

### INTERVIEW WITH RICK INCORVIA

Hello Rick, welcome to The Relatable Voice Magazine. You grew up in a household with eight siblings! How did that environment shape your personality and influence your storytelling?

Growing up with four older brothers, an older sister, a younger brother, and younger twin sisters was mostly awesome—though I didn't always appreciate it as a child. The dynamics were constantly shifting, and I was often a risk-taker. Some of my brothers applauded my behavior, while others warned me that I was reckless, naïve, and a dreamer. I had no idea how lucky I was until I got older. Now, they're my best friends—the ones I can trust to give it to me straight. Not that their opinions stop me from being myself; I can be pretty bullheaded . . . and still a reckless, naïve dreamer.

Your journey has taken you from a small town in Ohio to Los Angeles, Florida, and beyond. How have these experiences shaped your perspective on life and writing?

Yes, I was a big fish in a little pond (Ohio), then a small fish in a big pond (Los Angeles). That alone

will give you plenty of perspective. Now I live in Florida, enjoying the sunshine and hiding from the occasional hurricane. I tend to write about the thoughts swirling in my head. An entire book might unfold during a walk in the woods, as I imagine the lives of a squirrel, an owl, or an ant. Or, as with my latest book, *Chasing Gwin*, the story took shape during a 17-day cruise along the Danube River from Austria to Bulgaria.

You describe yourself as fearless, fun, and friendly. Do you think those traits have helped you navigate the ups and downs of life, including your time in real estate and writing?

Absolutely. I haven't traveled the entire world, but I've been places that few have—some of them only in my imagination, and others in real life. I'm a bit of a thrill-seeker, and I've done the usual stuff: skydiving, parachuting, zip-lining, etc. But I've also taken trips I had no business taking. For example, a jet ski journey from Key Largo to Key West: one wrong turn could leave us stranded—or in "pirate territory." We made two. I went with two of my brothers, and we were definitely scared. We faced





sharks, we were stranded, and battled a storm that could've toppled boats. I came away from that trip with a newfound respect for my brothers. Those thrills are forever stuck in my mind (and often exaggerated) as the years go by.

You've shared that you love sports, gardening, and kayaking. Do these hobbies ever inspire your stories or help you overcome writer's block?

Absolutely. My hobbies—whether it's

sports, gardening, or kayakingoften spark my creativity and
help me push through
writer's block. I'm a
healthy mix of
competitiveness and
reflection: I love to
win, but I also
know I'm fun to
beat. I can
be a

talker during competition, yet I find it fulfilling to see the joy on my competitors' faces when they get the upper hand. Don't get me wrong—I always play to win, but I'm well aware that I'm not going to win them all. That blend of determination and acceptance is what keeps me grounded and, in its own way, fuels my storytelling.

trash-

# What's something surprising about you that most people wouldn't know, aside from wrestling an 8-foot alligator?

Hold on—we can't just skip over wrestling an eightfoot alligator. There I was, in my backyard, minding
my own business, when an eleven-foot alligator
trotted down my makeshift boat ramp. I immediately
called a trapper. When he finally caught that
monster, he was struggling and called out to me
and my nephew: "I need one of you to help—he's
too strong!" Picture a big guy in shallow water on
the back of this gator, trying to keep its jaws under
control while it thrashed. I just shook my head. My
nephew ran to help, taping the gator's mouth shut

while the trapper held it down. I got teased for months for staying on the sidelines and taking a video.

Fast-forward a few months later, and an eight-foot gator shows up at our dock. This time, I was ready to play. Once it was on land with its mouth taped shut, I climbed onto its back to hold it down while the trapper went for more tape. I

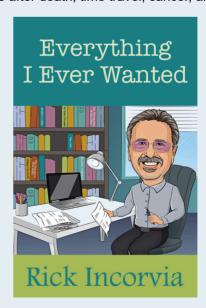
pinned, with one leg on each side of its powerful tail.
The gator thrashed wildly, nearly rolling me more than once. It's a ride I'll never forget.

did my best to keep its head

Wait... what was the original question again?

You've written across multiple genres, from actionadventure to romance. How do you decide which genre to tackle next?

I don't really choose which genre to tackle—I just let the monster out. When something takes hold in my head, I can't sleep. Some people read, some meditate... I write. My wife often catches me typing away in the middle of the night. I'm drawn to exploring the human condition, so my work often features characters facing unique challenges. One of my books has a character with schizophrenia, another with dementia, and yet another with Intermittent Explosive Disorder. I've also written about life after death, time travel, cancer, and the



fine line between a gift and a curse. Honestly, I don't feel like I'm in control of what I write—it just pours out of me.

