

Amanda Cabot

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Dear Friends,

Fall is in the air. In fact, the Weather Service is predicting a light frost for tomorrow night. I hope the tomatoes survive! This is the first year that I've tried to grow tomatoes in Cheyenne, and since it's a very different climate from New Jersey, where I used to live, it's been a challenge. There's a reason why NJ is known as the Garden State, but Wyoming is called either the Cowboy or the Equality State.

Conferences and Signings

It's been a busy summer. In early June I was a last-minute fill-in for a presenter at the Wyoming Writers conference in Casper. Even though the schedule was tiring – I gave four workshops in a day and a half – I enjoyed meeting other writers and sharing some of what I've learned over the years.

Earlier this month I was on the faculty for the Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers conference in Denver. This time the schedule was easier, and I presented only two workshops. That gave me a chance to attend some of the other workshops, one of which gave me some excellent ideas that I can (and will) apply to my next book.

The highlight of the conference, though, came at the Friday night book signing when I learned that *Paper Roses* had gone into a second printing. That actually happened last March, but the author is the last to know. I was thrilled by the news and want to thank all of you who made it possible.



In between the two conferences, I was delighted to be part of the Book Clinic's tenth anniversary celebration. The picture shows me with Ann and Keitha, two of the women who make this such a special store.

The Book Clinic is a bookstore and tea room located in what was once a medical clinic (hence the name) in Nebraska City, Nebraska. I had a wonderful time there and loved the small town friendliness. As a bonus, I discovered a fabric store and came home with enough material for thirteen garments. Now all I need is the time to sew them.

What's Next?

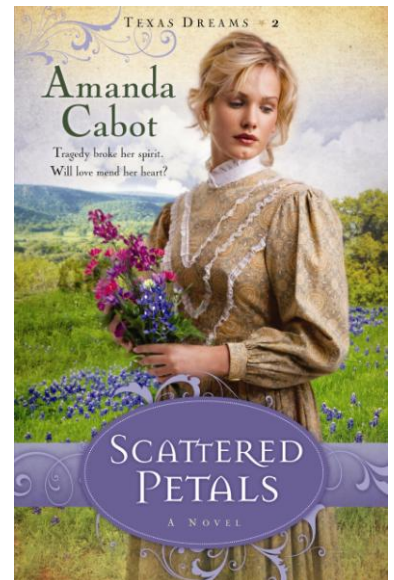
My friends know that I'm an advance planner, which is why even though the last two Texas Dreams haven't been published yet, I've been thinking about the next series. Earlier this year my publisher (Revell) accepted my proposal for three books set during World War I.

I had expected to write those next, but in June my editor asked if I'd be interested in writing a series set in Wyoming. You can guess what I said. Although the world of publishing sometimes moves slowly, in less time than I thought possible, Revell had accepted my proposal for the Wyoming Winds trilogy. If you've ever been to Wyoming, you understand the title. These books tell the stories of three sisters who come west, each for a different reason. Once here, though danger and hardship stalk them, faith and love triumph. And, yes, they do have to battle the winds.

It's going to be a bit of a wait for the Wyoming books, since the first is scheduled for publication in 2012. Of course, between now and then, there are two more Texas Dreams books, starting with *Scattered Petals*. Isn't the cover fabulous?

Scattered Petals has a pub date of March 1, but I've been told it should be in bookstores during the second half of February, maybe even in time for Valentine's Day.

In the meantime, I wish you a happy fall. Please keep in touch. I love hearing from readers.



Amanda