



News from Sus[an] Oct '13 ☀ No. 26 in an occasional series

new house/new life

From Terraphilia to creek House

I've moved. Terraphilia, the beautiful passive-solar house that my late husband [Richard Cabe](#) helped design and build for us, is sold. Two weeks ago, I moved to Creek House, a tiny (725 square foot) and not-quite-finished house nearby. The design and details of Creek House and its detached garage/studio, Treehouse, were very much influenced by the [sculptural aesthetic](#) I learned from my late love.

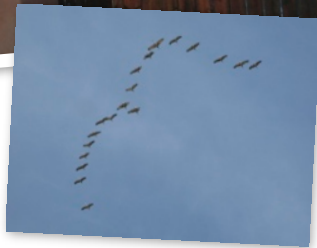
This move is both end and beginning: it closes the decades-long chapter of the life- and love- partnership Richard and I perhaps naively imagined stretching on much longer, and opens my solo years. I didn't choose this path. Regardless, I'm determined to walk it with love, heart outstretched to the world.



writing



Writing has taken a back seat to the exhausting and intense process of leaving one home and creating another. I spent the summer finishing and emptying Terraphilia—both the house and Richard's enormous and packed shop building. Except for [blog posts](#) chronicling the journey, most of my creative energy went to carpentry, minding the new-house construction project, wooing buyers, downsizing, organizing, packing, cleaning and moving, box by box and cart-load by cart-load. Thanks to my friends and neighbors for the help! Now it's time to sink into words and story again. First up: *Bless the Birds*, my memoir in two voices.



Habitat Heroes

And my other major project: What if you could save songbirds and pollinators simply by planting habitat in your yard? You can. Mending landscapes in an increasingly fragmented world is the mission of Be a Habitat Hero, an urban bird- and pollinator-habitat restoration project involving [Audubon Rockies](#), Terra Foundation, [Plant Select](#) and [High Country Gardens](#). (I'm the project's Communications Director.) We're a small group, but we have big dreams. Learn more about what you can do on our [website/blog](#) and our [Facebook](#) page. (My family gave me a gift certificate to High Country Gardens as a birthday & housewarming gift—perfect for my own new yard and habitat restoration project!)

Write & Retreat Workshops

Last March's "Write & Retreat" workshop, offering time out for creative renewal and writing practice inspired by the sheer grandeur of nature, was a huge hit, so I'm offering another one next March. Join me at [Joyful Journey Hot Springs Spa](#) March 20-23, 2014 for four days of exploring words & story, and practicing inspiration & exhalation. Recharge your writing and your spirit, experience the magic of sandhill cranes' spring migration, and soak in steaming hot springs under snowy peaks.

Details on Write & Retreat are on [my website](#).

onward....

On my desk sits a hand-lettered card with this quote from English writer George Holbrook Jackson:

**Happiness is a form of
courage.**

*May you all find abundant happiness & courage—
and many blessings along the way!*