# What is the most rewarding part of connecting with your readers, especially when they share their reactions to your stories?

I get such a thrill when I see someone reading one of my books. Just last night, I was walking through a festival and spotted two women sitting on a bench—one reading aloud to the other. I couldn't make out the words, but then one asked, "Who's the author?" and I watched the reader flip to the cover. I recognized it immediately, and a moment later, I heard her say my name. I couldn't help but walk over to them. We ended up chatting for about ten minutes, and they insisted I sign the book. It absolutely made my day.

Your latest book, Everything I Ever Wanted, is deeply personal. What inspired you to write this story, and how did you feel about sharing it with the world?





This story is set in the year 2027—five years into the future from when I first conceived it. I wrote it for two reasons. First, it helped me analyze my life and steer it toward happiness and fulfillment. By imagining a particular future, I hoped to help create it for myself. But, it took a dark turn.

Both of my grandmothers had dementia, and, at the time I started writing, my mother was struggling with it. My gene pool leans heavily toward my mother's side, so I don't know if or when dementia might affect me. It's such a difficult disease to control—like trying to write a thesis while someone is erasing your hard drive. This book became an outlet to express my fears, hopes, and desires in case the "dementia beast" does strike me. It's deeply personal, and I promise it delivers both laughter and tears.

### The theme of trust is central to the book. Was there a moment in your life that made you reflect deeply on this topic?

When your wife, children, and grandchildren have to remind you how you know them, it can be both deeply unsettling and incredibly moving. While writing this book, I called my grandchildren and posed a scenario: "Imagine you're visiting me, and I no longer remember who you are. Your mission is to share stories of our time together so I can understand our relationship." Their responses were so touching.

Writing this book was a real eye-opener—I realized I truly do have everything I ever wanted, even if someday I might not remember it.



Jennifer, your wife, is described as a bit of a hero in your latest book. How did she influence the story, and what was her reaction to being such a significant part of it?

Jennifer didn't like the book—at first, it was simply too personal for her. I shared very private moments involving her, my ex-wives, and my children, and I exposed many of my own weaknesses.

Jennifer is my rock; without her, I'm a runaway train. If you'd like to meet an angel, just read the book.

But like my other works, these feelings were trapped in my head and needed to come out.

Around that time, my mother—who was 97 years old—was slipping deeper into dementia, compounded by Sundowners syndrome.

My siblings and I came together to take care of her. I was particularly close to her, so it was heartbreaking when we had to move her to a facility dedicated solely to dementia patients. I met so many brilliant people there who no longer remembered who they were, except for a few fleeting moments on a good day. It was both heartbreaking and inspiring, so I

tried to put myself in their shoes.

In writing this book, my thoughts raced faster than my fingers could type. I almost didn't publish it, but I'm so glad I did—the reviews have been wonderful. I believe people crave genuine honesty, especially about the fears we're too afraid to share. This story reveals my own fears, doubts, and desires, and I hope readers walk away feeling less alone with theirs.





**Rick Incorvia** is an American author celebrated for his diverse storytelling that spans multiple genres, including action, adventure, mystery, historical fiction, crime, fantasy, and romance. Growing up as one of nine children in a lively household, he developed a vivid imagination and a passion for storytelling. His father once remarked, "You sure can tell a whopper of a story. We should have named you MaveRick," highlighting Rick's early talent for weaving tales.

Rick's literary works are known for their engaging narratives and well-developed characters. His bibliography includes titles such as "The Traveler," "The Wrong Side of the Glass," "Bobby's Cabin," "When I'm Gone, Everything I Ever Wanted," and more. All his books have received outstanding reviews for their ability to prompt readers to think deeply about life, death, love, and the human experience.

Beyond writing, Rick is an inspiring speaker who encourages aspiring authors to bring their stories from concept to completion. He has been a guest speaker at various events, including the National Library in Amman, Jordan, and the Imagine Museum in St. Petersburg, Florida. His works have also been translated into Arabic and are used in classrooms internationally, reflecting his global reach and impact.

Rick's journey from a creative child in a bustling family to a published author and motivational speaker showcases his dedication to the craft of storytelling and his desire to inspire others through his work.

Find out more at AuthorRickIncorvia.com.