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Authors: Joy Don Baker & Terri Goodman

Category: Womens Fiction, Coming of Age

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e-ISBN: 978-1-7322535-1-3



# Author Bio

Joy Don was born in southern OK, the eldest of three children and currently resides in north TX. She became passionate about nursing in the ninth grade while babysitting when an incident occurred where she remained calm and sought the proper help. When the help arrived, she promptly fell apart, crying.

During a clinic summer job, Joy Don learned to take X-rays and ran testing of blood and urine for analysis. She did the pre-work up for students requiring physicals to start school or play sports, of course this only included taking their blood pressure, weight, and getting them to fill in a questionnaire.

Being a registered nurse and progressing into administrative roles she learned early that communications through writing was essential. One of her first writing opportunities was through volunteer service in the AORN (perioperative nurses) when committees reported, via the *AORN Journal*, results to communicate action taken or required by the membership. Joy Don became the Editor-in-Chief of the *AORN Journal* in 2012 and served in that role until she and Terri began to write their first novel.



Joy Don Baker

# Author Bio

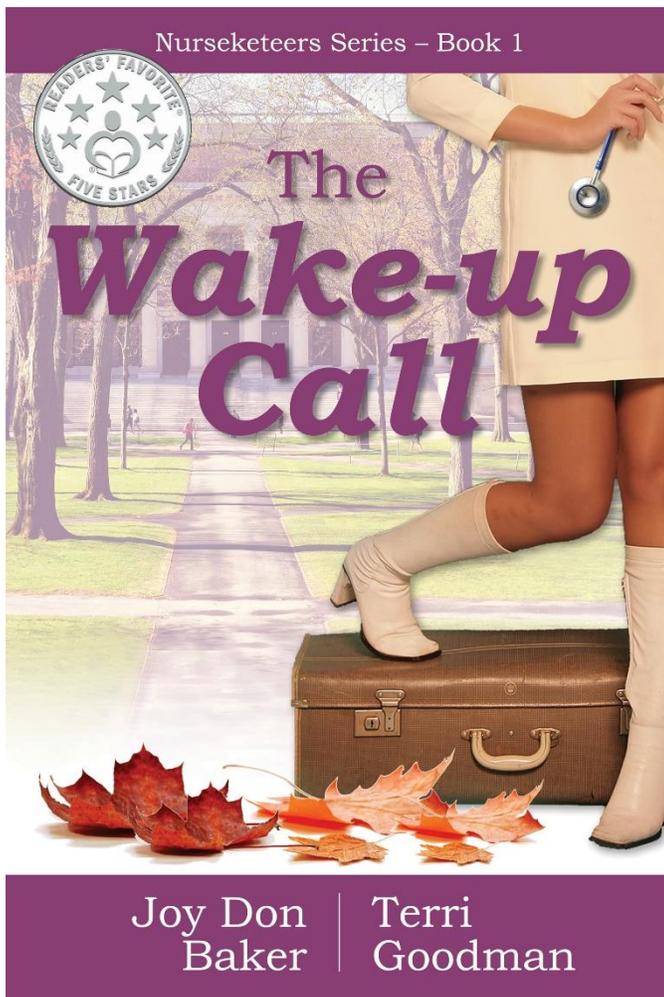
Terri got a typewriter for her sixth birthday, and, except for the camera she got the next year, it was the most amazing birthday present ever! She's always loved writing. Terri sees stories as she reads them, so the richer the words, the more vivid her private motion pictures. Her hope is her love of language will help to bring The Nurseketeers Series to life for you.

Born in Baltimore and raised in Washington, DC... She says "I'm a Yankee. I talk fast; I move fast; I think fast."

Get in touch with me if you've got any comments, questions, suggestions, or just want to say hello. I'd be more than happy to hear from you.



Terri Goodman



# Book Bio

In 1970, pampered, naive, Philly-born Frannie is overwhelmed by the responsibilities of nursing school and college life in Dallas. A love-hate relationship erupts when Robin, her fiery, red-headed roommate, arrives from Chicago to find Frannie's belongings covering every inch of space in their room, and Frannie nowhere in sight.

Adding fuel to the fire, Frannie pursues a relationship with a sophomore hunk whom Robin insists is pond scum. She ignores her suitemates' pleas to join their study group, insisting her high school achievements will guarantee her success in college.

Frannie's wake-up call comes after nearly two semesters of disastrous decision-making. She finds herself flunking out and her nursing career ending before it begins. With support from an unexpected source, she faces the biggest decision of her life, one that no matter the outcome will upend her future.

