



Lighthouse Trails Publishing

Publishing Books That Make A Difference

April 3, 2004

Dear John:

In the 1970s, Laurel Lee gave us her best selling book and Literary Guild selection, *Walking Through the Fire*, an enchanting hospital journal of Ms. Lee's battle against Hodgkin's Disease. CBS later turned it into a made-for-television movie. In the 1980s *Signs of Spring*, *Mourning Into Dancing* and *Godspeed* were published. Over a half million copies of these books were sold. Now, this eloquent and captivating author brings us *Tapestry: The Journey of Laurel Lee*—the entire life story of this *rags to riches* Cinderella of literature. This is the story thousands have waited to read!

Tapestry begins in the 1960s as Laurel hitchhikes to Alaska to homestead. The story then winds through the '70s and '80s as Laurel, knowing death may be an untimely guest, takes her children around the world. Weaving through the '90s, *Tapestry* shares with the reader Laurel's discovery of true love in the most unexpected way to New York children's book author, Mike Thaler. Then, in the summer of her life, threatening the transcendent happiness she and Mike share, Laurel once again faces the open jaws of death when doctors tell her she has advanced cancer.

The book contains over sixty photos of Laurel and her children and over ninety drawings done by her. It is a hard-to-put-down book and will captivate both those who have followed Laurel through the years and those who are just now introduced to her.

For further information or if you have questions, please don't hesitate to contact Deborah Dombrowski at either editor@lighthouse Trails.com or our toll free 866/876-3910. You may access our web site at www.lighthouse Trails.com for an online version of this press kit and other book/author information. Our national distributor is Faithworks; books can be ordered directly from Ingram, Baker & Taylor, most bookstores and all major outlets.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,

Deborah Dombrowski

P.S. *Tapestry* is the book we've all been waiting for!

Press Kit Materials:

- * Press Release
- * Publisher's sell sheet with pertinent information
- * Endorsements
- * Author's Published Works
- * Author's Bio
- * CD of entire press kit for convenient use and full color dust jacket

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WHAT OTHERS HAVE SAID ABOUT LAUREL LEE AND HER BOOKS

It is wonderful to meet a human spirit at once so mature and childlike—and I don't mean childish—and to discover, in addition, that that spirit is a natural born writer.

—P.L. TRAVERS, author of *MARY POPPINS*

Laurel Lee's Journal is a must. None of us who has read it will ever be the same.

—RUTH BELL GRAHAM

With her childlike faith in God, her brilliant mind, and delightful sense of humor, she [Laurel] proceeded to write a diary of her experiences illustrating them as she went along.—BILLY GRAHAM

I found the book [*Walking Through The Fire*] absorbing, moving, heart-wrenching. I hope many, many people will want to travel through the flames with her, and be purified ... She [Laurel] has portrayed the terrible isolation of anyone who is seriously ill ... without the slightest touch of mawkishness or self-pity.

—MADELEINE L' ENGLE

Irresistible ... A heartening story [*Walking Through The Fire*] sparked by humor, quotations and vivid drawings.

—PUBLISHER'S WEEKLY

Laurel Lee takes us with poetic economy into the very heart of her being. Our lives are enriched by the experience. This is a book about living, in language that demonstrates that one of the most intense ways of living is through an evocative use of words. —JESSAMYN WEST

I wanted to dance to the sheer melody of Laurel Lee's words, even as she made me cry.

I have never read a more enchanting book.—MARJORIE HOLMES

This book [*Signs of Spring*] makes one feel proud to belong to the human race ...

It has guts, good humor, and her own special brand of eloquence.

—CHRISTOPHER LEHMANN-HAUPT, *New York Times*

The miracle of Laurel Lee's escape ... is matched by the miracle of her ability to transform personal pain into beauty and poignancy.

