**What is *Songbird* about?**

*Songbird* is an inspirational, historical fiction novel about what life was like on the home front during World War II in Alabama. At its heart it is a story about family, faith, strong women, and the changing south. It takes the reader on a journey to the 1940s, exploring historical elements like women’s aid groups, rationing, bomb drills, Ernie Pyle’s writing, D-day, radio and music of the 1940s, and Franklin D. Roosevelt’s death. The war is the ultimate adversary, and it has both profound and positive effects upon the family.

**Where does the book take place?**

My novel takes place in Jacksonville and Anniston, AL. Ava Stilwell, the principle character, and her family live in Jacksonville, but Ava’s work and social life takes the book to Anniston. Parts of the book also occur in Birmingham, AL where Ava’s grandparents live and where a rather large concert takes place. Born in Anniston, living in Jacksonville as a young girl, and then going to college in Birmingham, I highlight three cities I love!

**What inspired you to write *Songbird*?**

I am from Jacksonville, AL. Growing up, I loved to listen to my grandparents’ stories of what life was like when they were young. My grandmother worked in a department store on Noble Street and knew soldiers from Fort McClellan. My great grandfather earned fifty cents an hour at Fort McClellan as a dispatcher and grew vegetables on the fort’s Pelham Range for the officers. One of my grandfathers was in the Navy during World War II and stationed in the Pacific and the other was in the Army. All of my grandparents were raised by farmers who had to deal with the changes that the war even had on their way of life. Life was simpler, yet more challenging. The whole world was turned upside down during World War II, and we still live with the effects of it today, both good and bad. While many men lost their lives for our freedom, women and African Americans were given more opportunities and couples who would have never met were brought together. It was an era of both great loss and gain.

**Will there be a sequel to *Songbird*?**

Yes! I am working on the research for the sequel right now.

**You have said that you hope that *Songbird* and *The War Song Series* will encourage others to preserve their family history. Why is this important?**

It is important to remember where we came from and the people who sacrificed their lives for our freedoms. As the World War II generation continues to age, much of the personal, heartfelt history that makes us who we are today is being lost. We need to preserve their stories as best as we can for future generations, and technology has made it simple to do. We have cell phones and tablets for easy recording and free resources like YouTube and WordPress and Google to help us distribute information to the world. My website, TheWarSongSeries.com, has free resources and links to help people begin preserving their family history.

**Where can readers purchase a copy of *Songbird*?**

You can purchase a Kindle or paperback copy of *Songbird* at Amazon.com or any other major online bookstore. Links can be found on TheWarSongSeries.com website and on the Facebook page.