





# Out at Home

A Work of Fiction By

*Dixie Wells*

OUT AT HOME  
Published by Dixie Wells  
An Independent Publisher  
McLean, Virginia 22101

All scripture quotations are taken from the *King James Version* of the Bible.

The characters and events in this book are fictional with the exception of a few of Nick's childhood family members, who are named as actual members of the author's family.

Copyright © 2009 by Dixie Wells, All Rights Reserved

All rights reserved. No part of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying and recording or by any information storage and retrieval system, without express permission in writing from the author and publisher.

Printed in the United States of America  
2009 – First Edition

*To those few, intrepid, adventuresome  
Individuals who may gain some shred of  
Entertainment from this novel,  
I hope you enjoy your read,  
As much as I have enjoyed the write.  
Thank you for your indulgence.*

*— dixiewells*

## **A C K N O W L E D G E M E N T S:**

Thank you Kenley Davis, for taking the time to read this work in its elementary stages and for all your pragmatic advice.

Thank you Mike Malychiev, for your expertise on Russian accents.

Thank you Lisa Nuhn, for your observations.

Thanks to my brother for "Stop and Think. After all, it's just a little thing to do."

Jeannie Godbout, thank you for taking the time. You're my hero.

Brett, my Son, thank you for all you do.

My Dearest Spouse, thank you so much for the cover art. I knew you could do it! There is nothing else I can say or do to thank you enough, except to quit writing, I suppose. Thank you, Dear.

## **W A R N I N G:**

This book contains adult situations and mature themes. It is not recommended for young readers.

## CONTENTS

|             |                                          |      |
|-------------|------------------------------------------|------|
| Foreword    | . . . . .                                | viii |
| Chapter 1:  | First Night Back . . . . .               | 1    |
| Chapter 2:  | The Late, Late, Late Show . . . . .      | 19   |
| Chapter 3:  | Eye of the Beholder . . . . .            | 35   |
| Chapter 4:  | Family Origins . . . . .                 | 51   |
| Chapter 5:  | Alma Mater . . . . .                     | 75   |
| Chapter 6:  | Berry Fresh Memories . . . . .           | 100  |
| Chapter 7:  | Top Kick . . . . .                       | 113  |
| Chapter 8:  | Mixed Feelings . . . . .                 | 124  |
| Chapter 9:  | Family Dinner . . . . .                  | 132  |
| Chapter 10: | Promise of Romance . . . . .             | 139  |
| Chapter 11: | Lure of Bathsheba. . . . .               | 157  |
| Chapter 12: | Recriminating Replay . . . . .           | 172  |
| Chapter 13: | Pity Party . . . . .                     | 181  |
| Chapter 14: | Old Friends . . . . .                    | 190  |
| Chapter 15: | Lena . . . . .                           | 208  |
| Chapter 16: | Heeeeeeeere's Johnny! . . . . .          | 230  |
| Chapter 17: | A Day at the Beach . . . . .             | 240  |
| Chapter 18: | Sweet Sunday Hitch-Hiking . . . . .      | 262  |
| Chapter 19: | Guardian Angels . . . . .                | 277  |
| Chapter 20: | Love on the Beach. . . . .               | 291  |
| Chapter 21: | Tough Love . . . . .                     | 304  |
| Chapter 22: | Yikes Scores . . . . .                   | 328  |
| Chapter 23: | From Bad to Worse. . . . .               | 335  |
| Chapter 24: | New Blood for the Band . . . . .         | 341  |
| Chapter 25: | Stop and Think . . . . .                 | 368  |
| Chapter 26: | Hot Breath of the Cossack . . . . .      | 387  |
| Chapter 27: | Ryz'n Heats a Rowdy Night . . . . .      | 398  |
| Chapter 28: | Rowdy Russian Retreat . . . . .          | 418  |
| Chapter 29: | It's Just a Little Thing to Do . . . . . | 426  |
| Chapter 30: | High Flyin' through the Bible . . . . .  | 442  |
| Chapter 31: | Mother's Little Helper . . . . .         | 458  |
| Chapter 32: | Morning After . . . . .                  | 478  |
| Chapter 33: | From Cut Bait to Jail Bait . . . . .     | 488  |
| Chapter 34: | Stealing Second . . . . .                | 515  |
| Chapter 35: | Post Game Revelry. . . . .               | 528  |
| Chapter 36: | Spectre of Charlie . . . . .             | 547  |
| Chapter 37: | New Day, S.O.S. . . . .                  | 553  |
| Chapter 38: | Brotherly Heart to Heart . . . . .       | 563  |
| Chapter 39: | Time to Bail. . . . .                    | 582  |

*Then Cain went out  
From the presence of the Lord  
And dwelt in the land of Nod  
On the East of Eden . . .*

Genesis 4:16