

# Local Author Releases Second Novel

BY BETSY ABRAHAM

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Debbie DeLouise spends her days surrounded by books. Not only is she an avid reader, but as a reference librarian at the Hicksville Public Library, she spends her work day surrounding by shelves upon shelves of works by new and old authors. And now, she's adding her own book to the mix. DeLouise's romantic-mystery novel *A Stone's*

*Throw* was released on Nov. 17.

"It's a great feeling. I'm very excited to see it in print," DeLouise said.

The idea for *A Stone's Throw* came while DeLouise, a Hicksville resident, was at work. Part of her duties as a reference librarian include choosing books and setting them up to be delivered to the community's homebound. Oftentimes, items such as photos and bookmarks get left in

books, and one day, DeLouise wondered what would happen if a book was returned with a note in it. That idea grew into what is today *A Stone's Throw*.

In the book, widowed librarian Alicia Fairmont searches for insight into her husband's past after he is

killed in a hit and run. She travels to his upstate New York hometown, searching for his estranged family and more information about his mysterious past. Things heat up when she meets the local newspaper publisher, but as she continues to learn more about her husband's family, the circumstances surrounding his death get even more suspicious.

A lifelong reader, DeLouise said she's always loved stories that have a twist and that she hopes readers will be surprised at her book's ending.

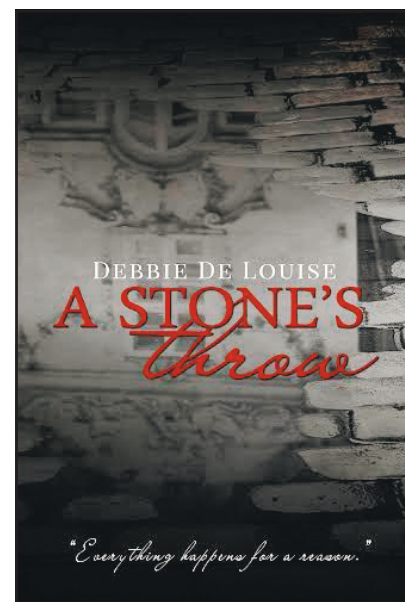
The book took her about two months to write, but editing was a more arduous process, taking about seven months. Writing started in February and DeLouise said she made up the plot and characters as she went along, not sticking to a particular outline but letting the ideas flow.

Though they share similar professions, DeLouise said she and the book's main character don't have too much else in common. But she did pull from her own experiences as a librarian, as well as her past working at her college newspaper in shaping the characters. She also referenced several north shore Long Island communities.

"Different ideas just came to me, and I pulled from some of my own experiences," DeLouise said. "And as I wrote, other ideas came. It was like a seed that just grew and I went from there. It took different turns as I wrote."

*A Stone's Throw* marks DeLouise's second foray into novel-writing. In 2008, she self-published *Cloudy Rainbow*, a paranormal romantic-mystery that served as a homage to her beloved cat. DeLouise published her second novel through Limitless Publishing. Though she was initially hesitant about going through a traditional publishing house, she said it was a good choice in the end because of the many benefits and opportunities it afforded her.

With her first book, every part of the process—writing,



***A Stone's Throw* is now available on Amazon and Barnes and Noble.**

editing, promotion—was in her hands. Partnering up with Limitless allowed her more access to editors and proof-readers. Going through a traditional publisher also helped provide her more visibility and connections to other authors from all over the world.

"When I was self-publishing, I didn't have support or authors to ask questions. With having a publisher, you meet people from all over the world and can network with other authors," she said. "Social networking is very important and you can promote your book all over the world."

One of the ways she does that is through her website, [debbiedelouise.wordpress.com](http://debbiedelouise.wordpress.com). The site allows her to network and highlight other authors, as well as promote her own writing. She also promotes her work on social media.

Up next, DeLouise said she's considering writing a sequel to *A Stone's Throw* and she also has another novel in the works. But for now, she's excited to get *A Stone's Throw* into the hands of readers.

"I only hope that I can touch people the way some of [my favorite authors] have touched me," DeLouise said. "Readers make books come alive in their minds. I thank my readers for giving my characters a stage on which to act and hope they enjoy the performance."

*A Stone's Throw* is available online now on Amazon and Barnes and Noble.



Author  
Debbie  
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