Pop Today* is about a little girl named Rosie and her Pop-Pop. Rosie wants to catch a BIG fish while fishing with her Pop-Pop. She realizes her Pop-Pop won't allow her to hold her own fishing pole, bait her own hook, cast her own line, or reel in her own fish. A cute fishing story. It's easy to read, and has fun repetition.

I learned to fish later on in life when I met Michael—A professional bass fisherman. Michael taught me how to fish. We have a fully stocked pond on our property and one day we went fishing with our grandson. Michael was doing everything for him—baiting the line, casting, and catching the fish. Our grandson finally asked, “Pop-Pop, can we both fish today?” The situation was pretty humorous. So, *I'm Fishing with Pop-Pop Today* was created from that situation. The character was originally a little boy, but then I changed it to a little girl since there weren't many books about little girls fishing with their Pop-Pop.

Although I wanted to write a novel. Who would have thought I'd be a children's picture book author and my first published book would be a fishing story! Since *I'm Fishing with Pop-Pop Today* was published, I've dived into doing research on another fishing story but this time its informational fiction. I can't wait to share it with you.

My second book, *Save the Trees* will be published by Brandylane/BelleIsleBooks around the Summer of 2023, Illustrated by Lintang Pandu Pratiwi. It's a fictional story. But based on Michael's and my experience with invasive plants and vines.

As you market your book, what's been difficult? I had a hard time 'putting myself out there'. I'm actually a shy and an introvert. But realizing that in order for people to know me, my books, and activities, I'd have to step out of my box. At first it was difficult but now I just have fun with it.

Was it easy calling yourself an author? In the beginning I didn't know what to say when someone asked me, "What do you do?" Then I signed my first contract and the book wasn't published yet, and I still didn't know what to say ☺ My first book is published and now I can confidently say "I'm an author!"

Do you think social media has helped you as an author? I do. I can reach people all over the world. I enjoy social media. The writing community is so positive and welcoming.

Have you received many rejections? I've received MANY rejection letters! I keep a rejection folder. Once in a while, I'll reread the letters. I tell myself that at least my stories are being read. I'd rather receive some sort of rejection than not hear anything at all. But when I receive a rejection, then I send out another submission. I keep it going.

How do you handle rejections? I work harder.

How do you select the names of your characters? I have a book of names that I'll sort through. When a name keeps popping into my head, I'll go with it. But one story I didn't change the name of a character three times.

How many unpublished and half-finished books do you have? MANY! Most of the stories I write don't end up on submission. If a story excites me in the beginning but not at the end, then I file it away and will eventually revise it. I have a stack of revisions!

Do You Market Your Own Books? I do a lot of marketing. I belong to a Marketing Group called kitlit at heart. We are five women from Canada and the United States. We all support each other. Our group is actually presenting at the Women in Publishing Summit, March 2023. In addition, I'm on social media (Twitter: @LeslieTayloe, Instagram: @leslieevatayloe), I attend events at libraries, festivals and will be doing school visits. I also do author interviews and book giveaways every two months. If you are interested in reading about other authors and free books go to my website (leslieevatayloe.com) and click newsletter, and enter your email address.

One Last Question: What Kind of Music Do You Like? I like all kinds of music. I love 70s and 80s music. I love Country, Jazz, Motown, Rock. My favorite bands are Bon Jovi, Chicago, and Earth Wind & Fire.

I'm Fishing with Pop-Pop Today Trailer:

<https://youtu.be/Dw9z0Pw9TJl>

Where to buy my book: Thru the publisher (link below). The publisher offers a discount with discount code AUTHOR1022 at checkout until 12/31/2022.

<https://www.austinmacauley.com/book/i%E2%80%99m-fishing-pop-pop-today>

Or you may purchase at Amazon and Barnes & Noble.