

# Glose receives F. Scott Fitzgerald award

*"I take a deep breath and struggle to explain. 'She's more than that, but I don't dream of her face. It's still yours that I see.'"*

*She laughs. 'You're even dumber than I thought. You must be if you only have room for me in there.' She cocks her head to one side and taps a finger at her temple. 'It's not like when you taped over my Ice Capades video with that football game. You don't have to erase me to add her.'"* – an excerpt from "Letting Go"

**By Kathy Lee Hull  
News Editor**

It was a new relationship that inspired Poquoson author Bill Glose to write "Letting Go," recent winner of the 2001 F. Scott Fitzgerald Short Story Contest.

According to Glose, the publisher of 'Virginia Adversaria ... Fresh voices in fiction and poetry,' a lot of what he writes is inspired by "the human condition," and "Letting Go" was no exception.

"I was imaging someone who had experienced a great loss and was starting over again," Glose said of the short story. "The story's theme is the conflict between grief and hope: grief over lost love, and the hope for new love."

Glose wasn't always a writer, he pointed out.



Poquoson author Bill Glose accepts the 2001 F. Scott Fitzgerald Short Story award during award presentations held Saturday, Sept. 22, at Montgomery College, Rockville, Md.

After graduating from Virginia Tech with a degree in civil engineering, Glose was commissioned into the U.S. Army, where he served as a paratrooper with the 82nd Airborne Division. He also commanded a combat platoon during the Gulf War. When he left the Army, Glose said he worked as a supervisor in two factories ... one in Chicago and one in Holyoke, Mass.

He's always, however, "had the stories in my head. It was about five years ago when I put the first stories down on paper. It amazed me. I had a passion for it." That's when he "just walked away" from his production manager's job to pursue a writing career.

Glose said he wrote a number of articles and stories but felt he still had much to

learn. He not only joined writers' clubs and attended conferences on writing, but he also read everything he could. And the Hampton Roads Daily web magazine, which Glose created, helped him to learn more "about the business side of writing."

It was in the summer of 2000 that he launched 'Virginia Adversaria,' which is currently "moving along well." The magazine features the work of both well known and lesser-known "word-smiths," and has subscribers from around the country, although at the present time it's sold only in stores in Virginia, with the exception of Writers' Center in Bethesda, Md.

Editing and publishing 'Virginia Adversaria'

# Award

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has taught Glose a lot about writing. "It helps you avoid pitfalls ... it's a very good experience," he added.

Glose has two words of advice for new writers. "Thick-skinned." That, he emphasized, is what all writers should be ... thick-skinned. After all, "Letting Go," an F. Scott Fitzgerald

Short Story contest winner, was "rejected by six markets before I sent it into to the contest."

That, he said, is due to the fact not everyone "shares the same view. You have to find the right market. A simple rejection should not be the end of it."

Glose is, himself, familiar with rejections. He has had to reject stories that have been submitted to the 'Virginia Adversaria.' With his rejections, he offers creative criticism to

help them improve their writing skills. What makes him feel good about that, however, is when he receives positive responses from those he's rejected.

Besides writing and publishing 'Virginia Adversaria' Glose is also a technical writer for EER Systems, where he writes technical manuals, lesson plans and other material for digitizing the Army's mechanized command posts.