

Pamela Carter Joern is an award-winning novelist, short story writer, playwright, and a teacher of writing. Her second book, *The Plain Sense of Things*, (University of Nebraska Press, 2008) has been selected as a Midwest Booksellers Association Connections Pick. This collection of connected stories chronicles three generations of a Nebraska family from 1930-1980 as they deal with personal hardship and historical changes.

Pam's debut novel, *The Floor of the Sky* (University of Nebraska Press, 2006), was a Barnes and Noble Discover Great New Writers selection and winner of an Alex Award and the Nebraska Book Award. It tells the story of an aging widow struggling to hang on to her family and her land in the rugged Nebraska Sandhills.

Pam's work has appeared in the *Red Rock Review*, *South Dakota Review*, *Water~Stone*, *Laurel Review*, *Feminist Studies*, *Minnesota Monthly Magazine* and an anthology, *Times of Sorrow*, *Times of Grace* (Backwaters Press). She has a story forthcoming in *Great River Review*. She won a Tamarack Award for her short story "Confessions," and has received a Minnesota State Arts Board fellowship and a Career Initiative grant from the Jerome Foundation.

Pam has written six plays that have been produced in the Twin Cities area, most recently *Whatever Happened to Alice James*, chosen by Illusion Theater in 2004 as part of their Fresh Ink Series. In 2006, she directed an original rock opera, *My Green Eyes*, written by Randy Baker and Doug Weatherhead, that was produced as a benefit for breast cancer research.

Pam holds an MFA in creative writing from Hamline University. She has completed two other master's degrees: communications and secondary education from University of Nebraska at Omaha and religious studies from United Theological Seminary. She teaches at the Loft Literary Center in Minneapolis and at Hamline University.

Pam lives in Minneapolis with her husband Brad. They have two adult daughters, both married.

You can learn more about Pam and her work at: www.pamelacarterjoern.com.

Publications

Books:

The Plain Sense of Things, University of Nebraska Press, September, 2008.

The Floor of the Sky, University of Nebraska Press, September, 2006.

Journals/Magazines:

"Lessons at the P. O.," *Great River Review*, forthcoming, Spring, 2009.

"Running in Place," *Minnesota Monthly Magazine*, Minneapolis, MN, January, 2006.

"Ghost Town," *The Laurel Review*, Maryville, MO, Winter, 2005.

"After Death," *South Dakota Review*, Vermillion, SD, vol. 42, no.2, Summer, 2004.

"Wonderful Words of Life," *Feminist Studies*, College Park, MD, vol. 29, no. 2, Summer, 2003.

"Judgment Day," *Red Rock Review*, Las Vegas, Nevada, Summer, 2003.

"Memory Thefts and Transplants," and "Wonderful Words of Life," *Times of Sorrow, Times of Grace: Writing by Women of the Great Plains/High Plains*, Backwaters Press, Omaha, NE, September, 2002.

"Confessions," *Minnesota Monthly Magazine*, Minneapolis, MN, November, 2001.

"Memory Thefts and Transplants," *Water~Stone*, St. Paul, MN, Fall, 2001.

Awards/Honors

Career Initiative Grant, Jerome Foundation, 2008.

Nebraska Book Award for Fiction, 2007.

Alex Award, Young Adult Library Services Association, April, 2007.

Barnes and Nobles Discover Great New Writers selection, *The Floor of the Sky*, 2006.

Teaching Fellow, Loft Literary Center, 2005-2006.

Minnesota State Arts Board Assistance Fellowship, 2002.

Tamarack Award, *Minnesota Monthly Magazine*, 2001.

Outstanding Prose Thesis Award, Hamline University, 2000.

Writing Residencies:

 Collegeville Institute for Ecumenical and Cultural Research, 2007.

 Norcroft: a Writing Retreat for Women, 2003.

Plays Produced

Whatever Happened to Alice James?, Illusion Theater, Minneapolis, MN, Fresh Ink Series, July, 2004.

Simple Gifts, The Theater Exchange in cooperation with the Re-Imagining Community, Minneapolis, MN, November, 1993.

Alchemyra's Art, Role Over Productions, Minneapolis, MN, April, 1988.

Common Place, Role Over Productions, Minneapolis, MN, March, 1987.

I Have Prayed Our Father for too Long, leaping greenly productions, Minneapolis, MN, September, 1983 and July, 1984.

Sarah's Song, Bethel University, St. Paul, MN, November, 1983.