

BIOGRAPHICAL STATEMENT

Paula Chaffee Scardamalia is a professional weaver whose luxurious and colorful rayon chenille throws and wearables have sold across the country in galleries such as the gift shop at the Smithsonian's Renwick Museum in Washington, D.C.; the Broadmoor resort's gallery, Luma in Colorado; and Purple Sage Gallery in Santa Fe. Her limited edition and one-of-a-kind work is also in private collections from coast to coast, and around the globe in locations such as the British Isles, Japan, and Guatemala.

She is contributing editor for *The Crafts Business Magazine* and for *Faerie Magazine*, and also writes book reviews for *Foreword Magazine*. She is a member of eWomen Network and of the International Women's Writing Guild. As a long-time student of creativity, and the shamanic approach to dreams, she presents workshops, seminars, and talks on creativity, writing, and dreamwork, and helps others as a creativity coach. A dream inspired her to write a fantasy novel, *The Shadow Weaver* and she is the author of *Weaving a Woman's Life: Spiritual Lessons from the Loom*.

Longer version:

Paula Chaffee Scardamalia is a professional writer and weaver, who developed her own business, Nettles and Green Threads (the name is taken from a fairytale), selling her colorful and luxurious handwoven rayon chenille throws, pillows, and wearable art across the country in galleries such as the gift shop at the Smithsonian's Renwick Museum in Washington, D.C.; the Broadmoor resort's gallery, Luma in Colorado; and Purple Sage Gallery in Santa Fe. Her limited edition and one-of-a-kind work is also in private collections from coast to coast, and around the globe in locations such as the British Isles, Japan, and Guatemala.

She has taught dreamwork, creativity, journaling, writing, color, marketing crafts, and other art-related topics for almost twenty years. As a writer, she is contributing editor for *The Crafts Business Magazine* and for *Faerie Magazine*, and also writes book reviews for *Foreword Magazine* and *Broadsheet*. She is a member of the International Women's Writing Guild (IWWG) and teaches writers how to use shamanic dream techniques to enhance their writing at the Guild's international annual summer conference. She is also a member of the national organization, eWomen Network.

An active dreamer since early childhood, she has been a member of Robert Moss's dream circle and studied shamanic dream work with him for almost 15 years. She studied creativity coaching with author and psychologist, Eric Maisel.

The author received her MFA from International College (Los Angeles, CA) while studying fantasy, both visual and written, writing a young adult fantasy novel and creating, promoting, and hanging her own exhibit of symbolic weavings for her thesis work. She received her bachelor's degree of arts in creative writing in three years and a term from Pennsylvania State University.

She is also happily married to her husband, Bob, and has three grown sons, all with interests in the creative arts, especially music. She and her husband live with their collie and cat in an 1840's Greek Revival farmhouse needing constant attention in the foothills of the Catskills outside Albany, NY.

When not weaving, writing, or working with dreams, Paula is a voracious reader, a practiced hand at creating luscious desserts and cookies, and a lover of imported dark, dark, chocolate.