

Sharon Butala



[*Photo courtesy of the Writers' Union of Canada*](#)

Book editors are wonderful resources for authors. At a conference in Toronto in 2009, I heard Butala's editor, Phyllis Bruce, tell the amazing story of how Butala's most famous book began.

Sharon Butala leaped from one life to a completely different one. She left her academic career and city life to marry a rancher and take up a life of semi-isolation in the Palliser triangle of southwestern Saskatchewan.

One of the rewards for her courage was the completion of her book [*Perfection of the Morning: a Woman's Awakening in Nature*](#) (HarperCollins, 1995). A work of non-fiction, this is highly unusual book reads like a vision quest, and has brought her praise and fame.

Sharon Butala has published numerous other books, and has been nominated for the Commonwealth Prize and the Governor General's Medal. She has received magazine and non-fiction awards as well as conservation awards and is a Member of the Order of Canada.