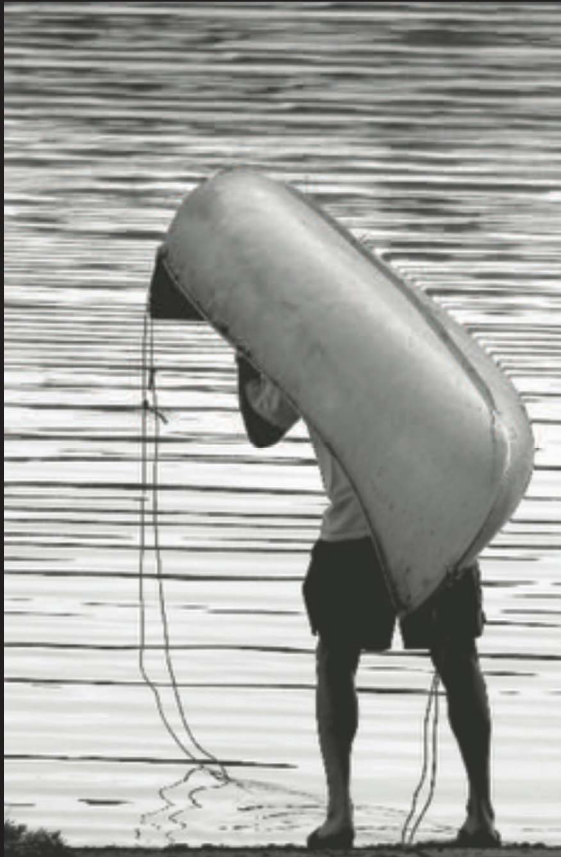


# The Melding of Two Creative Minds:

Author, Nancy Dorrier, and photographer, Paul Feters, present their first book, *Stan Went Fishing: Stories and Images of Waking Up*



## Stan Went Fishing

DALLAS, TX— *Stan Went Fishing: Stories and Images of Waking Up*, by Nancy Dorrier and Paul Feters, is an inspiring book with writing that invites reflection and invokes a sense of wonder. With a poetic feel, Nancy's stories, paired with Paul's photographs, come together in a unique and beautiful fashion.

This book presents “vivid moments in time about what it means to be human, captured in 150-word essays paired with riveting photographs,” says Nancy Dorrier. “Each story stands alone, and in an illuminating way. Each photograph goes with its paired story. You can see the connection when you look, some combinations more obvious than others.”

*Stan Went Fishing* is about “telling everyday stories that provide readers with a lighter approach to their lives,” says Paul Feters, the photographic eye behind this work of art.

This compact book holds a larger purpose. After reading through the stories and viewing the images, readers will look at themselves and others with compassion, reflect on the value of relationships in their lives, discover something new about past or current experiences, and see the world with a fresh pair of eyes. The genesis of these stories and images is the compilation of both the author's and photographer's desire to see what is right in front of them, hidden in plain sight.

“Our creative practices with pen and camera gave us the means to an understanding we wouldn't otherwise have had,” says Dorrier. “Through this work, we willingly expose the unevenness of our eyes, minds, and hearts. The images were made in different locations at different times, mostly featuring subject matter other than that of the written stories they accompany.”

While each element—essay and photograph—contains its own light and message, the play between each pair creates a third story in which the creators hope the readers find themselves and meaning beyond the parts.

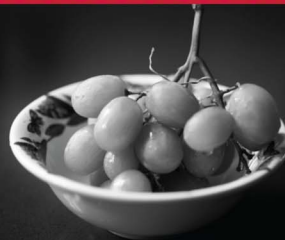
“This book is a means of bringing our conversations to you. The stories and photos are about life, and even though they come from a specific life, you can read them and find yourself in each.”

“We offer this project with the intention of leaving you a bit wiser, quite a bit lighter, and, perhaps, inspired to embark on a similar exploration of your own.”

For more information on *Stan Went Fishing: Stories and Images of Waking Up*, visit [www.stanwentfishing.com](http://www.stanwentfishing.com).



# Stan Went Fishing



STORIES AND IMAGES OF WAKING UP

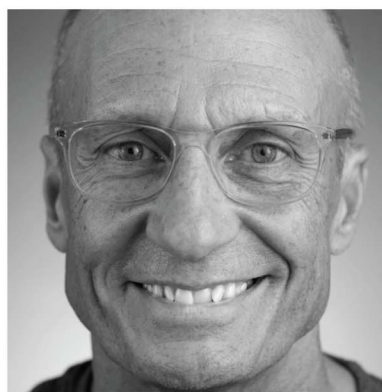
## About the Author Nancy Dorrier

Nancy is co-founder and owner (1986) of Dorrier Underwood, an executive and organizational development firm in Charlotte, NC. Nancy has a Master's degree in Social Work and a lifelong interest in the being of human beings. She has studied the realm of ontology and has worked with thousands of leaders on how they show up in the world, how their leadership is a natural self-expression of who they are, and how to create performance breakthroughs. All of that requires self-awareness and reflection, which this book encourages. Nancy has been practicing 'free writing' for 35 years and is currently working on a book on the value of free writing for leaders and 2 children's books on manners and love. She is a member of Tiffany Circle, a women's philanthropy group of the Red Cross. She is a traveler and donor to Global Partners for Development, focused on community-driven grassroots development in East Africa.



