

melissa mcinerney biography

I was born on November 24, 1958 in San Antonio, Texas and adopted on December 2nd. Lucky me. I grew up mostly in Texas and Louisiana, happily swimming, riding horses, and reading. Completely at a loss when it came time to grow up, I opted for college. Since half my friends decided to go there, and I heard there was a great music scene, I went to the University of Texas in Austin. Great choice, great town. Due to my busy schedule of five nights of live music, I didn't really do too well the first couple of years. Eventually I managed to earn a BA in Anthropology, minoring in Radio/Television/Film with vague ambitions of becoming a documentarian.

Needless to say, that didn't happen. Instead I moved back to Houston, Texas and met my husband, Kevin, a clueless Yankee on hiatus from his own college journey. Once he got a clue, he finished his degree and we began moving, and moving, and moving. Somewhere during all this moving, I had a daughter, Katie. By the time she entered seventh grade, we had found our place in the world, Evergreen, Colorado and vowed to stop moving.

I had no more children, leaving Katie the self-proclaimed Princess of the Universe, and she gave me the purpose to become a writer. You see, even Princesses of the Universe leave home someday, and that day finally arrived. It was brutal. Good for her, bad for me. On the plus side, Katie has known what she wants to do with her life since she was five: train exotic animals. If she had her way, we'd have bought her any pet she wanted. We ended up with three dogs, two Golden Retrievers and a Papillon. One day, she came home to visit so we could watch the Westminster Dog Show together, as was our custom, and she unwittingly gave me the idea for my books. When the announcer told us about the Hungarian Puli, Katie exclaimed "That's cool, I didn't know that," I realized there might be a story there.

Anyway, three years later I have a book, "The Kennel Boy" and a second one, "The Lion Hunter" on the way.

Katie has moved away permanently and I survived, even thrived.