A gentle, spare, wise, and memorable book. —JOYCE CAROL OATES

I wish the delicacy of her courage, and her winged humor, might be sent as a gift to all the unhappy people I know. I love the spirit that animates this book ... —KAY BOYLE

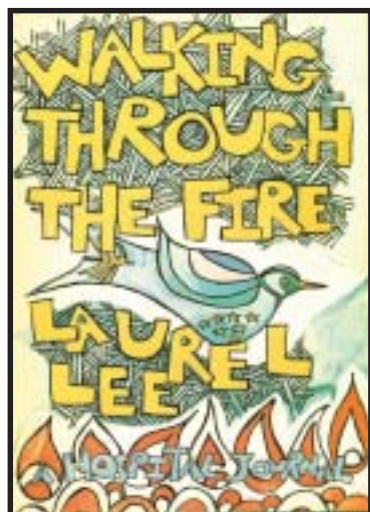
Laurel Lee has the rare talent to use language with a virtual honesty ... —HARPERS

Lee's troubles continue ... her vigorous Christian faith helped, and so did her humor ... Her document is affecting and compelling. —MADEMOISELLE

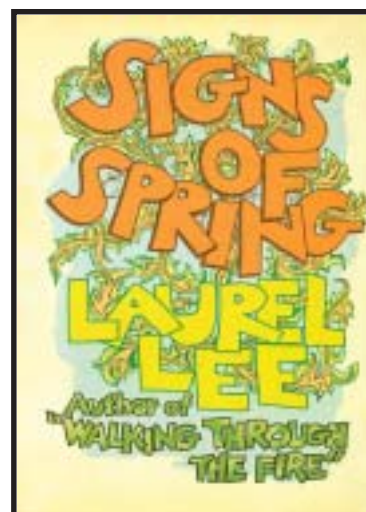
A spare and beautiful piece of work ... Amazing that a book about so much pain reads like a breeze. To read about Miss Lee is to worry about her. —BETTY ROLLIN, author of *FIRST, YOU CRY*

I am amazed that Laurel Lee could do such a poignant, brave, hilarious sequel to the great *Walking Through The Fire*, but she has. One has to call this genius. —MAY SARTON

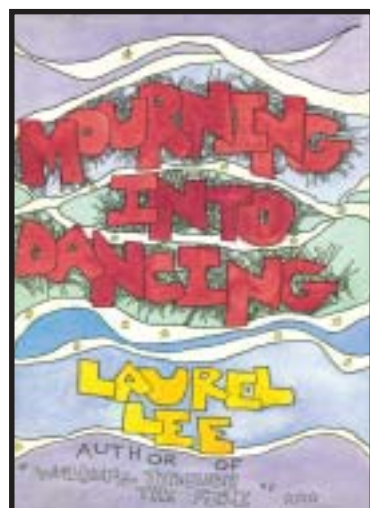
LAUREL'S OTHER PUBLISHED WORKS



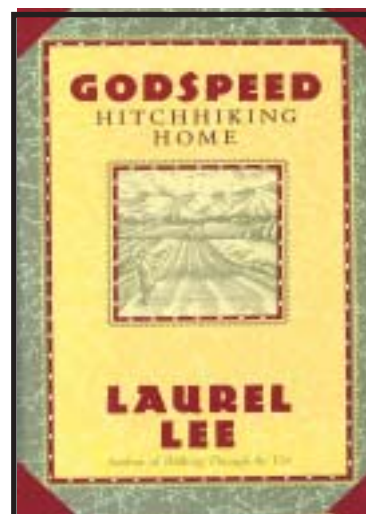
WALKING THROUGH THE FIRE
©1977 E.P. DUTTON



SIGNS OF SPRING
©1980 E.P. DUTTON



MOURNING INTO DANCING
©1984 E.P. DUTTON



GODSPEED
©1988 HARPER & ROW SF

Distribution

Walking Through The Fire

Bantam Paperback
Literary Guild Selection
Foreign translations in 52 countries
Macmillan and British Commonwealth
CBS movie
Family Circle Book Condensation

Signs of Spring

Bantam Paperback
Literary Guild Selection
Macmillan and British Commonwealth

Mourning Into Dancing

Christian Herald Family Bookshelf

LAUREL'S CHILDREN'S BOOKS

Barnaby Frost ©1979 Tyndale
Barnaby Frost Plants A Seed ©1980 Tyndale
A Very Special Birth Day ©1984 Cornerstone
My Jesus Pocketbook of God's Greatest Day ©1985 Stirrup Associates
The Christmas Program
Learning To Count