## About the Photographer Paul Feters

After studying photojournalism at the University of Missouri, Paul Feters spent five years in New York City shooting for USA Today, Time, Newsweek, and other publications. Now based in Falls Church, Virginia, he travels throughout the U.S. and the world (with a special love for the former Soviet Union and Southeast Asia) completing assignments for corporate, nonprofit, and magazine clients. Paul, a member of the American Society of Media Photographers, has travelled throughout the world working with Operation Smile, documenting their cleft lip and palette repair work on children in developing countries. He has also worked locally with Flashes of Hope, contributing portraits to children and families in the child cancer floors of the local hospital.



The Agency at Brown Books | [www.TheAgencyatBB.com](http://www.TheAgencyatBB.com)  
Media Contact: LaNell Armour | 972-248-9500  
[LaNell.Armour@TheAgencyatBB.com](mailto:LaNell.Armour@TheAgencyatBB.com)



*Stan Went Fishing: Stories and Images of Waking Up*  
Nancy Dorrier and Paul Feters | ISBN 978-0-9992899-0-7 | \$20.00  
SHY ARTIST PRESS | [www.StanWentFishing.com](http://www.StanWentFishing.com)

# Stan Went Fishing



STORIES AND IMAGES OF WAKING UP

## Q & A with Author Nancy Dorrier

### What made you feel that Paul Feters was an appropriate collaborator for *Stan Went Fishing*?

Paul uses his camera and I use my writing to share what we observe in the everyday miracles of being alive. We've been sharing that with each other for a long time. I'll be blown away by a picture he makes, and he'll be blown away about a story I write.

For Paul, it is always about the art, the originality, texture, tone, and execution of the project from a portrait session to leading a professional group. My driving force is the magic that is available when a group of people decide what they are going to create and then work shoulder to shoulder to bring that vision to life. We are both driven by an eagerness to contribute.



We met in a course based on the proposition that the quality of your life is determined by the conversations you have with people. We have been having one long conversation ever since that course when we disciplined ourselves to play with the language of possibility and wonder, noticing beauty and play. Writing has become an integral part of our practice, helping us get to the bottom of loss and moods, resentments, and all sorts of craziness. We regularly put pen to paper and report to the other on what comes out.

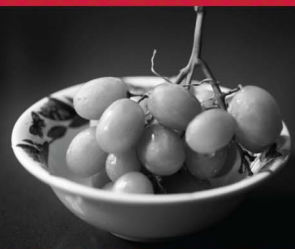
My entire career has been about training myself and others to see what is really going on beneath it all. I can very quickly see what a person has to contribute, and I have the rare ability to get that individual to recognize the importance of their contribution to the effort.

Paul's career similarly has been one of seeing what is really going on. His photographic efforts often result in visual proof of the artfulness and originality of his subject's pursuits.

Together we form a third entity: a creative partnership committed to having a whole lot of fun while contributing to family, friends, clients, and everyone else we encounter.



# Stan Went Fishing



STORIES AND IMAGES OF WAKING UP

## Q & A with Author Nancy Dorrier

### What are some of your most important creative influences and inspirations?

I studied writing from several different writing teachers. Irene Honeycutt, Zelda Lockheart, and Natalie Goldberg. All three of them write for different genres and have different approaches, but they all teach trusting yourself, your voice, and having the courage to develop your voice through writing. It's a real discipline to write, not with the goal to be published or even for anybody to ever look at, just to writing to create the story. All three of them consistently said, "Just write because you have to, write because you love it."

My father was also a creative influence in terms of love, spirituality, loving life, and being grateful for life. Even when his son died, he was grateful for the life he got to have with his son while he was alive. There are so many lessons I received from my father that are with me every moment of every day. He taught me to be present, joyful, and appreciative of every moment, not yearning for things to be different. Just appreciate it how it is.

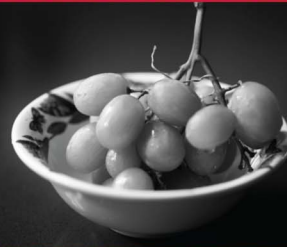
I also study Buddhism and read the Bible from the Buddhist perspective and learn from my grandchildren who now are amazingly creative sources for me.

### How do you feel that overarching message of this book is relevant and needed in today's world?

I hope people read this book and start writing their own stories. I hope they get quiet and still and look across the table at each other and ask for forgiveness. I want people at home to say, "This is the best damn bowl of grits I've ever had in my life. Thank you so much for making this for me."

This message is for the family at home, in government, and the workplace. I hope people look across the strategy table in their office and thank their team for coming to work, bringing their creative energy on a project, and dealing with the barriers to fulfilling goals. I want leaders to feel amazed and write their own stories of gratitude, awe, and love in the workplace. Every day is an opportunity for love, appreciation, joy, and recognition. We need this message right now in the world.

