



A  
DIFFERENT  
KIND OF  
REUNION

JOANNE GUIDOCCIO

# ABOUT THE BOOK

**Publisher:** The Wild Rose Press  
**Publisher Website:** <http://thewildrosepress.com>  
**Genre:** Cozy Mystery  
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## Blurb

While not usually a big deal, one overlooked email would haunt teacher Gilda Greco. Had she read it, former student Sarah McHenry might still be alive.

Suspecting foul play, Constable Leo Mulligan plays on Gilda's guilt and persuades her to participate in a séance facilitated by one of Canada's best-known psychics. Six former students also agree to participate. At first co-operative and willing, the camaraderie is short-lived as old grudges and rivalries emerge. The séance is a bust.

Determined to solve Sarah's murder, Gilda launches her own investigation and uncovers shocking revelations that could put several lives—including her own—in danger. Can Gilda and the psychic solve this case before the killer strikes again?

## Reviews

"A compelling murder mystery with characters one can't help but adore and a storyline that sets the reader's fingers on fire trying to go to the next page fast enough." InD'Tale Magazine

"This is a fast paced read that grabbed me in the beginning and did not let go till the end. So grab a favorite drink and settle in for a nice light summer read." Romancing the Book Blog

"This is a cozy mystery at its best. It will make you want to cuddle up for a while and get lost in the story and world Joanne Guidoccio has created." Texas Book Nook

"The story was edge-of-the-seat thrilling, keeping the reader guessing as to who killed Sarah and why." Cloe Michaels Reads

"The author did a very good job of deception. I bet that was why it was so entertaining." Long and Short Reviews

"I love tucking into a good cozy, and this one is great. The plot is well-crafted, the characters are fully developed and the story is filled with suspense. Jo-Ann Carson

A true page-turner, this is a must-read for any Gilda Greco fan as well as any fan of a well-written mystery. Rachel Sharpe

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



In high school, Joanne Guidoccio dabbled in poetry, but it would be over three decades before she entertained the idea of writing as a career. She listened to her practical Italian side and earned degrees in mathematics and education. She experienced many fulfilling moments as she watched her students develop an appreciation (and sometimes, love) of mathematics. Later, she obtained a post-graduate diploma as a career development practitioner and put that skill set to use in the co-operative education classroom. She welcomed this opportunity to help her students experience personal growth and acquire career direction through their placements.

In 2008, she took advantage of early retirement and decided to launch a second career that would tap into her creative side and utilize her well-honed organizational skills. Slowly, a writing practice emerged. Her articles and book reviews were published in newspapers, magazines, and online. When she tried her hand at fiction, she made reinvention a recurring theme in her novels and short stories. A member of Sisters in Crime, Crime Writers of Canada, and Romance Writers of America, Joanne writes paranormal romance, cozy mysteries, and inspirational literature from her home base of Guelph, Ontario.

### Links

Website: <http://joanneguidoccio.com/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/joanneguidoccio>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/authorjoanneguidoccio>

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/joanneguidoccio>

Pinterest: <http://pinterest.com/jguidoccio/>

Goodreads: [https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/7277706.Joanne\\_Guidoccio](https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/7277706.Joanne_Guidoccio)

# Q & A WITH JOANNE GUIDOCCIO

**Tell us about your series, including where the idea originated.**

*A Different Kind of Reunion* is the third book in the Gilda Greco Mystery Series. Based in Northern Ontario, these books feature a fifty-something Italian woman, her meddling relatives, deserving and undeserving men, food, and murder.

While undergoing cancer treatments, I gravitated toward cozy mysteries. After devouring over fifty books in that genre, I imagined the following scenarios: What if a lottery winner moves back to her hometown and finds herself involved in a murder investigation? And what if all the victims are blondes? I put pen to paper and started the first draft of *A Season for Killing Blondes*. It was released by The Wild Rose Press in June 2015.

