

[Books In Sync Author Spotlight Interview With Linda M. Fossen](#)

[Books In Sync Author Linda Fossen](#) Tells Her Own Life Story In [Out of the Miry Clay: Freedom From Childhood Sexual Abuse.](#)

Quote From [Linda M. Fossen](#)

“On the day that I was born my father refused to come to the hospital with my mother because there was a boxing match on television that he had waited all year to see. This was a telling sign of things to come in my life. Whereas the rest of my siblings all seemed able to deal with the emotional absence of my father - I simply could not. I just craved my father’s love and attention and it seemed I would do anything to get it. This longing for my daddy created in me an enormously deep wound that simply would not heal. I was to find out later that my father would be missing at all the most important times in my life.



At the age of three my father introduced me to sexual abuse; although at the time, I did not know the meaning of the words, nor could I even spell them. I thought that all little girls played these same games with their fathers. The abuse started out so innocently – first as fondling and then gradually progressed to more perversion and abuse. The abuse started before our family became Christians and sadly was to continue for many years afterwards. My father went on to become a preacher. Being in a preacher’s family, I had no way of telling anyone about the shame that began to gnaw at my heart. I felt so damaged and unworthy and I did not know how to deal with these feelings. I remember as a little girl looking at the pictures of Jesus with children on His knee and wishing so much that I could be one of them. But I thought that Jesus hated me. After all, I had prayed for years for Him to come and rescue me. I heard that He could walk on the water and I just knew that one day He would walk into my bedroom and take me away from the abuse. When that did not happen, I felt completely betrayed by God. I began to stuff my feelings and bury them in the dark recesses of my heart. The abuse finally ended after I was twelve. What once was love for my father turned to hatred and then complete rage.

I spent most of my life trying to love God but always feeling such ambivalence in my heart towards Him. I just could not understand why God had allowed the abuse to continue after I had prayed so many years for it to end. My father used his position of being a preacher to make sure that I kept silent. I just had no means to ever tell my secret and I carried a profound burden in my young heart. I became an over-achiever, obsessive-compulsive and a very Type-A kind of person. I just could not relax because when I did the memories of my abuse would come flooding over me. I did not want to deal with these memories and kept stuffing my feelings back inside, hoping somehow that I could “run away” from my pain. On the outside, I looked like "the girl who had it all together" but inside I was silently crying. I began to loathe myself and turned to eating disorders, approval addiction and cutting to try to deal with the pain.

It was not until I had a severe neck injury that ended my 23-year career that I slowly came to the end of myself and had to face my abuse or die. There was no other choice. I was completely shattered emotionally, physically, mentally and spiritually. It was then that I began on a journey towards my

wholeness and freedom. I am now 50 years old and have found such joy and peace in my life for the very first time. I have forgiven my father and there is not a single cell in my body that hates him anymore.

I never intended to write a book. I became an author quite by “accident”. In the depths of my pain, I began to journal and what came out was not in diary format but in story form. I was puzzled by this but continued to write as a means of finding peace for myself. After I found my freedom, I simply could not keep it to myself. As I began to share my freedom with others, I was appalled to discover that I was not alone. There were so many others that I knew who were still suffering in their silence. I could not keep this freedom to myself. I want to let the whole world know that there is a way out of this pain and His wonderful name is Jesus.

Q: Tell us what makes you proud to be a writer from Florida, USA?

A: I am new to Florida, but love this beautiful state. I find that people have been so receptive to my story.

Q: What or who inspired you to become a writer?

A: When did you begin writing with the intention of becoming published? I never aspired to be a writer. My book was literally born out of my own journey of healing from childhood sexual abuse. As a child I thought I was all alone. When I discovered that so many of my childhood friends had also been abused and saw the devastation it had done to their lives, I simply could not keep silent any longer. These are the secrets I thought I would carry with me to the grave.

Q: Tell us why you write the genre(s) that you write?

A: This is my first book but I am working on another book which will also be in the same genre. I find that I can only write from my own gut - from the experiences I have been through in my life. My life has been quite unique and I have been through some experiences that are quite uncommon.

Q: What format are your books in: Print Only.....E-Book Only.....or Both?

A: Print only at the moment.

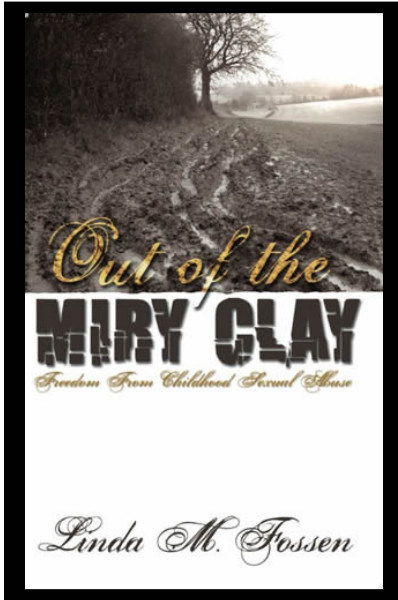
Q: Current Book (s):

A: Out of the Miry Clay: Freedom from Childhood Sexual Abuse

Q: What special projects are you working on now and what books do we have to look forward to in the future?

A: I am working on a book about being a preacher's daughter who married a triple murderer in a maximum state prison. I met and married my husband in prison and spent 18 years waiting for him to come home. He was released in 1995 and is the love of my life. I want to write about the amazing people we met and the experiences we had inside those fortress walls. It will be like an insider's view of life in prison. There was not a single sermon I heard preached or Sunday School lesson I heard taught that could have prepared me to become a convict's wife.

[Out of the Miry Clay: Freedom From Childhood Sexual Abuse](#) by [Linda M. Fossen](#)



"I was three years old and I thought that all little girls played these same games with their fathers. Thus began my introduction to sexual abuse - although at the time, I did not know the meaning of the words, nor could I even spell them. My father sexually abused me for ten years, both before and after he became a preacher. Naturally this completely polluted my concept of God, father, love and trust. This really is a story about the carnage that sexual abuse leaves in the heart of every child. It is my story of being a preacher's daughter in search of a loving Heavenly Father who would give me the courage to forgive and trust again. A Heavenly Father so unlike my earthly father that the difference would literally baffle me for years."

Book Details:

199 Pages

Book Print Price: \$9.95

[Amazon Purchase Link](#)
<http://www.amazon.com>

Linda M. Fossen's Websites:

<http://www.lindafossen.com/>

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Linda Fossen Joined Books In Sync In June 2009

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