

Yakima author's Walla Walla book signing to feature three inspirational novels

Annie Charnley Eveland Special to the Walla Walla Union-Bulletin

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Yakima's Joyce Byers Hill is all about inspiration through a Christian lens. She's wrapped wholesome small-town romance into three books where the characters turn to God as they overcome hard challenges.

While at Book & Game Co., 38 E. Main St., from 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, June 29, Byers Hill will sign copies of "Building Dreams," "JC's Hope" and "Diamond in the Rough." They are priced at \$14.95 each for paperback.

She said the fourth book in her "A Place Called Hope" series is underway.

Dreaming of becoming a Christian author, Byers Hill crunched numbers for 28 years as a full-time sales analyst for a global corporation and wrote at night.

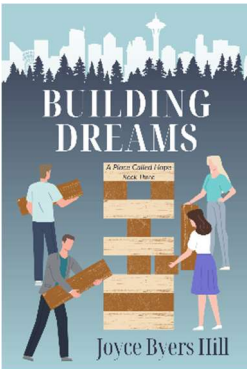
The devout Christian enjoys fiction writing and poetry from a Christian perspective. She is a lifelong fan of baseball and enjoys writing, drawing, playing the accordion, scrapbooking and researching family history.

Byers Hill isn't a stranger to Walla Walla. Her daughter lived here for nearly a decade during and after college, she said.

"I fell in love with the charming town from my very first visit. I love wandering through the downtown district with all the interesting shops and places to eat."

Byers Hill's trio of books lean into the inspiration, blessing and healing that comes from allowing God to be a part of one's life.

“Building Dreams,” 252 pages, Lilac Hill Publishing, 2024.



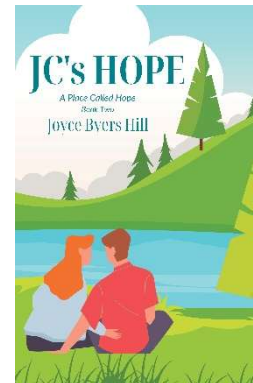
Their backgrounds differ, yet Matt Phoenix and Aiden Byers see themselves as brothers. They pair up to build houses, then disaster strikes. Can they pick up the pieces and bring their dream to fruition?

The story of hope, healing and second chances “shows us that it’s never too late to start over. And it reminds us just how big our dreams can be when we allow God to lead our lives,” Byers Hill said.

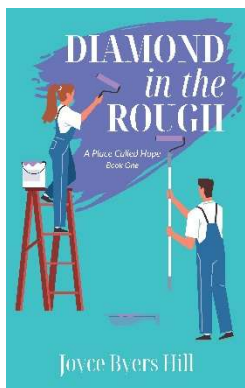
“JC's Hope,” 248 pages, Lilac Hill Publishing, 2023.

JC Harmon’s dream to open a youth center seemingly petered out with his near death in a horrific car accident, Byers Hill said. His survival is a miracle. He worried about once again playing piano and composing music. He also hoped to reach out to troubled kids through a youth center. The tale helps readers see themselves and their potential in the way God sees them.

“Without setting limits on ourselves, we can overcome life’s challenges and make our dreams come true,” Byers Hill said.



“Diamond in the Rough,” 272 pages, Lilac Hill Publishing, 2017.



Meghan is determined to build a home for herself and daughter Kaci. She didn’t survive her divorce without Kaci’s moral support. Although Meghan’s faith remained strong and she daily relied on God, church attendance dropped off the radar. She hadn’t worshipped for so long she hadn’t met the new pastor of six months, himself coping with inner turmoil.

The story carries a theme of God’s healing power to look beyond flaws and weaknesses and see potential. “He looks at our character, our soul. And he looks through the loving eyes of a parent. On the surface, we may not look like much. But with some hard work and a little bit of polishing, we can shine like the brightest diamond,” Byers Hill said.

Retired editor/journalist Annie Charnley Eveland freelances the Etcetera column and stories for the Walla Walla Union-Bulletin. Send contact name, daytime phone number, news and clear sharply focused photos as .jpg attachments to acereporter1979@gmail.com or call 509-386-7369.