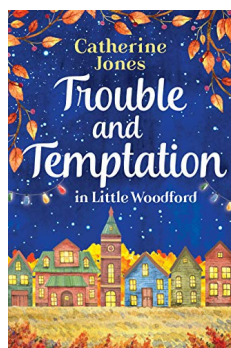


# MEET THE AUTHOR

Best selling romantic novelist **Catherine Jones** on reading and writing books and what inspires her



If there was one book you would recommend to a friend what would it be and why? Right now it would be My One True North by Millie Johnson because in these dark days it made me laugh so much I nearly fell off the sofa. And we all need that sort of therapy.

What was the last book that made you laugh? Judy Astley's Unchained Melanie.

Which was your favourite book as a child? The Wind in the Willows.

What book are you reading now? The trouble with Goats and Sheep by Joanna Cannon.

Which book have you read that surprised you and why? The Time Traveller's Wife. I didn't see the ending coming!

What inspired you to want to write? I was an army wife and people thought it was so glamorous being married to an officer. I wanted to put the record straight.

Whose biography would you like to write? Charles II – I think he would be so much fun.

What are your top tips for people wanting to write a book? Read masses and masses across the genres and then write the kind of book you want to read the most. And once you start, write every day till you get to the end. Then stick it in a drawer for three months before you read it. By that time you'll be able to read it with fresh eyes and see if it's got plot holes, if it's boring, if the characters are plausible... all the stuff that might need fixing.

Do you have a message for our NHS front line staff? I don't know how you do it but I am so grateful you do. I am in awe. Hugs to each and every one of you!

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