

## **Media Kit**

**Carolyn Holland**

## Biography

### Long:

Carolyn Holland grew up during the 70's in the coastal wetlands of North Carolina in a small, rural fishing village near Topsail Island. Her love of books developed at a very young age, keeping her up late in the night reading about faraway places and distant times. In summer, every other Thursday would find her waiting on the front porch of their little house for the Book Mobile as the closest library was 20 miles away. Her favorite genre was historical fiction and in the summer of her tenth year, she checked out Margaret Mitchells *Gone With The Wind*. Even as a small child she dreamed of being an author someday.

Carolyn recalls that as a child growing up, very little of the families food was purchased at a grocery store and trips into town only occurred about once a month. The summer months were spent maintaining a huge garden and the vegetables grown there were canned and frozen for winter consumption. The family gathered, fish, clams and oysters from the New River for the table year round and raised pigs to eat as well.

To her parents delight, Carolyn proved to be a strong student who loved school and study. Her first year in high school landed her in English class with a teacher whose love for literature greatly influenced her. This teacher, who would forever be Carolyn's mentor, encouraged her to write. In that same year, for her birthday, her parents bought her a manual typewriter which she used clear into her late twenties writing volumes that she would never attempt to have published and loads of children's stories for her three children. In the late eighties, Carolyn earned extra money for her family by painting portraits of local shrimp trawlers and coastal wildlife. Both of her daughters are gifted artists today.

In the mid-nineties, Carolyn found herself to be a single Mom of three. She often describes this time as a blur as she often worked two jobs to make the ends meet during those days. Then in 2000, she met and married her husband, James Holland, who was then an active duty US Marine. Very soon after that, James began to encourage Carolyn's creative nature and she began to explore the world of pottery making. In 2005, she became a pottery instructor with the ASYMCA aboard Camp Lejeune NC, teaching the art to the wives and children of deployed servicemen. Shortly after meeting James, Carolyn began to write again.

After James retired from the USMC, he and Carolyn started their own small home based business which allowed the couple to spend time together doing the things that interest them both. Carolyn has revisited her love of nature and gardening, and since James grew up on a farm in Arkansas, the two have transformed their backyard into a mini farm, complete with greenhouse and chickens; it is their own little experiment in sustainable agriculture. She and James take at least two, weeklong primitive camping trips each year along with their dogs and no cell phones to the Uwharrie national forest. It is here that the couple enjoys experimenting with edible wild vegetation and likes to drink pine needle tea by the campfire on cool nights.

Over the last twenty years she has written many poems and short stories, some of which were gathered from her family and youth, as well as several works of fiction. With a strong, long standing interest in both agriculture and history, she has always been naturally intrigued by the changing agricultural and socioeconomic climate and what it means for society as we know it.

**Short:**

Carolyn Holland grew up during the 70's in the coastal wetlands of North Carolina in a small, rural fishing village. She married right after high school and started her family, in the same community where she grew up. Though life took her to other places, she lived in the Appalachians for a time and later in Alabama, she found herself drawn back to her roots in Coastal North Carolina. With her three children grown now, she resides there still with her husband James Holland, a retired US Marine.

**Book Title:**

Title: Seeds of Transition

Series: The Genesis Project

Publisher: Books, Authors, and Artists

Science-Fiction / English

July 2013

Paperback and ebook formats available

ISBN: 9781 (paperback)

RRP: £12.49/\$16.49

Synopsis: The Genesis Project is full of gripping adventure, psychological thrills, and emotional conflict from start to finish. As the world's population approaches 10 billion people, and severe weather extremes impact crop and livestock production, the demand for and price of food is rising. The American government, as well as other powerful individuals, find themselves looking for intelligent, albeit unlikely heroes in the world of academia. Jarod Farra, a professor of agriculture at Cornell University, quickly finds himself at the forefront of both his longstanding dreams, and perhaps, some of his worst fears. Out of the turmoil and fear of an impending international food shortage, a range of characters come together to perform an experiment that will forever change the world as we know it, and provide new hope for generations to come.

