

This is Your Story, Mama Kay

Once early on in her writing career, an astute editor leaned back in his desk chair and told Kay that she had the wit of Erma Bombeck and Ann Lander all rolled into one enchilada. He believed that she could develop a voice that would ring true, and command a loyal following of readers.

Remember, Mama Kay wasn't Mama Kay back then. She was simply, Kay, an aspiring writer, who had jumped into the newspaper venue later in life.

That notion didn't sit well with her. She had no intention of being the lonely housewife's companion, or lovelorn's helpmate. In fact, Kay was a little miffed at why the editor didn't give her more credit for originality.

Still, she took the advice, and it sifted in her brain along with all her future travel destinations that hadn't yet sprung into reality.

Kay published in newspapers, magazines and she authored books. Always, that underlying drollness would come to the surface - even when she tried to push it away. The more she shoved, the more it fought back tooth and nail.

People would stop her on the street - former students, too - and remark that they didn't know that she had a funny side to her.

Along comes the pandemic in 2020, and every human being on the planet needs a little playfulness tossed in to keep him on a stable footing.

Somehow Kay morphed into Mama Kay, and a new character voice reared. The name came out of the blue. Well, not really. There is a childhood story that goes along with it, but that's not for the telling here.

If you take Mama Kay too seriously, then you are in for a rough ride. She stretches and bends the truth to make you laugh at everyman's situation, including your own.

Apparently, that first editor was correct. He saw the humorous voice and her quirky twist on the mundane along with its potential. Mama Kay required time to explore those capabilities, and she thanked him profusely later.

So, when Mama Kay, or Kay, meets up with those two famous columnists in heaven, what do you suppose she will say - if she can get in the first word?