

## 2019 Fort Worth BookFest Author Interview Series



... with **Alvin J. Walters**, author of a series covering the fictional lives of the Sumpner Family of Clover Grove, beginning with *Secrets of the Grove*

### **Where is your favorite place to read?**

White Mother by Jessie Bennett Sams

### **What is your favorite book to give an adult or a child?**

In bed, snuggled under the covers once the house is quiet.

### **What books do you return to most often, whether passages or whole?**

"The Good Earth" by Pearl Buck

### **What is the last book that had you reading past your bedtime?**

"The Lost Symbol" by Dan Brown

### **Who made reading important to you?**

My mother and father both enjoyed reading. My grandmother and I enjoyed reading the local newspaper together on the front porch and discussing the articles. My English teachers insisted that we spent some of our summer vacation reading and we were given lists of books to complete. They challenged us to read as many books as we could during our summer vacations

### **BONUS QUESTION: What is your favorite book set in the southwest?**

None

### **Author Bio**

One of twelve children, Alvin J. Walters, was born and raised in the small rural community of Port Caddo Road in Marshall, TX. She graduated from H.B. Pemberton High School and Wiley College, home of the Great Debaters. With a Prairie View A& M University Master's Degree, she pursued a career in public education, from which she retired in 2011. She set out to mark off items on her bucket list. The first of which was to write a novel loosely based on the lives of her maternal grandparents and their nine children.

Her writing led to publishing a series of novels covering the fictional lives of the Sumpner family of Clover Grove: in 2015, "Secrets of the Grove;" "Whispers Among the Willows" in 2016; "Runnels Creek" in 2017; and "Old Men and Sycamore Trees," in 2018.

Alvin thinks of her writing as five dimensional, engaging all of the senses. The reader should hear, smell, see, taste, and feel everything the characters experience. Reading a novel should be like going on an adventure, there should be constant movement. A good book puts the reader in the middle of the action from the beginning and even after the final page.

**Follow Alvin for more information on her series: [Facebook.com/Secrets of the Grove/](https://www.facebook.com/SecretsoftheGrove/); [Facebook.com/Friends who like Secrets of the Grove](https://www.facebook.com/FriendswhoLikeSecretsoftheGrove/); [Instagram.com/Secrets of the Grove](https://www.instagram.com/SecretsoftheGrove/); [twitter.com/Alvin Walters](https://twitter.com/AlvinWalters)**

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**Mark your calendars for this year's Fort Worth BookFest**  
**Saturday | 10. 12. 2019**  
**11 AM – 4:30 PM**  
**Maddox - Muse Center**  
**330 E. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street**  
**Fort Worth, Texas**

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