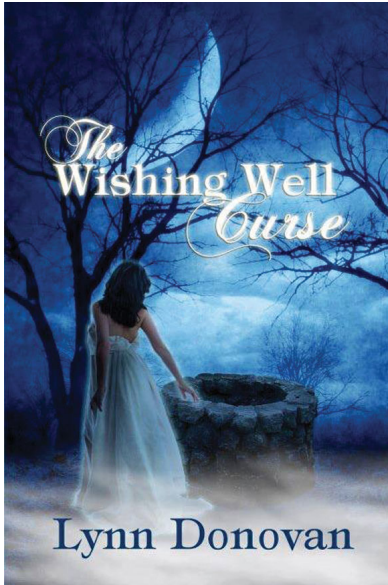


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By ROBERT PIERCE

• Leader & Times

Some people don't believe in ghosts or destiny. Initially, neither did Zeke Clay, but by the end of local author Lynn Donovan's new book, her lead character has a new outlook on the topics.

Donovan describes "The Wishing Well Curse" as a "gothic paranormal, Christian fiction novel."

In the book, in one terrible day, Clay loses everything – his girlfriend, his apartment and his job – and he has the choice of quitting college or failing out.



Then, a mysterious letter comes from Colorado, when Clay decides things just might be looking up. Now he stands to inherit a fortune, but it comes with a price. He must break a family curse and restore true love.

“What does he know about breaking a curse?” Donovan asked in a press release regarding the book. “And who is this Great Uncle Luther Clayton, who claims Zeke is the one?”

Donovan said her lead character also questions whether the letter is the destiny his deceased mother has always referred to.

“Can he piece together the clues left by his dearly departed?” she said. “Who can he trust? What about the ghosts? And why does crown-of-thorns tattoo bleed every time he gets near the wishing well?”

The Wishing Well Curse is available online at Amazon.com and BarnesandNoble.com in e-book and paperback.

Donovan will be celebrating the launch of her book from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday at Liberal’s Memorial Library. She is inviting everyone to come visit her and get a signed copy. The paperback is available for \$14.99.

Donovan writes from her heart and five decades of experiences she has accumulated as daughter, wife, mother of four and grandmother of seven when creating her stories.

Her publications with AltWit Press include a collection of short stories, "The Clockwork Dragon," where she is one of three authors, and The Wishing Well Curse.

She categorizes herself as the "sandwich generation" because she is caring for her mother who has Alzheimer's and her special needs adult sister.

Donovan also attends Seward County Community College. Asked how she manages with so many people in her care, she said "Love goes best in small houses. I write for God's glory. He allows me the time I need to write and meet my responsibilities at home."

As for The Wishing Well Curse itself, Donovan said she had to do a fair amount of fact-finding when writing her latest book.

"I had to research the Indian history, the Indian heritage of that area," she said in an interview Friday. "I wasn't sure which Indians were in that area, and I wanted that to be accurate."

Clay has a mansion, originally owned by Luther Clayton, west of Canon City, Colo., where much of the book takes place, and Donovan said familiarity with that region made her job as writer easier.

"I knew the area real well, and I know the town," she said.

A copy of her book has been donated to the Guthrie, Okla., library, and Donovan said this was made possible due to her family's heritage in the former Oklahoma capital.

“Guthrie is the town that my ancestors founded five generations back,” she said. “My dad retired there when he got out of the Army. He has passed away, but my stepmother and my sister still live in Guthrie. I have lots of cousins who are still in that area. With that being kind of that family base, I wanted to go there.”

Donovan said when she contacted the Guthrie library, the library heads were more than happy to receive a copy of the book, and the author even signed some copies of her latest work.

Donovan said *The Wishing Well Curse* was completed shortly following the finalizing of her previous book, *The Clockwork Dragon*.

“The initial draft took me under two months last year, and I worked on polishing it through December,” she said.

In December 2012, Donovan was contacted by one of her fellow authors on *The Clockwork Dragon*, Pauline Creeden, who inquired about any new works Donovan had for viewing.

“I said ‘Yeah, I’ve got this one.’” Donovan said of *The Wishing Well Curse*. “I submitted it to her. At the end of December, she sent a message back to me saying, ‘I’d like to publish this, but we need to polish this.’ She did do some changes on it.”

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