A Conversation with 
Author Debra Dean

Debra Dean is the bestselling author of four critically acclaimed novels, including The Madonnas of Leningrad, Confessions of a Journalist, and Falling Woman. In her latest book, Falling Woman, she explores the complex relationship between literature and life, and the role of the writer in shaping the world.

In this conversation, Dean shares her thoughts on the pitfalls of writing as a career, the importance of empathy in storytelling, and the role of women in the literary world. She also discusses her experiences as a writer and teacher, and the influence of her upbringing on her work.

Dean's writing is known for its exploration of the human condition, and her novels have been praised for their depth and nuance. She is a regular contributor to The New York Times, and her work has appeared in numerous literary journals.

Listen to Debra Dean's insights on the craft of writing and the lives of writers in this exclusive conversation.
Did Annabert and Marianne have one child each?

Yoors sold his work for around $15,000 in the 1950s, which was a lot of money in that era. Was he able to maintain that level of sales?

In my family, two brothers married two sisters in the 1890s, so it may not have seemed so unusual for Jan Yoors to be living with two "sisters," one of whom was his wife.

I remember when rug manufacturers started making rugs with designs by famous artists like Picasso.

Were you able to find any living artists that knew Jan Yoors in Greenwich Village?

Do you think you would have been friends with Jan Yoors?

Do you have a routine when you are working on a book?

What has been the role of serendipity in your career?

Are you indifferent whether your next project is fiction or non-fiction?

For me, the most unbelievable part of Jan Yoors' story is that his parents allowed him to run off with Gypsies for months at a time when he was a teenager.

Are there lessons in Jan Yoors' story for contemporary times?