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# TESTIMONIALS



"This book is a nostalgic and enjoyable trip back to the good old days of college. The story of Frannie and her suitemates comes alive in a very detailed depiction of the era. Can Frannie keep her life on track and stay out of trouble? I guess I will have to wait for the next book to find out..." **Mary Morgan**

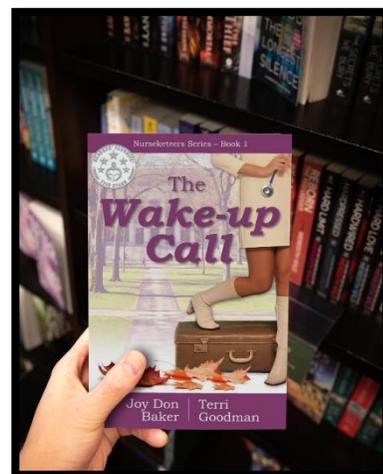


"I stumbled across this book and let me tell you, what a great summer read. It took you through the struggles and the fun times of college all over again. I cannot wait to see what book comes out next \*\* I sure hope it's Robin's story as she was my favorite \*\*" **Katia**



The authors, longtime friends, and title caught my attention first - as a retired perioperative nurse use to being "on call" most of my career. My 50th nursing class reunion was a year ago. The experiences of these 4 college-based students were not so different than my own as a Diploma (3 year) student nurse. I took my anatomy and science classes up on The Hill at the UofTN. I related to being away from my KS home, being in a city, and suddenly having not 1, but 3 roommates. My trunk of necessities and bike-built-for-two came by rail transport. Our new dorm was a month late in opening but had a basement pool. Sleeping late and going to the hospital cafeteria for breakfast attired in our pj's and trench coats or slipping out the backdoor 15 minutes before curfew for a 10 cent White Castle burger were scandalous behavior for some of us. Like the Nurseketeers our class was diverse, but the experiences and emotions of becoming "real" nurses was more than just textbooks and lectures. I look forward to the further adventures of Frannie, Robin, Katie, and Leslie.

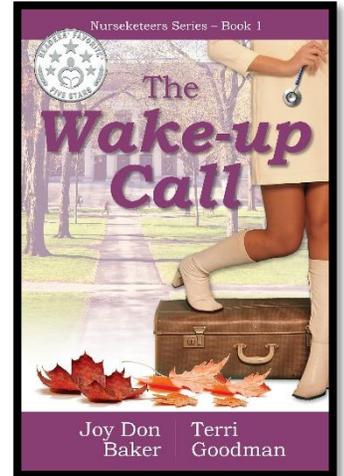
- **Kate Lindsay, Retired CNOR (E)**



"I lost sleep reading this book. I could not put it down. I really enjoyed the fast-paced writing and great stories interwoven of each character. It took place in an area I lived. So, it felt like I was there. I could see the campus in my mind's eye, and I am looking forward to reading more from these authors. I know lots of nurses so I will be passing along the book around to my friends. Thank you! Great job! - **Holly P.**

"I really enjoyed this book. I know little about nursing but some about coming of age girls, having been one myself many moons ago. I have met several Frannie's in my day. I'm really looking forward to the next book in the series." **Kindle Verified Reader**

# Target Audience



## WHO SHOULD READ

- women 18 and older
- girls in college
- nurses
- nursing students
- women interested in
  - finding one's unique self
  - women's issues
  - relationships

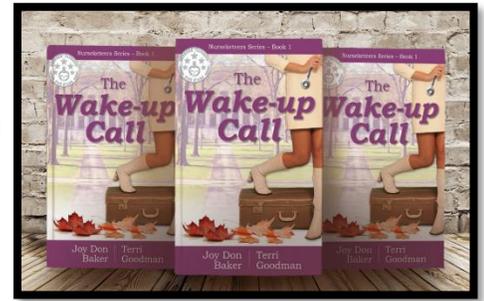
## BOOK BENEFITS

- first in the *Nurseketeers* series
- introduction to campus life
- snapshot of the seventies
- glimpse into nursing
- coming of age
- relationship dynamics



# Book Excerpt

## Chapter 1 *excerpt*



Sally ushered Robin into the suite. "Your other suitemates, Leslie Bleu and Katie Grayfox, have taken that room, so you'll be sharing this one with Frannie Braun."

Robin pushed the door open and gasped, "What the hell!" There was no one inside, but clothing covered every piece of furniture and most of the floor. "Shit!" She turned to Sally, "There isn't a square inch left in this room for my stuff. I don't even have a bed! Leave it to some rich bitch to think she owns the whole world."

Embarrassed, Sally set Robin's suitcase on the floor and shrugged, not knowing what to say.

With a wicked smirk, Robin said, "No problem. I can take care of this." She scooped up everything from one bed and threw it onto the other, creating an untidy mountain of clothing. Sally backed out of the room. Robin cleared her dresser, desk, and chair in the same manner. She stood back, inspecting her side of the room. She lifted one of her suitcases onto her bed, opened it, and draped several items over her arm. When she walked into the closet, she found one short section of rod empty of clothing, suitcases on the floor below, and not a hanger in sight.

