

05/01/2013 New article just released in the Nashville Leader, Nashville, AR



A former Nashville resident has published her first book.

Diann Shaddox is the author of the new romance novel, *A Faded Cottage*. The book was released March 17.

A Faded Cottage is available locally at Tollett's Gifts in Nashville.

"I'm thrilled to death; I've been hugging it," Shaddox said after the book was published.

A Faded Cottage is special to Shaddox because the protagonist, Quaid Witherspoon, suffers from a progressive neurological condition known as essential tremor or ET for short.

Shaddox is familiar with the condition because she has ET herself.

Often confused with Parkinson's disease, ET causes rhythmic trembling of the hands, head, voice, legs or trunk. It affects an estimated 10 million people in the United States.

"The tremors started when I was in my 20s," said Shaddox, who lives in Aiken with her husband, Randy. "One day I tried to fill out a form, and my hand shook so bad I couldn't write my name."

Inspired by a grandmother who lost her right hand and learned to do everything with her left hand, Shaddox was determined to live as normal a life as possible.

"I've worked hard holding things with both hands," she said. "I can play the piano, and I have been able to do cross-stitch."

Shaddox decided to start writing books about five years ago.

"I always had ideas in my head, but I wouldn't do anything about them," she said. "Then I got up one night, sat down and started writing on a piece of paper."

She started writing *A Faded Cottage* in 2010.

"It was my birthday, and it was late," she said. "I went to my office and sat down, and my hands were shaking. I was trying to type, and I was getting mad. That is how *A Faded Cottage* and Quaid Witherspoon came about."

Witherspoon is a talented artist who has trouble painting after developing ET. He moves from New York to the South Carolina coast, where his family had vacationed when he was younger. There he buys a cottage and reunites with a love interest from the past and learns how to deal with ET.

"But there is a twist at the end," Shaddox said. "They (Witherspoon and his former girlfriend) have two weeks together, but will fate let them have more time?"

The author wants to raise awareness of ET with her book and plans to donate a portion of the proceeds to the International Essential Tremor Foundation.

The novel was released during National Essential Tremor Awareness Month.

But even though it has a serious purpose, Shaddox said *A Faded Cottage* will appeal to anyone who enjoys romance books.

"Anyone who really gets into a love story and wants to believe in happily ever after should enjoy it," she

said. “How many people have thought about their sweetheart from when they were a teenager? There are a lot who sit back and think, ‘What if?’”

Although *A Faded Cottage* is the first book which Shaddox has published, she has written about 20 books in all and wants “to keep writing forever.”

A Faded Cottage, published by Rebel Ink Press, is available at Tollett’s Gifts in Nashville and online from Amazon.com as a trade paperback (\$12.99) or an eBook (\$5.99 for a Kindle version)

http://www.amazon.com/A-Faded-Cottage-ebook/dp/B00BV8E96G/ref=sr_1_2?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1363516819&sr=1-2&keywords=a+faded+cottage

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