

## **From Bedtime Stories to the Social Conscience of Today**

### ***New Author MA Senft takes on the fate of Mankind on Earth in her novel Shadows of December***

At a time when the future of our planet feels to hang in the balance, who would have thought that a book dealing with the social, ethical and moral issues that surround our future would come from a cheerful grandma known for her amazing baking and cooking skills in the kitchen? Brand new author, MA Senft, known to her grandchildren as "Mott", offers up a poignant tale that touches on the issues of the day questioning our principles and the weight of our daily choices told through the eyes of a self-centered teenager who learns that his life decisions greatly impact the future of humanity.

The basis of her science fiction fantasy came from a much-loved bedtime story she used to tell her grandchildren. Jay, her the oldest grandchild, used to ask for a bedtime story whenever he spent the night. MA started making up tales based upon a smart-alecky kid who is taken to the future to entertain him.

As Jay grew older, the main character's adventures to the future became more fanciful, largely based on MA's love of the Twilight Zone. Often, they would cozy up on a swing outside in the evening long after the other children had gone to bed with a flashlight. The story changed and transformed over the years, always with the same premise, the characters and scenery growing and mutating. As MA came across new scientific ideas, such as stem cell advancements and climate change, new creatures and inventions based upon the science of today made their way into the version that would eventually become the book *Shadows of December*.

In a nod to all of her cherished family, MA has based every character in the book on a child or grandchild...she even included herself as the spunky matriarch of the main family. The main character, named after Jay, is a 14-year-old boy living in the small sleepy town of Lake Itasca, Minnesota. He finds himself face-to-face with the fate of the earth when an angel arrives and takes him on a journey through time and space to 2363, a future he never could have imagined, upending his self-absorbed life. Jay is forced to reevaluate what is important as the book illustrates the devastating ramifications our decisions can have on the future of life as we know it on earth through the fantasy of time and dimensional travel.

Originally, MA Senft thought *Shadows of December* would only be entertaining to her grandchildren. Jay encouraged her to put the story down in print so the family could enjoy it for generations to come. It was her brother Randy, who read the first copy of her story, which insisted she release the tale to the world. As he said, "This is too entertaining and heartfelt to keep to yourself: you need to share this story with the world."

From a whimsical bedtime story to science fiction novel that speaks to the conscience of our future, MA Senft has found an interesting way to discuss the implications of our actions today on the science discoveries and advancements of tomorrow.

*Get your copy of *Shadows of December* at [www.masenft.com](http://www.masenft.com) or at your local bookstore.*

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