



NAME/PEN NAME: Bob Allen writing as RG Allen

GENRE: Christian non-fiction

Q & A:

What has been your most rewarding moment as an author?

I write Christian literature. My first book was about Biblical scripture. One of my fellow church members approached me after having read my first book. He had tears in his eyes and said that this book was exactly what he had been seeking for many years. He said it changed his life. That made all the work worth it.

What have been some of the biggest helps for developing your writing skills? Written resources, classes or conferences, fellow writers you've learned from or have mentored you, other?

A number of years ago, I was in a writer's group at my church. We had about 35 or 40 authors in that group. We would be given writing assignments to complete between meetings. At the meetings, we would break into small groups, read our work and receive critiques about style, etc. That was a valuable experience for me. Later we published an anthology of stories by the authors.

What's the best piece of writing-related advice that you've received?

Know pretty much where you are going before you start. Otherwise, your story/work will have gaps and won't present a smooth flow. This applies both to fiction and to non-fiction.

How do you find your ideas for a book?

Since my books are Christian non-fiction, ideas have come from Bible Studies, both in groups and on my own. The themes of my books answer questions that many people have about what Scripture means and how to use it.

What kind of books do you enjoy reading and how often do you read?

I don't read as much as I used to, but when I do, I like to read a novel or something light. This gives me a break from the non-fiction world.

Do you have your books edited, critiqued, and/or beta-reviewed? If so, what is your usual procedure?

My books were published by companies that do all the editing, proofreading, etc. There was no critique or beta review.

BIOGRAPHY: Bob Allen, writing as RG Allen, lives with his wife Barbara in Sun City, Texas. Bob started writing short stories a number of years ago and had several of them published online. He also put out a book about his motorcycle adventures from the 1970's. His main focus in the last few years has been the church he and Barbara attend in Austin. They have both been very active, working on mission projects as well as singing in the choir. In Sun City, Bob enjoys golf several times a week as well as a number of the many other activities available.

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