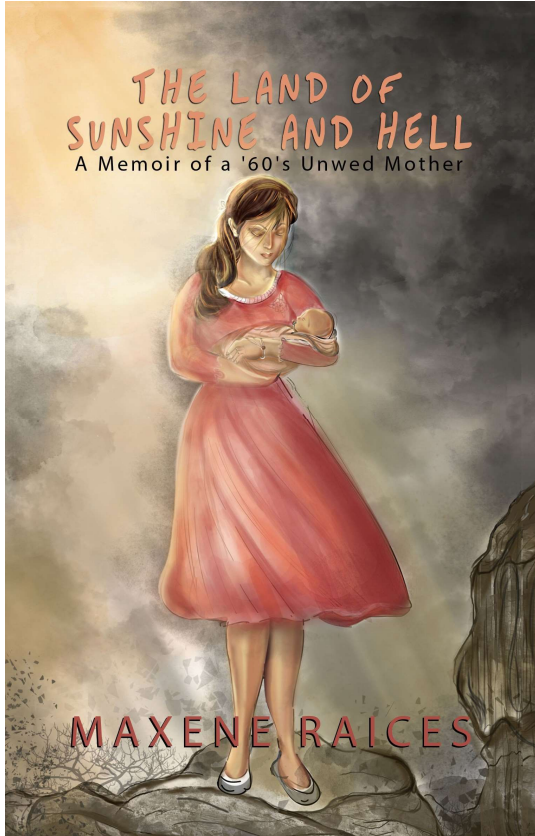
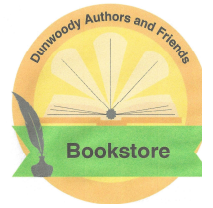




Dunwoody Authors Bookstore at Lemonade Days



Maxene Raices

THE LAND OF SUNSHINE AND HELL

A Memoir of a '60s Unwed Mother.

In 1964 as the Vietnam war heated up, young men were drafted into battle. A period of high morality, antiwar protests and music reflecting a coming rebellion, it was an era when sex was not discussed at home or school and children were left to fend for themselves. As she finished her last year of high school, Maxene and her boyfriend, Romolo, a pre-med student at Columbia University and first-generation Italian-American, find that a baby is due. There is no legal abortion, and a difficult journey begins for them to hide the truth and give their child up for adoption. Four years later, after Romolo is drafted to the Army and sent to Germany, they marry and try to move forward, but never acknowledge the pain of giving up their child.

Available in both Hardcover and Paperback

Maxene holds a Masters of Education from the University of Toronto as well as B.A. in English from the State University of New York. She has been a High school English Teacher, Manager of Human Resources and Senior Account Executive for several human resource consulting firms in both the United States and Canada.

An active member of the Atlanta Writers Club, Maxene won a short story contest in the Atlanta Journal-Constitution for a pre-publication chapter. Maxene and her husband, Lee, enjoy a close relationship with their blended family of two sons and two daughters as well as seven grandchildren. She currently resides in Alpharetta, GA.

