



How You can be a Co-Author Of the First Edition of Roses on the Windshield

Roses on the Windshield is my simple story of love. It's about how an email from my love, soul-mate and wife changed my life. It's now become a mission for me to spread the message and I am asking you for your help.

Before I go into the details of the book project, it's important for you to understand the power of Roses on the Windshield. To do so, you'll want to hear my story. It started in August of 2008.

I was in a bit of a slump and feeling incredibly down. To tell you the truth, they weren't my brightest days but love not only got me through them but changed my life forever.

To read the rest of the story of Roses on the Windshield, go to the final pages of this document.

- Roses on the Windshield -

A little over a year ago, I wrote and shared the story of
Roses on the Windshield with my friends on Facebook.

The response was, to say the least, overwhelming. We got emails from around the world saying, "What an incredible story. It moved me deeply." "Your love for each other is inspiring."

Women wrote in to say, "It's nice to see such a sensitive story coming from a man."

Men said to me, "Maybe if I did some thing like this years ago, I'd still be married."

Others added, "You've made a difference. You gave me hope in love."

Stepping back for a minute, I started to think and realize, "This is important but, it's bigger than me and Brenda alone. You see, people started sharing their Roses, their stories of love. It went beyond me. It went beyond what I thought would be stories of romance and courtship.

There were people who wrote in to tell their stories. They were stories of deep love for spouses, children, partners and others, both alive and deceased. Tears spilled down my cheeks as I read a story of the final months and days of a beloved who died. Shortly after the moment of death, a rose on a table inspired memories of the loved one. A rose that stayed fresh for six weeks, each day as beautiful as the day it was cut.

These stories matter to a lot of people.

They always have and they always will. During these rather trying and challenging times we're living through, these stories of love and hope matter even more. Your story can make a difference.

There tends to be a focus on a lot of negative news but we all know our earth is a good place filled with good and loving people who care. We are meant to love and to show love. All of the great teachers throughout time have taught us that love is God's greatest gift. It's a gift that is meant to be shared and spread.



You can help spread a message of love. The message of Roses on the Windshield



The world is filled with Roses and with people who deserve to have Roses on their Windshield. It may be your spouse, boyfriend, girlfriend, partner, parents, children, a nurse, a patient or a Hospice worker. Tell your story of Roses on the Windshield ...and how your Rose made a difference in your life or in somebody else's life. People want to hear and know how showing love makes a difference.

You can make a difference and Get your story published in the first edition! *Here's how...*

Of course, first visit www.rosesonthewindshield.com and read my story and Brenda's story.

Think back through your life and think of times that a gesture of love (romantic, family, friends or others) had a profound impact on your life. It may be something that you did for another or that another did for you.

Your story should be inspirational, original and true. You will want it to touch the reader's heart and have them feel the deep emotions you felt when you first experienced the events of the story.

Get your readers to picture the events happening in their own lives as your story transports them into a world of love and hope.

Your story will need to have a beginning, middle and end. It should draw readers into the scene so they can experience the emotions you and the others in the story felt at that moment. People will feel better for having read your story.

Pour your emotions onto the page. As our readers read through the book, they will go through an entire range of emotions. They will laugh, cry, sigh and be grateful to you for sharing the moment with them.

Here are some additional guidelines and tips:

- Rose stories are non-fiction stories less than 1,500 words.
- Give your Rose story a title.
- They are stories that tell about something special *or* something ordinary that you may do on a regular basis to show your love.
- Rose stories are original work by the original author. Prior to publication, you will need to sign a document certifying you are the original author.
- Rose stories are, at the most, PG-Rated and intended for a broad readership.
- Rose stories have not been previously published.
- Rose stories are stories (prose) *not* poetry.
- Make your paragraphs a maximum of 6 lines per paragraph. It is much easier to read than a huge block of text.
- While the stories will be edited, it helps if you do a basic spelling and grammar check.
- The story is not an advertisement, promotion or testimonial for a product, service, book or opportunity.
- A Rose story is not about politics, designed to promote a cause or viewpoint or create a controversy.
- Email your completed story to roses@rosesonthewindshield.com

