

## About Kristin von Kreisler

Kristin von Kreisler was born on October 4, the feast day of St. Francis of Assisi. All her life she has loved and rescued animals. She has written award-winning books about them and has spoken about their welfare on Coast to Coast to 560 U.S. cities and on the Voice of America to 123 million people.

As Kristin described in her memoir, *For Bea*, only after she rescued Bea, a beagle from a research lab, did it occur to her to write about animals. After two critically acclaimed nonfiction books about animal emotion, she wrote four novels that featured beloved dogs, who protect and encourage their people as they work their way through contemporary problems. In the national bestseller, *An Unexpected Grace*, an artist and a golden retriever help each other recover from violence and abuse. In Kristin's most recent story, *A Reason for Hope*, a Labrador retriever courthouse dog comforts a bookmobile librarian as she fights for justice after a grievous assault. Kristin's award-winning books have been translated into twelve languages.

Before writing books, Kristin free-lanced for national magazines and newspapers. To get her stories, she followed a grizzly bear for a week, went hang gliding to see how an eagle felt soaring through the sky, and watched in awe as millions of bats emerged from a cave at dusk like clouds of smoke. Kristin's articles have appeared in anthologies and textbooks and in the *Washington Post*, *Christian Science Monitor*, *Los Angeles Times*, *Stanford Magazine*, *Publishers Weekly*, *Woman's Day*, and *Reader's Digest*, where she was a staff writer. She has taught English at the University of Hawaii and journalism at California State University at San Jose.

Kristin lives on an island in Washington with her husband, John, and their German shepherd, Bridget. Kristin says she'd rather work in her garden than breathe. Her kale grows to looming giants, and her lavender and catmint are sirens calling bees. From her desk she watches ospreys and seals, and every hour a ferry passes by. She and John have renovated a historic Victorian farmhouse, where the island's first postmistress and sheriff once lived with their seven children.