## Sample Interview

### **What is the best piece of advice you ever received? Who gave you that advice?**

My grandmother told me something once that has stuck with me for many years. At the time, I had no idea what she really meant, meaning that I took the message to have a literal meaning. She said, "People are going to have to go back to the old ways if they are going to make it." I remember thinking, the old ways meant washing clothes on a washboard, living without heat or running water. Now, 40 years later, I know what she meant and it has impacted my life in an indescribable way. What she was really referring to when she said "old ways" was a simpler way of living. Examples of that are less waste, better custodianship of our land and natural resources, cleaner ways to grow our food and living without things that we do not need. I have applied her concept to my life and have shaped my lifestyle around it, and encourage everyone I know to do the same, because I believe her little piece of advice was the most profound message I have ever heard.

### **How did you become interested or get started in your craft? Did/Do you have a mentor, special teacher, or any other important influences on your work?**

I have always loved books and was encouraged by my parents to read as much as I wanted as a kid. I was very young when I decided that I wanted to be an author someday, however, as a young adult, I daydreamed of writing for National Geographic Magazine and traveling the world.

In high school, I had the most wonderful English Literature teacher, her name was Pamela Hatch. In her class, I was exposed to books that I may never have read if not for her and I fell in love with Literature, like she knew I would. Book reports and summaries were a labor of love for me in her class, and she quickly saw that I had a love for writing. The teacher in her wanted her pupil, me, to achieve everything I possibly could and so she encouraged me to write.

Our friendship blossomed and remained until her death in 2008. I continued to carry my writings to her until she died. She told me often that I should attempt to publish.

### **What do you find most enjoyable or rewarding about what you do?**

I love to invent characters! I would have to say that is my favorite part of the work itself but the most rewarding is to write work that inspires thought on the part of the reader. As a fiction writer, I do not necessarily aspire to educate, but my ultimate goal is to provoke thought....that's how the world is changed.

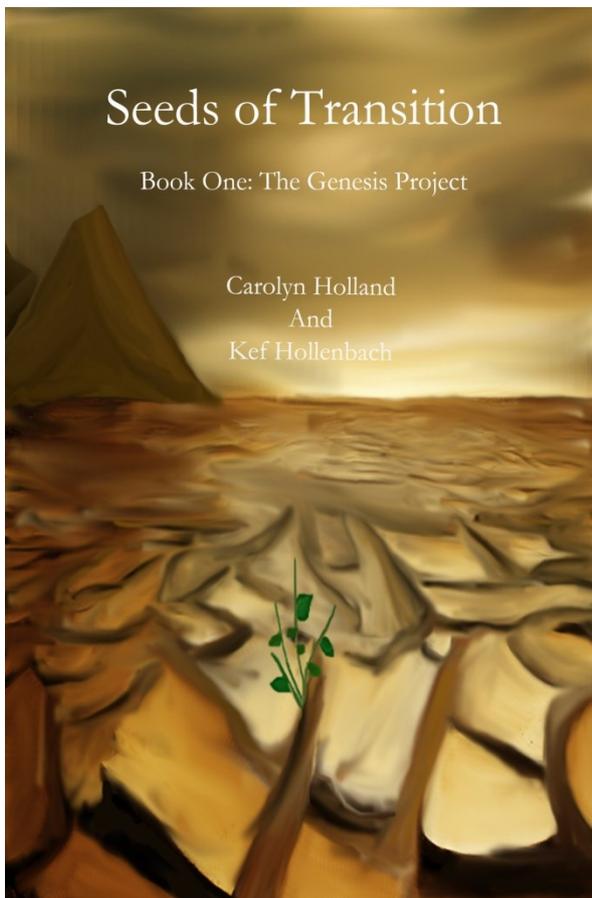
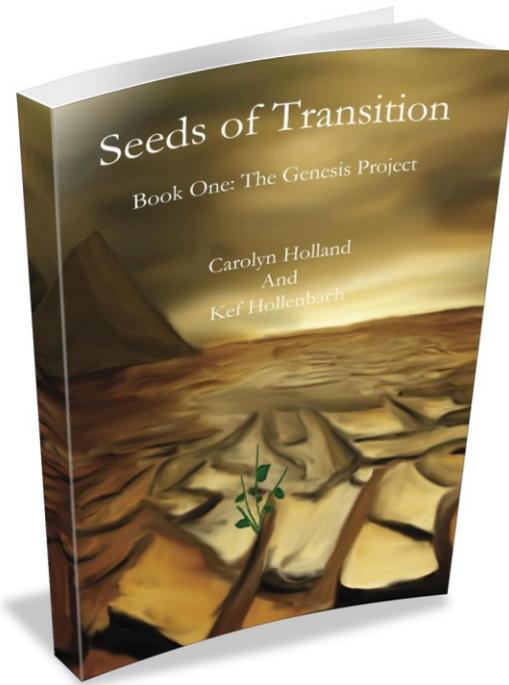
### **Were you ever discouraged in your craft? What did you do to turn yourself around and start again?**