FAQs

- **I'm not a professional writer; will you still accept my story?**
 - We are selecting stories based on the stories and their content. All stories will be professionally edited prior to publication.
 - If you're reading this far, I'm guessing that you have a story to share. Go ahead and give it a try!
- **Does my story have to be true?**
 - Yes it does.
- **How will I know if my story will be published?**
 - We'll notify you using the email address you provide.
 - That's when we'll also send the necessary paperwork that allows us to publish your story in the book.
- **I'd like to promote my business or myself, can I do this?**
 - We encourage it!!! Each author may include a "Resource Box" that includes a brief description of their business as well as their web site address (URL).
- **Can I get a copy of the book?**
 - Yes, we will send you a free copy of the book autographed by me and Brenda.
 - Authors will be able to purchase additional books at a discount.
 - If you wish to purchase additional books for quantity sales, you will get a substantial discount.
- **Can I be a joint venture partner in this project?**
 - Yes, we will actively promote the book through joint ventures and affiliates. We encourage you to promote this book to your list and associates.
- **What is the deadline?**
 - There is no deadline for submissions but once we have enough great stories to fill the first edition, we'll quickly move on to the editing and publishing phase.
- **Will this be an e-book or print book?**
 - Initially it will be a print book.
- **Can I mail my story?**
 - No, we are only accepting submissions via email – roses@rosesonthewindshield.com or through the web site www.rosesonthewindshield.com.
- **In which format can I send it to you?**
 - Just send the story in the body of the email.
 - You may also attach a Word compatible file to your email.
- **Does it cost anything?**
 - There is no fee for you to submit a story.
 - Many compilation books charge thousands of dollars to participate in a book project. Our goal is to spread the message of Roses on the Windshield to as many people as possible and do not wish to exclude potentially beautiful stories due to the author's inability to afford the submission fee.

What's in this for You?



Before we go on, stop a moment and think about this: Imagine you are in your local Barnes and Noble. As you walk into the store, you see the table of new releases and best sellers. As you approach the table, a very special book catches your eye and you pick it up. The title is *Roses on the Windshield, Sharing Stories of Everlasting Love*.

You reach for the book and open to the table of contents and scan down and see a very familiar chapter title and name. Both of them are yours. Perhaps an employee comes up and asks, "Can I help you?" You smile and say, "No thanks, I'm one of the co-authors of this book and I was just looking at it."

This is truly a very unique and exciting opportunity for a select few authors to potentially reach millions of readers and impact countless lives. This is your chance to participate and be an integral part of a world-wide phenomenon of spreading stories of the power and goodness of love.

We truly believe this will be a best-selling book. Think of *Chicken Soup for the Soul*. Think of *The Secret*. We've already attracted many incredible people and resources to spread the message of *Roses on the Windshield* and will continue to attract many more.

The energy and momentum is incredible!

We will have a substantial publicity campaign that you will participate in to help propel *Roses on the Windshield* to Amazon.com and Barnes and Noble Best Seller Status.

You can sell the book on your site, to your friends, to your family and to your list and make great commissions as an affiliate.

We are doing all of the hard back-end work involved in publishing a book. You reap the benefits of being part of the project.

If you decide to promote yourself or business with a "resource box", large numbers of your potential customers will learn about you. You will be able to leverage your status as a published author and gain the benefit of immediate and substantial credibility to your target audience.

Each author will also have a page on www.rosesonthewindshield.com to promote their business or practice.

You really need to act now!!! ← *This is important!*

As mentioned above, there are only a limited number of stories that will be selected for publication. We want to spread this message of love as soon as possible! For this reason, there's no deadline for submissions. We're selecting our favorite stories and once we've received enough stories to complete the book, we're into the editing and publishing process.

What's next? Remember to re-read the guidelines for submission. Start writing and submit your story ASAP via email to roses@rosesonthewindshield.com. If your story is chosen for publication, we'll send you the required legal forms for you to verify the originality of the story and to give us permission to include it in the book.

On the next page is our story of *Roses on the Windshield*

Roses on the Windshield ~ My Story

I awoke this morning after a rather fitful sleep, stressed and worried about a lot of things that are happening in my life. As I do every morning, I turned over to snuggle with Brenda (after 29 years, still the best way to start my day).

She sensed my pain and asked me what was bothering me. I shared my thoughts and feelings and cried on her shoulder. She said "Check your email."

Check my email? Hmmm.

I went into my office, got my laptop and brought it with me to the bedroom. With my love at my side, I opened Outlook and clicked on the note with the subject "Read this first."

What was in the email from Brenda?

Well, before I share it with you so that you understand the power of Brenda's message, I need to give a bit of a background.

Like many in love, Brenda and I like to surprise each other with little things that say "I love you." One of my favorites is giving her flowers. It's my way of saying "You bring color and beauty into my life every day. The flowers are a way for me to bring color and beauty into yours. When you see them, smile and know how much I love you."



Every once in a while, I will buy a single pink rose (Brenda's favorite) and drive over to where she works and place it on the windshield of her car. When she gets off after a long day at work and walks to her car, I know she will smile, and maybe even cry.

