



*The Writer* was founded in 1887 and has long been a hallmark in the American writing and publishing world. As a publisher at Kalmbach Publishing, I was part of the acquisition team who negotiated with Syliva Burack, the iconic publisher of the title for more than 40 years in Boston. Our publishing company acquired *The Writer Magazine* and *The Writer* imprint books in 2000. *The Writer* anchor book title was the huge 1,200-page annual, *The Writer's Handbook*, featuring writing essays by the world's leading writers, including Elmore Leonard, John Updike, Joyce Carol Oates, Stephen King, Maeve Binchy, Anne Rice, Sherman Alexie, Jane Hamilton, Tony Hillerman, Sue Grafton, Russel Banks, James Patterson, and many others. As publisher of *The Writer's Handbook*, we landed Pulitzer Prize-winning Irish writer, Frank McCourt, author of *Angela's Ashes*, to write the Preface of our first edition.

It was during my publishing work with some of the world's best fiction writers and poets that I was inspired to pursue my dream of becoming a fiction writer myself and began writing my first novel, *Blood to Rubies*.