



F. I. GOLDHABER
STORYTELLER + POET

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. *What does F.I. stand for?*

B. My first name and my middle name.



Q. *Why don't you tell anyone what your name is?*

B. More fun that way.



Q. *What do people call you?*

B. F.I.



Q. *Where did you grow up?*

B. The United States of America, most of it. To date, I've lived in eighteen cities in ten states. I attended elementary school in three states, high school in a fourth and I've held professional positions in five states.



Q. *Where do you get ideas for your fiction?*

B. From everything I see, smell, taste; from day dreams and nightmares; from conversations and encounters. I often ask the five W questions I used as a journalist: who, what, when, why, where, and of course the sixth most important question: how?



Q. *How long have you been writing?*

B. Since I learned how to form letters. My love affair with words began when my parents read stories and poems to me. I would learn them by heart, hold the book, and "read" them to my baby brother. When I could read myself, I was a voracious consumer of books. I also would make up stories and tell them to whomever would listen. Then I began to write them down. I chose journalism as a career because it was a writing job. Even when I worked in marketing/public relations, my jobs required writing every day.





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Frequently Asked Questions (continued)

Q. *Some of your poems are written in first person. Are they autobiographical?*

B. I write fiction in first person also, but I do not claim those characters' experiences for my own. I employ poetry as a camera. With each poem, I offer up a snapshot of a moment in time through my eyes -- an image, an emotion, an insight. And with each poem, I hope to influence how other people see things. But, the images and insights often start with someone else's ordeal, opinion, joy.



Q. *Didn't you get discouraged, knowing how hard it was to get published?*

B. Many famous authors were rejected dozens of times before they were published. There will always be room for good stories that are well-written. Now, readers, not editors and agents, get to determine which books will be successful.



Q. *How should a new writer deal with rejections?*

B. Not take them personally. Learn from them if you can.