# Stan Went Fishing



STORIES AND IMAGES OF WAKING UP

## Q & A with Photographer Paul Feters

### How did you and Nancy decide to do this project together?

Nancy and I have a running friendship and conversation spanning 20 years. I would say we decided to do this book when we met and recognized that we are each a little more loving, a little more creative, and a little more engaged with the world when we are in a conversation with each other. After years of sharing our readings, writings, and photography with each other we decided now is the time to “go public” with our conversations. Our bias for now is only strengthened when we notice the contrast between our conversations and those occurring all around us.

### What was your approach when photographing and compiling images for *Stan Went Fishing*?

I live with a camera on my shoulder. My days are filled with seeing and documenting small everyday occurrences, from the stack of newspapers just inside the 7-11 screaming out that day’s tragedy, to the man carrying his son up on his shoulders after the baseball game, to Wonder Woman trying to say something through the plate glass.

For the book, I went back through fourteen years of personal images and thousands of photos and I made small 3x5 prints of my favorite two-hundred. I tossed them in a box and carried them to our Smith Mtn. Lake “summit” in southwestern Virginia. We read, edited, and looked at photos for three days. When the smoke cleared we had crafted most of our final stories and selected the accompanying images.

### What do you hope readers will gain from this book?

For years Nancy and I attended a documentary film festival back when there were only one or two such festivals in the country. We would talk about the impact that almost all of the good films had on the viewer. They left you realizing that we are all in this together. There isn’t a *we* and a *them* there is only one big *us*. We would love for people to know we are only here for a short time and one way to spend your days is to find someone you laugh a lot with and get to make cool stuff together. There will undoubtedly be lessons of forgiveness and grace along the way.



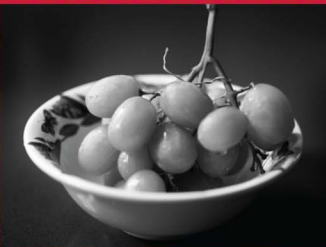
The Agency at Brown Books | [www.TheAgencyatBB.com](http://www.TheAgencyatBB.com)  
Media Contact: LaNell Armour | 972-248-9500  
[LaNell.Armour@TheAgencyatBB.com](mailto:LaNell.Armour@TheAgencyatBB.com)



*Stan Went Fishing: Stories and Images of Waking Up*  
Nancy Dorrier and Paul Feters | ISBN 978-0-9992899-0-7 | \$20.00  
SHY ARTIST PRESS | [www.StanWentFishing.com](http://www.StanWentFishing.com)



# Stan Went Fishing



STORIES AND IMAGES OF WAKING UP

## Excerpts from *Stan Went Fishing*



### Looking for God in the Newspaper

The Lord is my shepherd,  
I shall not want.  
So with the Lord,  
I don't really want anything.

God comes before iPhones and  
computers and nice new jewelry.

That is what falling down and  
worshipping God means.  
Finding solace in God,  
in the new painting I got in Santa Fe.  
The artist surely was falling down in  
front of God, content to paint the light  
of Santa Fe over and over and over.

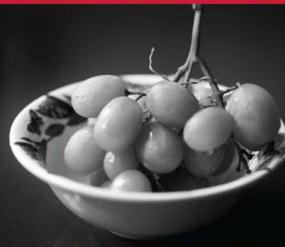
If I was doing that all day, every day,  
what would that be like, in a small  
studio or outside in a field?

God comes first.  
Our yearning for God, actually, first.

Ever-present.  
Looking for God in an object,  
in someone's eyes,  
in a text,  
even in the newspaper.  
Looking for God  
in the conflict in Syria.

Looking in the paper for something  
that shows the human spirit at work.

# Stan Went Fishing



STORIES AND IMAGES OF WAKING UP

## Stan Went Fishing

He could not take in what had happened so he went fishing.

He found himself in the fishing, again and again swinging his rod out over the water and letting his line go.

No one could take in what had happened.

I never can or could or even want to. Taking it in trivializes it. Death is a mystery, as is birth. The death of a child is incomprehensible but the birth is equally so. It is a mystery. It is a miracle.

Dad said to Mom, it is okay if you can't get the Virgin Birth, if you don't believe it. Birth in and of itself is a miracle and beautiful to behold and consider.

Stan could not take in what had happened so he went fishing. Went with his dad, another miracle, now five years sober, swinging their rods out over the water.



## Write Today

Unencumbered of clothes, CDs, books, shoes, papers — even food in the cupboard, files in the computer.

Make a long list of items, and how many can I take off?

In a real emergency, most all would come off, never to get back on.

Get my tooth fixed.  
Get my hearing checked.  
Send out the boys' March schedule for guitar.

A writer is not an emergency, and she will never happen with all the odds and ends of doing.

Get fresh flowers.  
Send a birthday card.  
Have Palmer for dinner.  
Clean out the clothes in the attic.  
And the Christmas decorations.  
Write Eric a thank you.  
Edit the client plan.

Then at the bottom,  
Go work out.

Write today.

