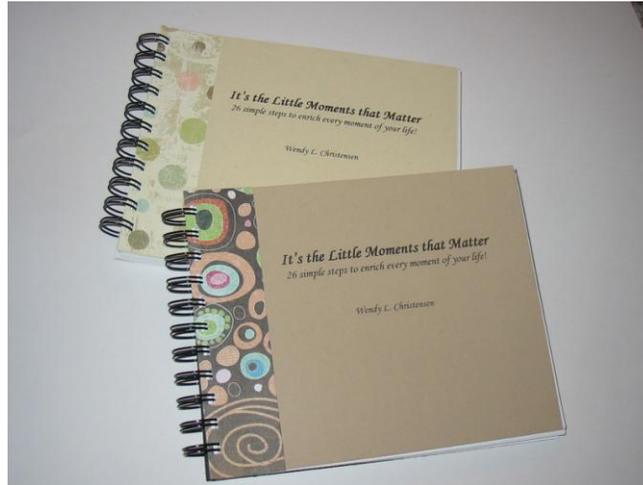


***It's the Little Moments that Matter* by Wendy L. Christensen**

{How this book came to be ...}



This little book started out as a Christmas gift for my parents. I wrote it in 2003. I had 3 small children, I was a stay-at-home mom and my husband was working on his Master's Degree. It was a busy time and I found myself writing late at night, early in the morning and even skipping much needed 'MOM NAPS' to finish the book in time for Christmas!

During this writing project, I stopped into a local home décor shop called Wild Goose Designs. It was one of those amazing shops full of gorgeous furniture redone in vintage French décor. The place had a really great atmosphere and the one-of-a-kind pieces drew me in! I had been walking around thinking: I wish I could decorate my home with such gorgeous décor and style.

I made sure to complement Bonnie, the owner, on her creativity and passion which was reflected throughout the store. After a quick chat, she hugged me and thanked me for stopping in. As I walked out I knew it was my new favorite shop. I also knew that I would be back to visit ...often I hoped!

As life goes, I became incredibly busy and didn't make it back into Wild Goose Designs. It was Christmas Eve and my husband and I had just finished watching 'Return of the King' the final installment of the epic 'Lord of the Rings' trilogy. It was snowing and we had a quick stop to make before returning home and getting things ready for Santa's magical visit.

Our stop was to the local Staples store where I had my little books bound. I had cut each page by hand on a paper cutter and also handmade the covers. They were lovely and I couldn't wait to pick them up. I had ordered black spiral wire binding for each book and hoped the Copy Center Employee didn't mess them up! As we were pulling into the empty parking lot, I told my husband I'd be right back – it would only take a moment to pick the books up.

As I got out of the car, I heard a familiar voice calling, "What are you doing here on Christmas Eve?" I looked up and immediately recognized her as Bonnie, The Owner of Wild Goose Designs.

I paused and then called back - "I'm picking up my books."

Then I just blurted out: "How do you remember me? ... I know you from the shop but how do you remember me?"

She hugged me and said something like – “What kind of books are you picking up?”

Another pause... what to say? “I wrote a book and am picking up copies to give away for Christmas.” There I said it. I said it out loud. I wrote a book. There were a million other things I could have said. Why did I tell her I wrote a book? Oh, well. It was out there now.

She asked: “I didn’t know you were an Author!”

My reply: “I didn’t either!”

At that point we both laughed!

We walked inside together and wished each other a Merry Christmas before going our separate ways. I looked around the store and, besides the 2 employees working on Christmas Eve, we were the only ones there.

Bonnie had paused in the middle of Staples and called out, “What’s the title of your book?”

My response: “It’s the Little Moments that Matter” I said it rather timidly because, well, to be honest I hadn’t really told others about the book. I felt vulnerable.

She called back again: “It’s true. It *is* the little moments that matter.”

Now we were standing together again (face to face) and she did something so unexpected, so out of the blue that to this day it still touches my heart. There we were in the middle of Staples on Christmas Eve – snow falling outside.

Two people who barely knew each other and she said, “I’d really like have you come to the shop and do a book signing!” I was in disbelief.

“Call me,” She said, “and we’ll arrange everything for your book event.”

I stood there in awe and realized that I had a TON of work to do – how in the world was I going to get books ready for Valentine’s Day? I was so excited I almost forgot to pick the 3 little ones up from the copy center. Then it dawned on me - no one had read my book. She hadn’t read my book. Was I ready to share it at a book signing?

We hugged again and said good bye.

I grabbed the books and caught my breath and stepped out into the magical, snowy, Christmas night. Yup, I let the tears fall. I am continually amazed at how ONE person can impact another in such a way.

Thanks to that little moment in Staples nine years ago, my life has been incredibly different! That’s just one little moment from this book adventure. There are MANY more and someday I might put them all together and share them.

I hope you’ll enjoy this book and recognize the power YOU have to enjoy the little moments that decorate your life. With the little moments, we create who we are, where we are going and who we will become!

Did I call Bonnie back and set up the book signing at Wild Goose Designs? Absolutely... it was a wonderful day! One I have locked in my memory as a favorite!



Book signing at Wild Goose Design 2004

PS: I sold every copy I made (yes handmade them all) and learned that when we have a desire combined with a belief in ourselves, the Universe steps up to help us make it happen and we find ourselves living a life we never knew existed.

Thanks again Bonnie for your belief, your love and your support. You inspired me to dig deep and find my moxie!

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