OTHER

To Comfort You ©1984 Stirrup Associates
Contributor to periodicals including: Washington Post, Family Circle, Aujourd'hui, Bunte, and My Fair Lady



Lighthouse Trails Publishing

—PRESENTS—

TAPESTRY: THE JOURNEY OF LAUREL LEE

Product Annotation—Laurel Lee, Author of Best Selling Book and CBS Movie, *Walking Through The Fire*, Now Gives Us Her Most Superb Book Yet! Finally, the book over 300,000 readers have been waiting for—the life story of the *rags to riches* Cinderella of literature.

In 1975, twenty-nine-year-old Laurel Lee is diagnosed with Hodgkin's Disease and told by doctors she is going to die. Her husband, unable to cope, leaves her and three little children to fend for themselves. Contrary to her prognosis, Laurel doesn't die but with sheer determination is propelled into world-wide travel, adventure and challenge.

Through her battles with cancer, her dream for true love and the struggles of raising three children alone, Laurel's heartbreaks and disappointments do not break her spirit. Rather, she lifts up and soars on a most unforgettable journey! Tapestry weaves us through the decades of Laurel's life with a consistent language of grace, faith and a special lyrical intensity.

Author Bio—Laurel Lee is author of four published journals and six books for children. Her diary, *Walking Through the Fire*, became a best seller in both religious and secular markets, a Literary Guild selection, and was printed in condensed form in *Family Circle* magazine. The book was also translated and distributed in over fifty countries. Her titles *Signs of Spring*, *Mourning Into Dancing*, and *Godspeed* were published by E.P. Dutton and Harper & Row. Lee's writings have won awards and critics' praise, including the Bookseller's Association award for best nonfiction book of 1977. She was a Writer in Residence at George Fox University for eight years where she taught Creative Writing and has also, as a guest lecturer, taught writing classes at universities around the world. Today, Laurel lives on a small Christmas tree farm near Canby, Oregon with her husband, popular children's book author, Mike Thaler.

Endorsements—Laurel Lee's previous books have been endorsed by people such as **Billy and Ruth Graham**, **Marjorie Holms**, **P.L. Travers** [author of *Mary Poppins*], **Joyce Carol Oates** and **Madeleine L'Engle**. According to *New York Times* Christopher Lehmann-Haupt, Laurel's writing "... makes one feel proud to belong to the human race ... It has guts, good humor, and her own special brand of eloquence."

Marketing Support—This campaign will rely heavily on Ms. Lee's previous popularity. Her first book, *Walking Through the Fire*, sold over 300,000 copies. Laurel has spoken numerous times on the 700 Club and other national talk shows. Marketing strategies will include press releases, the publisher's web site (currently 50,000 hits a month), radio and television interviews, and consumer magazine and newspaper advertising.

Competitive Products—*Blindsided: Lifting a Life Above Illness—A Reluctant Memoir* by Richard Cohen. ISBN-006001409; *Never Give Up!: How Tragedy Taught Me That Life Is an Attitude* by Ron Heagy. ISBN-1576732142; *Adventures of Faith* by Michael Green. ISBN-0007105428

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Ms. Lee in 1983

Over 150 photos and drawings.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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editor@lighthouse Trails.com

Laurel Lee, Author of Best Selling Book and CBS Movie,
Walking Through The Fire, Now Gives Us Her Most Superb Book Yet!

Silverton, Oregon — On July 5, 2004, Lighthouse Trails Publishing will release *Tapestry: The Journey of Laurel Lee*, written and illustrated by best selling author, Laurel Lee. This is a long-awaited book for the nearly half a million readers who purchased Ms. Lee's previous books. *Tapestry* is the life story of the *rags to riches* Cinderella of literature.

