

THE WD INTERVIEW: JANET EVANOVICH

Writer's Digest

THE REBEL'S GUIDE TO GETTING PUBLISHED

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FEBRUARY 2007



BESTSELLING AUTHOR JANET EVANOVICH



MORE NOTABLE DEBUTS

■ MIA KING • WRITES FROM: Kamuela, Hawaii • DEBUT BOOK: *Good Things: A Novel* (Berkley Books)



"*Good Things* is the story of Deidre McIntosh, the successful host of a cooking-and-lifestyle TV show. When her seemingly perfect life suddenly dissolves, she's forced to start from scratch, taking the first steps toward a new kind of success and maybe even love." **WRITING HABITS:** "I love to write

in the dead of night, when everyone's asleep—my mind is intensely creative at that time, and it allows me to write in huge bursts, four or five hours at a time, and turn out a lot of material." **TIME FRAME:** "I wrote it in three months, but the entire process took three years. Finding a publisher took a year; then it was another 16 months from acceptance to publication. The key to survival during this time isn't to obsess or micro-manage." **SECRET TO SUCCESS:** "Overcoming my

tendency to self-sabotage by getting distracted or comparing myself to others." **ADVICE:** "Have confidence and do your homework. If you don't believe that your writing can sell, then it probably won't. It's also important to really understand the pros and cons of your genre." **INFLUENCES:** "The lyrical writing of Gabriel García Márquez astounds me. The essays of Anne Lamott make me roll with laughter. The sheer output of Nora Roberts educates me on the business of writing. And the simplicity of Brenda Ueland's book, *If You Want to Write*, keeps me encouraged." **WEIRD HOBBIES:** "Chocolate. If I have any free time, it goes towards finding, and ultimately eating, chocolate." **WHAT'S NEXT?** "*The Aloha Diaries*. It's the story of a fortysomething New Yorker who moves with her husband to Hawaii, only to find out that he's having an affair." [WD]

