



Maryka
Biaggio

Award-winning author
of historical fiction

I'm a former professor of psychology. I began writing novels in my middle years, and I've been writing up a storm since then. Now I'm an award-winning novelist specializing in historical fiction about real people. I love unearthing the stories of people overlooked by history and bringing them back to life—portraying their challenges and foibles and rekindling their emotional world. I pride myself on carefully researching the period and people and providing readers with an immersive experience.

SAMPLE TOPICS

- ✓ **Using Unusual Points of View**
- ✓ **The Ethics of Writing About Real People**
- ✓ **Prologues: They Can Work!**
- ✓ **Fidelity to Truth in Biographical Fiction**
- ✓ **My Publishing Journey: What I've Learned**
- ✓ **Voice and Dialogue in Historical Fiction**
- ✓ **Co-Writing a Novel: Challenges and Rewards**

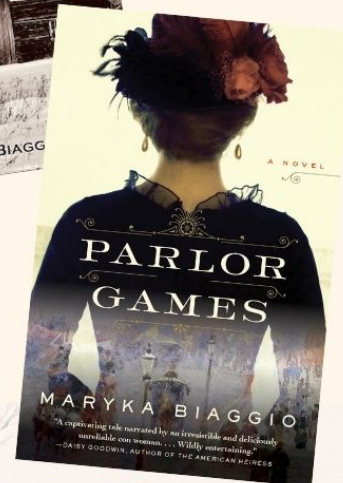
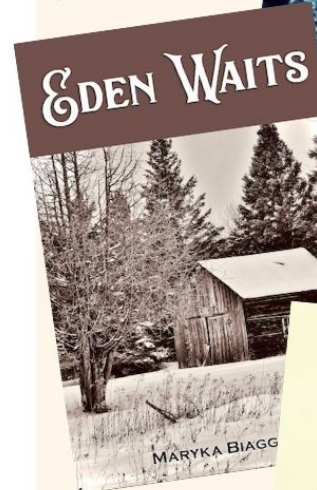
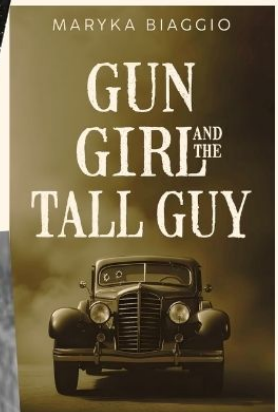
Maryka Biaggio, PhD, is a psychology professor turned novelist with a passion for history and the human spirit. After a successful academic career, she turned to writing historical fiction inspired by real people—figures whose lives illuminate the complexities of their time. Her debut novel, *Parlor Games* (Doubleday, 2013), was praised by New York Times bestselling author Daisy Goodwin as “a wildly entertaining and constantly surprising ride.”

She has since published *Eden Waits*, *The Point of Vanishing*, *The Model Spy*, *Gun Girl and the Tall Guy*, and *Margery and Me*, which has been hailed by distinguished author Valerie Martin as “a wry, lively, and wicked-good novel” and was a *Publishers Weekly* pick.

Maryka’s fiction has garnered numerous accolades, including a Willamette Writers Award, Oregon Writers Colony Award, Historical Novel Society Review Editors’ Choice, La Belle Lettre Award, a Michigan Upper Peninsula Notable Book Award, and a Regional Arts and Culture Council grant. She served on the Board of the Historical Novel Society North America Conference from 2015 to 2025 and has mentored writers in the Association of Writers and Writing Programs’ Writer-to-Writer Mentorship program since 2020. She has presented at numerous writers’ conferences.

An avid opera fan, she also enjoys gardening, art films, and, of course, great fiction. She lives in Portland, Oregon.

MY NOVELS



Get in Touch!

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SELECTED GUEST BLOGS

- [The Ethics of Writing About Real People in Historical Fiction](#). December 2025. Women Writers, Women's Books Blog.
- [The Compelling World of True Crime Fiction](#). November 2025. A Writer of History Blog.
- [Prologues That Work](#). Blog for Jane Friedman, October 2026.
- [Historical Fiction: Entertaining, Engaging, or Enlightening?](#) Blog for Historical Novel Society North America February 2024.
- [World War II: Fascinating Behind-the-Scenes Facts](#), March 2022. A Writer of History Blog.
- [Toto Koopman Model and Spy A Guest Blog](#), March 2022. Reading the Past Blog.
- [Fidelity to the Truth in Biographical Fiction](#). June 2021. Reading the Past Blog.
- [Characters Stranger Than Fiction](#). June 2021. A Writer of History Blog.
- [Dear Author: I Love it, Now Change it](#). January 2014. Huffington Post Blog.
- [The Risks of Writing About Real Historical Figures](#). October 2013. Reading the Past Blog.
- [To Diagnose or Not to Diagnose](#). July 2013. Huffington Post Blog.

PODCAST/RADIO INTERVIEWS

- [Between the Covers](#). KBOO Radio Station Interview with Gary Baysinger. October 2026.
- [A Medium for the History Books in Margery and Me](#). Podcast with Carol Cram. May 2026.
- [Romance and Recklessness: Chasing the American Dream at Gunpoint with Author Maryka Biaggio](#). Online with Authors with Teri M. Brown. January 2026.