FOR RELEASE: At will
KEY WORDS: ROMANTIC FICTION TOM SKEVIN NEW JERSEY ORADELL SUSSEX COUNTY ROWAN

New Jersey writer debuts with book of short romantic stories

'For Women Who Know ... Or Want To' now available in e-copy, paperback

Most characters, places remain nameless, so reader can immerse herself in the story

After more than two decades of working as an editor in the journalism salt mines of New Jersey, **Tom Skevin** knew that he wanted to get back to writing. So, he did – with a collection of short romantic stories for women.

The result: "For Women Who Know … Or Want To", published by Shorehouse Books and available now as an e-book and paperback from Amazon Books.

"I started out as a news reporter, but later made a living mostly working on other writers' stories," says Skevin, adding that some of his former colleagues are seen on TV here and there. "I was confident that I could write better than most of the people I was editing. When I finally had some time, I got to work on this book."

Instead of trying to write The Next Great American Novel first time out of the gate, the native of **Oradell, N.J.**, decided to compose a chapter at a time, with each telling an individual romantic tale.

"I wanted to write 'something for everybody,' so I decided that each chapter would cover one topic. Better to go that way instead of me writing just another romance novel," says the first-time author, a longtime resident of **Sussex County, N.J.** "When I sat down, it took me about a month. I'd do three, four hours at a time, about four days a week."

One notable feature of Skevin's writing style is his rarely naming protagonists, with the idea being that having nameless characters makes it easier for the reader to immerse herself in the story. For the same reason, towns and locations are not often mentioned.

"I wanted to sketch a substantial outline, then let the reader paint the details. After all," **the Rowan alum** explains, "they say that the brain is the biggest sex organ. So, why not let the reader fill in the blanks for herself?"

(Purchase info here, with link to Amazon.)
The front cover is designed by Michelle Skevin, Tom's daughter.

TOM SKEVIN QUOTES

- **"I don't get very graphic with the language I use**, **nor in descriptions.** That's not my style, and I do not feel it's necessary. Much of what I write relies on the reader's (fertile) imagination."
- **"On my first job**, **as a full-time journalist with a degree from Rowan University,** I started at 15 cents over the minimum hourly wage. Hopefully, I'll do better than that with this book."
- **"I've edited thousands of stories, by dozens of writers.** I always thought I could do better than most of them when it came to writing."
- **"I've got several other book ideas,** including one that I am about four chapters into. I want to see what happens with *'For Women Who Know ... Or Want To'* before immersing myself in a fictional novel."
- **"Working as a journalist is a lot more glamorous from the outside looking in.** Most of my 30 years was in sports media, and I was asked many times if I went to a lot of games and if I got free tickets: No, and no."

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Tom Skevin is a New Jersey-based writer who was 14 when his first story was published. A journalist by trade, he spent 30 years on the payroll as a writer, editor and photographer. Working separately as a publicist, he has supersized the efforts of numerous individuals/organizations via local, regional, national and international media. Notably – and most recently – that includes his work on "The Great NJ Drone Mystery of 2024". He lives in New Jersey's Highlands region, which is reputed to be a "vast wilderness of rednecks and retired hippies."
"For Women Who Know ... or Want To" is his debut book. Several others are in development.

For more, visit: TomSkevin.com **Publisher: hopress-shorehousebooks.com/**