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## About Beth Pattillo

### Author of *Jane Austen Ruined My Life*



Beth Pattillo is an award-winning author of eight novels, including: *Princess Charming* (Dorchester Publishing, 2003), *Her Perfect Earl* (NAL Signet, 2005), *Heavens to Betsy* (WaterBrook Press, 2005), *Earth to Betsy* (WaterBrook, 2006), *The Sweetgum Knit Lit Society* (WaterBrook Press, 2008), *The Sweetgum Ladies Knit for Love* (WaterBrook Press, 2009) and *Mystery and the Minister's Wife: Where There's a Will* (Guideposts Books, 2009).

A long-time Jane Austen devotee, Pattillo's new book, *Jane Austen Ruined My Life* (Guideposts Books, February 2009, 978-0-8249-4771-2, \$14.99), offers a unique perspective on the popular author's literary legacy. In a lighthearted and romantic tale, Pattillo's *Jane Austen Ruined My Life* pursues the answer to whether or not Austen really believed in love and marriage as her novels would suggest.

Born in Lubbock, Texas, Pattillo earned her bachelor's degree from Trinity University in San Antonio before graduating with a Master of Divinity from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn. As an ordained minister, Pattillo is the executive director of FaithLeader, an organization in Nashville that works to develop a new generation of spiritual leaders. She formerly served as an associate minister at Woodmont Christian Church, also in Nashville, as well as Raymore Christian Church in Raymore, Mo.

Her passion for all-things Austen first ignited during a semester spent studying abroad in England at the University of London, Westfield College. Her travels have brought her back to England many times over the past 20 years. The most recent trip took her on a pilgrimage through Hampshire, where she visited many of the sites featured in *Jane Austen Ruined My Life*.

"I first read *Pride and Prejudice* while doing a study abroad program in London during my junior year in college," Pattillo says. "Curled up under a thick duvet, radiator blazing against the English winter, I fell in love with Darcy and dreamed of being Elizabeth Bennett."

Pattillo currently resides in Nashville, Tenn., with her husband and two children. She received a Romance Writer's of America RITA Award in 2006 for Best Inspirational Romance for her novel *Heavens to Betsy*. Pattillo is a member of the RWA, as well as Music City Romance Writers and Novelists, Incorporated. Visit [www.bethpattillo.com](http://www.bethpattillo.com) for additional information.

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To receive a review copy of *Jane Austen Ruined My Life*, or to schedule an interview with Pattillo, please contact Amy Currie at (512) 478-2028 ext. 211 or [acurrie@phenixpublicity.com](mailto:acurrie@phenixpublicity.com)