In the late seventies, twenty-nine-year-old Laurel Lee was diagnosed with Hodgkin's Disease and told by doctors she would die. Her husband, unable to cope, abandoned her and three little children to fend for themselves. While Laurel fought desperately for her life, she kept a journal. That diary, sent to publishers by her doctors, became the best selling book and CBS movie, *Walking Through The Fire*. Contrary to her prognosis, Laurel didn't die. The success of that book and three sequels threw this young single mother into world-wide travel, adventure and challenge.

Through her battles with cancer, her dream for true love and the struggles of raising her children alone, Laurel's heartbreaks and disappointments did not break her spirit. Rather, she lifted up and soared on a most unforgettable journey!

With over 90 drawings done by Ms. Lee and over 60 photos, *Tapestry* weaves us through the decades of her life with a consistent language of grace, faith and a special lyrical intensity. For those who have read her previous books and for those who are just now introduced to her work, *Tapestry: The Journey of Laurel Lee* is an inspiring masterpiece.

Ms. Lee's books have been heartily endorsed by many, including Billy and Ruth Graham, P.L. Travers, (author of *Mary Poppins*), and authors Marjorie Holmes, Joyce Carol Oates and Betty Rollin. As a popular speaker, Laurel has been on numerous national talk shows, including NBC's *Today Show*. Her books have been translated and distributed in over fifty countries. She has been featured in *People* magazine and *Family Circle*, and her books have been reviewed by the *New York Times* on more than one occasion.

Ms. Lee currently lives on a Christmas tree farm near Canby, Oregon.

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Tapestry: The Journey of Laurel Lee

Written and illustrated by Laurel Lee

ISBN 0-972151230

\$22.95 * 288 pages * First Edition—Hardbound

To order books or for further information:

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Silverton, Oregon 97381



AUTHOR BIO

LEE, LAUREL 1945-

Personal - Born October 21, 1945, in Chicago, IL; daughter of James Edward and Ruth Bennett Moore; married to New York children's book author, Mike Thaler; children: Matthew Lee, Anna Lee Cairney, Mary Elizabeth Lee; Education: Attended Pacific University and University of California, Berkeley.

Addresses - Home—Canby, Oregon on a Christmas tree farm. Publisher—Lighthouse Trails Publishing, P.O. Box 958, Silverton, Oregon 97381; 503/873-9092

Career - George Fox University, Newberg, Oregon, began as an adjunct professor, became full-time instructor in creative writing department [1990 to 1998]; published author of four autobiographies and several children's books; former adjunct professor at Hofstra University, St. Andrews School, Mara a Pula, and Kiev State Pedagogical Institute.

Writings - For Adults: *Walking Through the Fire*, ©1977 Dutton; *Signs of Spring* ©1979 Dutton; *Mourning Into Dancing* ©1984 Dutton; *Godspeed* ©1988 Harper; *To Comfort You* ©1984 Stirrup Associates; For Children: *Barnaby Frost* ©1979 Tyndale; *Barnaby Frost Plants A Seed* ©1980 Tyndale; *A Very Special Birth Day* ©1984 Cornerstone; *My Jesus Pocketbook of God's Greatest Day* ©1985 Stirrup Associates; *The Christmas Program*; *Learning To Count*; Contributor to periodicals, including: *Washington Post*, *Family Circle*, *Aujourd'hui*, *Bunte*, and *My Fair Lady*.

Adaptations - *Walking Through The Fire* was adapted for television with a screenplay by Sue Grafton, CBS 1979.

Health - Since 1976, when Laurel Lee was diagnosed with fourth-stage Hodgkin's Disease, she has lived with the threat of cancer. After a short remission of Hodgkin's, she had a relapse. Contrary to doctors' predictions however, Laurel survived the disease and went on to raise her three children, travel around the world and share her story. For nearly twenty years, she remained cancer free. Then in the fall of 2003, Laurel was diagnosed with fourth-stage pancreatic cancer. As of the writing of this press release, Laurel has not yet gone into remission and is undergoing treatment for the cancer.

“My memory pulls out special days and old ways that had had their fragrance. The meditation of death progresses. It is like a dark glass I have to pass through. I know it will all have to be faced again—some more black and white runs, and once in living color.” —Laurel Lee



LAUREL IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA - 1993