



## Border Arts Network Artist Spotlight

Telling the stories of the Border.

**Name**  
**Email**

Carrol Grossman  
[carrolldgrossman@gmail.com](mailto:carrolldgrossman@gmail.com)

**State:** Louisville  
**City:** Kentucky



## Bio

Carroll Grossman, also known as Teaberry, lives and writes in Louisville, Kentucky. Born and raised in the mountains of eastern Kentucky, she followed her dad along narrow deer paths, steep hills and razorback ridges, and across clear, cool streams. Many of her stories and poems reflect the honest, strong, and resilient nature of those living in economic poverty while surrounded by great natural beauty.

Grossman's work has appeared in *Edible Louisville*; *Harmony*, Humanities Magazine of the University of Arizona college of medicine; *Calliope*, an anthology published by Women Who Write. Her work may also be found in, *The White Squirrel*, a literary arts magazine of the University of Louisville, *Interstice*, a literary publication of South Texas College, *Literary Accents* and *Canary*, a literary journal of the environmental crisis. A collection of poetry, *Possibility, Yes. . .*, was published in 2012.

She received her MFA in Creative Writing from Spalding University, Spring 2021.

## Interview

1) *How does your home state influence your art?*

The bio states that I grew up in the mountains of eastern Kentucky with limited financial resources but encouraged to get an education.

2) *What inspires you to create?*

For me, it is more that I must create in one form or another whether it is teaching, writing or cooking. I often return to experiences from my years in the mountains for writing material, but also social justice issues, and love of the natural world

3) *What is your art? Literary? Music? Drawing, painting, sketching? Photography? Film? Or other?*

Literary

4) *Which creators influence you?*

Kiki Petrosino, Anne Carson, Tony Hoagland, for poetry. Prose writers: Margaret Atwood, James Baldwin, Ernest Hemingway and those who need only one name to identify them: Twain, Updike, Tolstoy. Let me add Nick Flynn, Lee Smith and many others. .

5) *How is your art (or art in general) important to society in the border states??*

That we are all worthy and valuable, that we need to protect our natural resources. In my writing and in my running I embrace the beautiful Tex-Mex heritage of the RG. V.

6) *Is there a specific purpose for your art?*

Sometimes the purpose is to persuade readers to hear information or points of view that may differ from their own. Other times I want to reach the heart and the emotions of my readers. ders to hear

7) *Are there other artists that you collaborate with, network, or recommend?*

I have fellow writers that meet together to discuss our projects. We don't collaborate, but we give feedback to each other.

8) *Do you have a "real" job or is your creative work your fulltime gig?*

I'm a retired Speech/Language Pathologist

9) *Do you collaborate with other artists/creators?*

No, but I'm not strictly opposed. I might like to create projects that combine different kinds of art.

10) *Tell us about an upcoming project you are working on currently?*

A series of stories about hiking the Appalachian Trail, and a collection of poetry

**Additional info:**

I try to balance my life to include attention to physical health (running mostly) my emotional health ( church, spouse, children and grandchildren) and cognition (reading, writing, studying Spanish and French.) And relax while I swim or laugh or go to concerts with family or friends.