Robin shouted, "You've gotta be shittin' me!" She stood glaring into the full closet.

Frannie stepped into the doorway and stopped short, her eyes wide and mouth moving like a fish out of water. "Hey! You took my bed!"

Behind Frannie, Leslie and Katie entered the suite. Frannie's exclamation stopped them in their tracks.

"I WHAT?" Robin yelled, glaring at Frannie. "Both beds were covered with crap! ONE of them HAD to be mine, and neither of them had your name on it."

Frannie stammered, "I meant to be back earlier. My father took me to lunch and..."

"Who the hell ARE you? Some rich kid with MAIDS?"

"I was hanging clothes, but I ran out of hangers... and Dad made lunch reservations, so I had to leave. I... I thought I would be back earlier."

"Look. I don't give a damn! Just get hangers! Then get enough stuff outa this closet so half of it can be mine. Find somewhere else for your suitcases, like under your bed, or out in street for all I care!"

Noticing the two girls standing mute outside the bedroom door, Robin shrugged. "Obviously, she thinks she owns the place. She's claimed the whole room for herself. What did she expect me to do, set up camp in the bathroom? Oh, of course not, cuz that's full of her crap, too."

Frannie insisted, "I was going to leave you half. I just didn't know where to put everything."

The tall brunette entered the room one step ahead of the second girl who was the image of an Indian princess. "I'm Leslie Bleu and this is Katie Grayfox. We're your suitemates."

"I'm Robin Hart, and I have no idea who *she* is." Robin jerked her thumb toward Frannie.

"My name is Frannie, Frannie Braun... and I'm not rich and I'm definitely not what you called me earlier."

# Interview Questions

1 How is nursing different today from in the 1970s?

2 How did you come up with the series characters and their names?

3 Where did the idea for this book come from?

4 When did you first realize you wanted to be a writer?

5 How long does it take you to write a book?

6 Where do you get your information or ideas for your books?

7 What do you think makes a good story?

8 What made you decide to become a nurse? Opportunity or childhood dream?

9 Did you ever consider writing under a pseudonym?

10 Do you try more to be original or to deliver to readers what they want?

11 You have to say goodbye to either snacks/drinks or music when writing, which would you choose?

12 How long on average does it take you to write a book?

13 Which is your favorite writing season and why?

14 What has influenced you most as a writer?

15 Do you prefer physical books, audiobooks, or eBooks? Why?

16 Which is most important: A. Strong Characters, B. Mind-blowing plot twists, or C. Epic settings?

17 What is your favorite genre to read? Why?

18 What did you delete from your book?

19 Share five fun and unusual facts about you?

20 What does Nurseketeers mean to you?

# STORY IDEAS FOR REPORTERS:



1. **College or Not:** Does everyone need a college degree?
2. **Nursing:** How has nursing changed since 1970?
3. **Tests:** Tests are a fact of life in academia. What options are available for students who are poor test-takers?
4. **Greek World:** How important is involvement in a sorority or fraternity to the college experience?

5. **Cultural Diversity:** In what ways do college students benefit from a culturally diverse student body and faculty?

6. **Make a Choice:** Should you declare a major when you start college, or is it best to keep your options open until closer to graduation?

7. **Guarantee success:** How can you guarantee that an ad for your book campaign will succeed?

8. **Cost of Education:** What ideas do you have for making the cost of a college education affordable?

9. **Work & School:** How can a college student do well in school, hold a job, and still have the time and energy to enjoy the experience?

10. **Where to go?** Where would you go for the best college experience? Big school or small? Big city or small town? North or South? East Coast or West?



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We appreciate requests for photographs for press use. Email and let us know where you post your article so we can link to it.

Thank you.



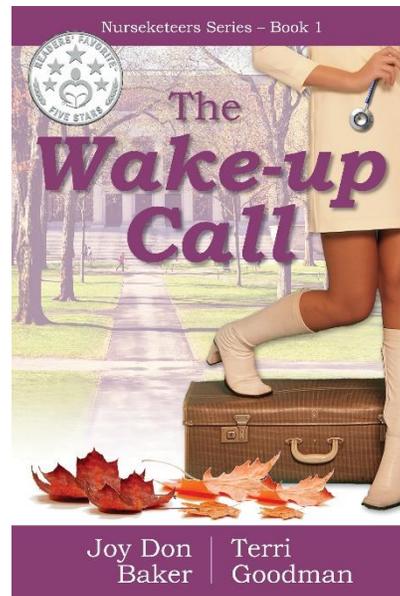
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