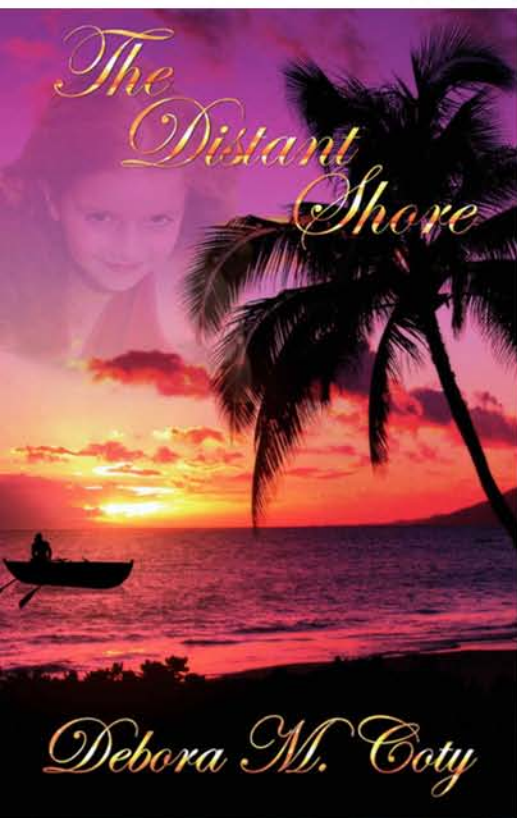


South Shore & Brandon

Friday, December 14, 2007

Times



The Distant Shore

by Debora Coty,
Seffner

Debora Coty calls her first book inspirational historic fiction.

It's about a young girl, Emma Palmer, who finds herself estranged from her family on Merritt Island in 1904. She searches for love, for a family and for her place in life.

The book is based on the memoirs of a friend's grandmother and is geared toward teenagers, but Coty says it attracts all ages.

It retails for \$13.99 and also includes an educational section in the back designed to pique young people's interest in writing.

The journey was long to publication for Coty, 50, an orthopedic therapist who lives in Seffner. It took two years to write; then she was rejected by nine publishers.

"You kind of pull your hair out," Coty said of the process.

She finally found her match with Vintage Romance Publishing and her book was published in August.

She's also found her niche as a writer and public speaker, having booked 20 engagements so far for 2008.

Readers are invited to contribute to her next book, a sequel to *The Distant Shore*. Go to her Web site: www.deboracoty.com.

Jan Wesner, Times Staff Writer