Brenda tells me her co-workers ask her, "Did Paul do something? Did you have a fight?" She says, "No, Roses on my Windshield is one of the things he does to show his love for me."

- Roses on the Windshield -

What are yours?

Every day, we live. Every day, we love or long for love. Every day, millions of people in love wonder if their husband, wife, girlfriend or boyfriend really loves them.

Love... How can we express a feeling that is beyond words? With little things. With words. With looks. With hugs and pats. With notes. With ***Roses on the Windshield***.

What are your Roses on the Windshield? How are you telling your love that they are your love? What are the little things that you do to surprise them? Of all of God's gifts, the greatest is love. It is one of the few things in life that not only makes our lives better, but makes the world a better place.

Roses on the Windshield are not just for lovers. They are there to share with our children, our parents, our brothers, sisters, neighbors, co-workers and pets. They



may be flowers. They may be words, smiles, notes or an attitude. The key for us is to realize that the Roses are always staring us directly in the eyes, to realize that somewhere... no, everywhere, somebody craves **Roses on their Windshield**.

Back to my story.
What did Brenda write that made me
Cry that Monday morning?

“This is the rose on the windshield of your car!!!

Dear Babe,

If you don't remember, I told you this song reminds me of you. Please listen to the lyrics of “The Time of my Life”. It says it all. This is the time of your life. The time for you to shine. The time for you to show others and to teach others the gifts that you have.

The time for you to achieve all that you want to achieve. The time for you to be proud of yourself. The time for us. The time of our future. The song talks about the ups and downs but ends up with the upside of it all.

I believe in you. I believe in what you can do. I believe the knowledge you have to give. I believe in the spirit and enthusiasm you have to give. I believe in you winning it all!

As I watched the closing ceremonies of the Olympics, I thought of you. Working so hard for the goal. Working for the gold. But at the end becoming one with each other. And becoming one with the universe. Thank God we are one with each other.

Now that we are, again, empty nesters, I feel like we are starting over. Go for the GOLD. You are my love, my life and my soul mate.”

Love,

Your Babe”

Included in the email was a YouTube link to the David Cook, 2008 American Idol winner singing "The time of My Life", which you can watch from here <http://www.rosesonthewindshield.com/inlove/my-rose>

A couple days later, I shared this story with a few of my facebook friends, telling them that I was going to build a web site to collect Roses on the Windshield from other people. It's been nearly a year since that time and now you are here. If you're here to be inspired by love, welcome! If you're here because you have a story, a video or photo to share, we look forward to seeing it!

There can never be enough love in the world. Where there is love, miraculous things can happen. Send me your story

Gifts of love don't have to be expensive, nor are they necessarily gifts or surprises. Sometimes, a rose is as simple as starting her car on a cold morning so it's warm when she goes to work. To me, Roses on the Windshield go beyond a special gift; it's a way of living and of loving.



Well, that's my story of love. My story of Roses on the Windshield What is Yours?

I look forward to reading your story. If you have any questions, please use the www.rosesonthewindshield.com web site contact form, which you will find here <http://www.rosesonthewindshield.com/inlove/contact>

PS – As an author and a copywriter, I've learned a few tips about writing that may help you get started on your story.

- If you're drawing a blank, it helps to just start writing about anything you can think of that is relevant to your story.
- Write without editing. The correcting part of the brain can stymie the creative part of the brain. There's time for corrections and editing when you are done.
- Close your eyes, take a deep breath and relax. Think of the details and emotions of your rose story. How did you and others feel about it? What did you and the other person(s) in the story say and do? Create a mental picture of the event.
 - Open your eyes and start typing whatever you're thinking.
 - You may try just writing down phrases and concepts. String them together later.
- Be sparing with your use of adverbs, adjectives and metaphors. Overuse can detract from the story.
- Use short words you use in regular conversation.
- Use short sentences that are easy to read.
- Before you write, tell your story on video or audio like you are telling the story to a friend or family member. It may help create a good flow and give you ideas.
- Take out the pruning shears and trim away unnecessary words.
- Read your story aloud into a recorder. Have a friend read it to you so you can get a feel for the flow of the story.
- If someone tells you that they don't like it, so what? It's just one opinion. Nobody likes everything so you can't expect everybody to like your story. Go ahead and send it in. I will enjoy reading it!
- **SAVE YOUR WORK!!**
- Enjoy the process. It can be a lot of fun!

Wishing you love & Roses on your Windshield,

Paul & Brenda Flood



July 12, 1980