# **Sixties Girl** Lost on the Prairie

## by MaryLou Driedger

Newsletter- Fall 2023







#### What Great Questions!

I was part of a zoom Q and A session with a high school class in Ontario that had done a novel study of Lost on the Prairie. They asked such fabulous questions like how I handled criticism of my writing and how much money I made as an author. Read more about our discussion here.

Girl



#### **My Childhood Homes!**

I lived in three different homes during my childhood in Steinbach or Rocky Creek as I refer to it in Sixties Girl. While writing Grandma Laura's stories in Sixties *Girl* I visualized them taking place in those homes. On my blog I've been on a kind of pilgrimage revisiting each Steinbach home and writing about it and the family events that happened there. You can read about our house on the #12 Highway here, our house on Kroeker Avenue here and our home on Henry Street here.



#### **Thanks Chris!**

Chris Read who has a new book coming out this spring with my publisher Heritage House was kind enough to feature my book *Sixties Girl* on her Instagram account with other great books she read in October. Thanks so much Chris. I look forward to reading your new novel *Queenie Jean Is In Trouble Again*.



## Such a Good Time!

I had a great time selling my novels at the Christmas Market at the Steinbach Mennonite Heritage Village Museum on November 11. I got to meet lots of interesting people and I sold lots of books. A wonderful surprise was meeting a former student of mine. You can read all about that <u>here.</u>

I also was part of an author's night at the Museum on November 15<sup>th</sup> where I did a reading from *Sixties Girl.* Two comments from people who had already read the book made my heart sing. "I was in tears several times." "I read it to my granddaughter and she loved it and asked if she could keep my copy of the book."



## Writers Guild Book Chat

I am a long-time member of the Manitoba Writers Guild and on October 11 I was the featured guest at their monthly book chat. I did a reading and gave a bit of background information on the inspiration for the chapter I read and talked about the research that went into writing it. It was great to have some of the audience members share their stories from the 1960s too.



### **Looking For a Christmas Gift?**

My publisher Heritage House included *Sixties Girl* in their suggested Christmas gifts for kids display. And in the same holiday vein I've included a meme about the best gifts you can give an author for Christmas if you are looking for a present they would really like.



#### **Cool Stuff**

One cool thing that happens on school visits is kids draw portraits of me while I'm talking to the class. Here are two recent ones. There is a website where both my novels have been turned into jigsaw puzzles you can solve online. Check them out <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>. I've created a You Tube playlist featuring the songs mentioned in *Sixties Girl*. You can listen <u>here</u>.

My marvelous publisher Heritage House recently had my novels in Frankfurt Germany at a book fair!

Thank you for your interest in my writing!

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