

Songs From Under The EL

Memories of Life in the Dark

Joanne de Simone

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From award-winning writer Joanne de Simone, Songs from Under the El is a love letter to her family—a nostalgic look at her heritage that began at Ellis Island, spanning almost a century. Her memoir is filled with anecdotes about who came before, with stories about life in the early to mid 1900s, and with the hope that all who follow in this tapestry of laughter and tears will come to cherish it as much as its creator.



Joanne de Simone was an author, dramatist, poet, and film historian. She hosted *Notes & Notions from The Writing Desk* at LTV-East Hampton Public Access Television. Joanne wrote twelve plays including her historical play *Earthmen* to be released as a short film in 2022, and her award-winning *Norma Jeane, Enlightened*, a fantasy about Marilyn Monroe in the afterlife. Various publications and film journals have featured Joanne's work. Her film review column was published in the *Fire Island News* from 1998-2003. Joanne's books include *The Metro Cats: Life in the Core of The Big Apple*, a children's book, and *The Peculiar Plight of Milicent Wryght*, a young adult book, both urban tales set in Manhattan. She wrote *Spills from a Quills*, a collection of poetry and prose, and *Lovers. Husbands. Stranger: A Baby Boomer's Chronicle of Lust, Love and One-Night Stands* under her pen name, L. L. Ferris. Joanne also penned *Mating Habits Couples Guide a-z*, and *Inside Out Yoga*, co-authored with Sandra K. She was a member of The Dramatist Guild, Shakespeare Guild, Drama Guild, English Speaking Union, Episcopal Actors Guild, and The American Academy of Poets, and launched a non-profit organization, St. Rita and Archangel Metatron Arts League. Joanne held a BA in Film, Literature, and Creative Writing, and lived on the east end of Long Island. She passed away in May 2022.