

## BIO

### Emilie Richards

Emilie Richards is the author of more than seventy novels. After dozens of series romance novels, she made her general fiction debut in 1996 for both Mira and Avon. She has written several series, the Shenandoah Album series about quilts and quilters in the Shenandoah Valley, the Goddesses Anonymous series about women in Asheville, North Carolina, and the Ministry is Murder series for Berkley about a minister's wife who attracts murderers, despite her best efforts not to. Now Emilie concentrates on standalone novels, most recently *A Family of Strangers* set in Southwest Florida where she lives for most of the year.

In 1994 she received the RITA award from Romance Writers of America for her novel, *Dragonslayer* (recently retitled *Hold Back the Night*) and multiple awards from Romantic Times magazine, including one for career achievement.

Emilie, who was born in Bethesda, MD, is a Florida State graduate and holds a master's degree in family development from Virginia Tech. Before she began to write full-time she worked as a therapist in a mental health center, a Vista community organizer, and a coordinator for Head Start. She has been a speaker at many workshops and conferences and a continuing education teacher at the University of New Orleans. To publicize her novels she has appeared on local television and radio shows as well as nationally on the *Leeza Show* and a *Hard Copy* segment where she was reputed to be the next Danielle Steel.

She's still waiting.

Emilie is the mother of four grown children, the grandmother of four fabulous grandchildren, and the wife of a Unitarian-Universalist minister. These days she and her husband split their time between Southwest Florida and Western New York. When Emilie has a free moment she enjoys travel, gardening and quilting.