

Sample Questions for Susan Lyons

General

1. How long have you been writing? How long did it take you to get published?
2. How did you make your first sale?
3. Where do you get your ideas?
4. How long does it take you to write a book?
5. Why do you write? For money? So you can lounge around all day in your pajamas and play with imaginary friends? To convey some kind of message?
6. What's been the best experience in your writing career?
7. What's been the worst experience in your writing career?
8. Where do you see your career going? Where would you like it to go?
9. What makes your writing special?
10. You have a degree in psychology. Do you apply that in your writing?
11. You studied law. Do you apply your legal education in your writing?
12. You have degrees in psychology and law, yet you're a writer rather than a psychologist or lawyer. Why is that?
13. What kind of books do you read, and who are your favourite writers?
14. What kind of women do you write about, and how much of yourself goes into your heroines?
15. Who is your audience – that is, who are you writing for, and who buys your books?
16. You write romance. Does that mean those little Harlequin books?
17. The spines of your books say "erotic romance" and the back covers have a warning that the books contain explicit sex. Why do you write that kind of book?
18. What do women get out of reading your books?
19. Do men read your books?

20. What's your writing routine? How do you fit writing into the rest of your life? Have you quit the day job?
21. What's your advice to people who want to write fiction?
22. Do you ever suffer from writer's block? If so, what do you do?
23. What publications of yours are currently in print, and what's coming up?
24. What are you working on now?

More Controversial

1. In a world post 9/11, isn't it pretty trivial to be writing escapist romances?
2. You write explicit sex. Have you done all those things yourself?
3. How do you research those sex scenes?
4. "Erotic romance" is a pretty phrase, but aren't you really writing pornography?
5. What kind of message do these sex-laden books give to female readers?
6. What if children and adolescents read these books?
7. What does your mother think of what you're writing?
8. Do you write under your own name?
9. Do you ever see yourself writing serious fiction?