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Spotlight on Canadian Authors: Rosemarie Boll

• November 13th, 2010 9:58 am ET

Rosemarie Boll grew up in Calgary, Alberta and attended the University of Alberta in Edmonton. She obtained a B.A. in English Literature, which led to a job at the provincial museum, but although the work was rewarding, the paycheque was not. Rosemarie went back to university, graduated from law school, and started a general practice. Soon after Rosemarie's practice focused on family law—and with family law comes domestic violence. For several years, Rosemarie volunteered at an Edmonton battered women's shelter, telling women about their rights, responsibilities, and options. She also began writing about family law for a Canadian magazine called [LawNow](#).

While Rosemarie enjoyed writing non-fiction, she felt that domestic violence education needed to reach a wider audience, teen in particular. Her editor encouraged her to write a novel, but Rosemarie found that work, volunteering, and family commitments always seemed to get in the way of writing. Until her husband, a teacher, was offered a job at an international boarding school. Rosemarie left her practice and moved her family to Switzerland. For five years, Rosemarie and her family shared their lives with teens from over fifty countries.

"My students taught me about the ideas, values, and histories that made their cultural group unique. I was privileged to travel extensively throughout Europe, and into Russia, South-East Asia, Africa, and central America. I also had the luxury of time, and completed my first novel, [The Second Trial](#)." Says Rosemarie of her time in Switzerland.

Rosemarie moved back to Edmonton in 2008 and began writing non-fiction articles for [Grass Roots Press](#), a Canadian publisher specializing in adult literacy and basic education books. She also returned to writing for [LawNow](#), and works as a senior staff lawyer with the Family Law Office of Legal Aid Alberta. Rosemarie's debut novel *The Second Trial* has been short-listed for the 2011 Ontario Library Association's [White Pine Award](#).