Oh, I've been discouraged many times in writing, and I am sure that I will feel that discouragement again. There are times when the thoughts aren't there and others when the words will not flow, but the best medicine for that I have found, is to back up and take a break, and come back to the work with a refreshed mind.

### **What do you do in your spare time? Any hobbies or something else you'd like to share?**

I have many hobbies and things that I love to do when I am not working. Apart from loving the outdoors, I would have to say that my favorite pastime is pottery making. I enjoy making something beautiful out of dirt.

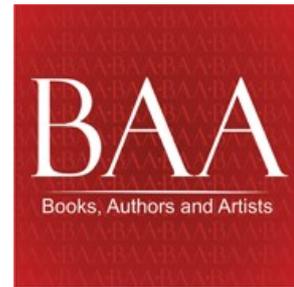
## Pictures



## Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **New Environmental Science-Fiction Title Gives A Glimpse At What The Future Could Hold**

Louisville, 14<sup>th</sup> June 2013 – Seeds of Transition, Carolyn Holland’s debut novel and the first book in The Genesis Project series, will be published in July by Books, Authors, and Artists. Fitting firmly in the speculative-fiction genre, this book gives readers a real glimpse into a future which may be closer than they think.

It delves deeply into how mankind responds to current impending issues worsened by natural disasters. The results of the melding and blending of subtle environmental changes provide an impending threat to organizations, countries, and entire populations when worsened by natural disasters.

The author, Carolyn Holland spoke passionately, “I believe that “life depicted in art”, is an excellent way to educate. The writer’s job is to provoke thought and through the musings of the reader, potential solutions may be born. Through writing we can inspire the readers mind, and if we’re lucky, play a small part in the development of much needed solutions that affect all of us.

My own interests in agriculture and our impact on the natural world has prompted a lot of thought and research to potential solutions for the food crisis that is just now developing, and more importantly, the challenges of tomorrow’s food production.

I live in a rural environment. I am able to accomplish sustainable living to a great degree, however, most people live in urban areas where this is not such an easy task. We do possess the technologies needed to create sustainable living and food production in our urban centers, and this really needs to happen.”

Seeds of Transition, due to be released on July 19th, will be available as an ebook and paperback, from most major online stores.

#### **About Books, Authors, and Artists**

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## Media Appearances

### Interviews

With Five Questions – January 2013

<http://withfivequestions.blogspot.co.uk/2013/01/meet-carolyn-holland-author.html>

With Five Questions – February 2013

<http://withfivequestions.blogspot.co.uk/2013/02/carolyn-holland-follow-up-interview.html>

Author And Book Buzz – July 2013

<http://www.authorandbookbuzz.com/2013/07/author-interview-with-carolyn-holland.html>

### Virtual Book Tour

22<sup>nd</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> July 2013

Pembroke Sinclair

<http://pembrokesinclair.blogspot.com>

Kelly P's Blog

<http://kellyatx.blogspot.co.uk>

BookwormBridgette's World

<http://bookwormbridgette.blogspot.com>

3 Partners in Shopping, Nana, Mommy, & Sissy, Too!

<http://3partnersinshopping.blogspot.com>

The Creatively Green Write at Home Mom

<http://www.creativelygreen.blogspot.com>

Reading In Twilight

<http://readingintwilight.blogspot.com>