

DEBORAH S. GREENHUT, PhD

Author • International Keynote Speaker •
Story & Identity Catalyst

Facts remain. Meanings are authored.



WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP

RECLAIM THE PEN: Authoring Identity Through Change, Leadership, and Reinvention

Leadership often requires outgrowing old stories about competence, belonging, permission, and worth. Deborah helps women recognize the interpretations they have internalized, challenge meanings that no longer fit, and lead from an identity they have consciously authored.

Deborah S. Greenhut, PhD helps people recognize the stories shaping who they believe they are—and author what comes next. An international speaker, award-winning educator, and published author, she draws on decades as a writing teacher, dean, curriculum specialist, corporate communication trainer, and memoir instructor. Through memorable stories, humor, research, and her **Authoring Moments Framework™—Notice, Name, Revise, Retell**—she transforms a complex idea about identity into a practical path toward agency and reinvention.

2026 Visionary Educator Award • International Keynoter • Rutgers Osher memoir instructor • Award-winning author

MEET DEBORAH

Deborah's talks begin where stories get interesting: not simply with what happened, but with what we came to believe it meant.

After decades of teaching writers, Deborah began noticing a pattern. Experiences do not enter identity directly. They enter through interpretation—and some of our most influential interpretations were handed to us by parents, teachers, partners, institutions, or earlier versions of ourselves.

Drawing on her own life as well as encounters with students, writers, caregivers, and people navigating reinvention, Deborah shows audiences how familiar stories can become Authoring Moments™: opportunities to notice an old meaning, examine who authored it, and decide whether it still belongs in the life we are creating.

Audiences laugh, reflect, recognize themselves in the stories, and leave with language they can use immediately:

Notice. Name. Revise. Retell.

Because taking back the pen does not require denying what happened. It means deciding what the experience gets to mean now.

SELECTED CREDENTIALS

- International speaker with 2026 engagements in London and Paris
- Recipient, 2026 Visionary Educator Award, London Organisation of Skills Development
- Former dean, literacy educator, curriculum specialist, and corporate communication trainer
- Memoir instructor, Rutgers University Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
- Author of the award-winning novel *The Hoarder's Wife*
- Host of *The Sharegiving Secret* podcast
- Firebird Book Award recipient and Princemere Poetry Prize recipient
- BA, Middlebury College; PhD in English, Rutgers University



WHAT AUDIENCES SAY

“Great presentation on a very difficult topic.”

“I wanted to hear more—important message.”

“Shared real experiences with solutions which were helpful”

deborahgreenhut.com

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