*Too Many Women in the Room*, Book 2, was released in May 2017. *A Different Kind of Reunion*, Book 3, will be released in late April 2018.

**Gilda Greco, the protagonist of the series, received a sizeable lottery win and stayed in her hometown where the residents know that she is now a very wealthy woman. What effect has the win had on her life?**

As one of the few millionaires in the mid-sized Northern Ontario city, Gilda knew she couldn't maintain a low profile. Instead, she embraced her life in the spotlight and searched for ways to improve the quality of life in Sudbury. She also managed to attract the attention of a handsome widower who happens to be Chief Detective.

**Reinvention is a recurring theme in your novels. Why this particular theme?**

Reinvention is a core theme of my own life. A cancer diagnosis at age 49 and a decision to retire at age 53 prompted me to reassess my life goals. An avid reader, I searched for fiction and nonfiction literature that would help me navigate these uncertain waters. And then I decided to write the books I wanted to read.

**Have you thought of writing mysteries that are darker?**

During my cancer journey, I devoured several cozies a week. I enjoyed the well-plotted and engaging storylines that entertained me and kept my mind active. While I do read psychological thrillers, I don't think I could ever write that "dark"...it just isn't in me.

**When you're writing, do your characters seem to "hijack" the story or do you feel like you have the "reigns" of the story?**

I'm a linear pantsier. I like to start with a character sketch of the protagonist and a rough draft of the storyline. While the beginning and ending remain constant, there are several plot changes along the way. And I let the characters misbehave.

**Do you have a writer's cave?**

When I first retired, I assumed I would be writing in my den. Everything was in place: desk, new computer, bookshelves crammed with novels and craft guides, and inspiring Monet prints on the wall. But

after several frustrating attempts, I realized the den was too small. While the room could easily be a second bedroom, it was not spacious enough for my creativity to flourish. So, I relocated to a corner of the living/dining area of my condo. With over 900 square feet of space and easy access to my kitchen and balcony, I no longer feel constrained.

**Do you set aside time to write every day or do you write more sporadically?**

After some experimentation, I came up with a daily regimen. Nothing too dramatic, but it works for me. I like to sleep in each day and enjoy a leisurely breakfast. But after my second cup of coffee, I start writing. My goal is 1,000 words a day. After I reach that quota, I'm free to meet with friends for lunch or coffee and plan other outings.

**What, to you, is the most exciting part of the writing process?**

I look forward to writing the first chapter and giving life to the characters. That initial spark of an idea may percolate for several days (sometimes weeks), but the real thrill occurs when I sit at my computer and start writing.

**In general, how many revisions do you go through before a book is published?**

After completing the first draft, I put the manuscript aside for at least one month or until I feel I've fallen out of love with it. Two more complete revisions follow before sending the manuscript to my editor. Another lengthy revision and then it's off to my publisher, The Wild Rose Press. Several more revisions follow—anywhere from three to five—and final proofreading.

**Do you read your reviews?**

I read all my reviews at least once. On "blue" days, I reread the excellent reviews. While reading the less-than-stellar reviews, I look for common themes. For example, several readers commented on the number of characters introduced in the first chapter of *A Season for Killing Blondes*. I kept that comment in mind while writing *Too Many Women in the Room* and *A Different Kind of Reunion*.

**Who are your favorite authors and why?**

I admire late-blooming authors who have launched successful second acts. Two favorites come to mind: Maeve Binchy and Louise Penny. Their novels and writing journeys have inspired me to launch my own second act as a writer. From Maeve, I've learned that success is not a pie where only a select few have access to the slices. I've taken several pages out of Louise's disciplined approach to structure my own writing practice.

**As an author, how do you pay it forward?**

I often find myself reaching for the teacher hat. I like to share what I've learned on my writing journey: the triumphs, challenges, and disappointments. On my blog, I have featured spotlights and reinvention stories of 100+ authors. I am particularly proud of my ability to embrace Twitter and devote many of my tweets to promoting authors and other creatives.