

Sample Questions and Real Answers from Laura Fedolfi (1/25/17)....
questions taken from <http://www.publishing-hub.com/2013/11/words-with-writers-20-fantastic.html>

1. What does your writing process look like? The actual writing- not the plotting and research- the writing is very standard. I find a public place- library, coffee shop, etc.- and I open my laptop and put in my earbuds and listen to the same music - one artist, four albums on shuffle, and write until my alarm goes off to tell me to get back to real life.

2. Do you have any strange writing habits (like standing on your head or writing in the shower)? I do have this one weird habit of talking to my husband about my writing like I was hanging out with the characters... "You won't believe what Hera did today!"

3. What authors have inspired you? My favorite authors are pretty varied- I grew up loving Jane Austen, George Elliot, Thomas Hardy, Stephen King, John Irving and Kurt Vonnegut. In high school, I read *The Centaur* by John Updike and it really affected me- I loved how he moved through the story sliding in and out of different realities, yet both real. I had a solid decade where I read YA fiction with my kids- and loved JK Rowling, Lemony Snicket, and Cornelia Funke- loved how those stories developed characters throughout a series. In the last decade, books that I really have loved are *Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close*, *Cutting for Stone*, *The Night Circus*- oh and I am huge fan of Jasper Fforde, Tracy Chevalier, and Tana French- but my favorite for a long time has been *A Fine Balance* by Rohinton Mistry. It was so sprawling and intimate at the same time. I loved it.

4. If you could cast your characters in the Hollywood adaptation of your book, who would play your characters? This is a fun game I have played with FB friends of the Revealing Hannah series- I particularly enjoy casting the Greek gods- Meryl Streep as Hera, Jeff Bridges as Zeus, Gabriel Garcia Bernal as Hermes...

5. How important are names to you in your books? Do you choose the names based on liking the way it sounds or the meaning? Do you have any name choosing resources you recommend? My main character, Hannah, came out of a writing experiment that I did creating characters solely on the sound or qualities of their names. Hannah was a woman who appeared to be nice, polite, quiet- like the soft 'ha' sounds on either side of

her name- but she has a strong somewhat opinionated center- the n's. Names are great- I often steal names from my husband- who works with some of the craziest named people. I change them some for privacy- but he is definitely a source for names.

6. What writing advice do you have for other aspiring authors?

Take the time to find readers for your writing that really help you work out your narrative- it is important to find someone who can read your work and look for what you are trying to do. And when you do find those people, really appreciate them. Listen to their suggestions, pay attention to their reactions, and above all send them gift baskets.

7. Do you read your reviews? Do you respond to them, good or bad? Do you have any advice on how to deal with the bad? I

absolutely read my reviews and I never respond to them, because it feels like breaking a rule to do that. Everyone is entitled to their opinions. I definitely have used my imagination to have "conversations" with some reviewers.

8. What is your least favorite part of the publishing / writing process? That is easy; line editing. I hate line editing.

9. Is there one subject you would never write about as an

author? What is it? I don't think about it like that. It isn't that there are subjects I would never write about, but there is a right time for every story, and I think you just have to trust your instincts about what that means to you.

10. What are you working on now? I am currently working on Book 3 in the Revealing Hannah The Greek Myth Series. The myth is Echo, and the setting is a road trip...