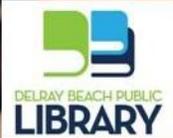




## Live & Local: Authors Read from Home



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**Author Name:** Carren Strock **Local City:** Delray Beach, FL and Brooklyn, NY

**Book Title:** *Secret Survivors* **ISBN:** 978-1515410300

**Author's website:** [www.carrenstrock.com](http://www.carrenstrock.com) *This book is also available on Amazon.*

**DBPL:** **What inspired you to write this book?**

**Answer:** *I moved to Buffalo, NY right after the blizzard of 1977. I was sitting at my typewriter one day when the school bus pulled into my cul-d-sac and dropped off the children in the middle of the day because a snow storm was coming. I wondered what would have happened if none of the adults were home.*

**DBPL:** **How long did it take from first word to publication?**

**Answer:** *It took more than thirty years. I am an eclectic writer and other book projects kept interfering. For instance, I was teaching a class on writing based on my experiences with my first book and the same people returned each time I taught it. When I asked why they, said because I kept giving them new information. I realized they were right so I stopped working on *Secret Survivors* to write: *A Writer's Journey: What to Know Before, During, and After Writing a Book*. Then I took a visualization workshop and an image of a young woman standing on the beach at Coney Island came to me and I realized she was involved in a mystery that needed to be written so I stopped once again to write *In the Shadow of the Wonder Wheel*. In hindsight though, I think it wasn't time for *Secret Survivors* to be birthed until now.*

**DBPL:** **What is your favorite part of the writing process?**

**Answer:** *I love editing my work after I've written it although I also edit as I write.*

**DBPL:** **What was your favorite book when you were a child?**

**Answer:** *Heidi, Little Women, and A Tree Grows in Brooklyn were all my favorites but I also read *Baby Island* when I was about eight and I've never forgotten it.*

**DBPL:** **Are you working on anything new?**

**Answer:** *I am working on another mystery, also set in Coney Island. It could be a stand-alone book or a sequel to *In the Shadow of the Wonder Wheel* as I brought back some of the characters that people really liked.*

**DBPL:** **Do you have any advice for aspiring writers?**

**Answer:** *Don't listen to anyone who tells you that you can't write. In college I had a dream of becoming a writer but my first English teacher said, "Some people are writers and some are not. And you are not a writer." I believed him and didn't pick up a pen for more than fifteen years. Then Doubleday purchased my first book *Married Women Who Love Women* and Taylor and Francis' Routledge is publishing the third edition on June 1st.*