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Humor Writer of the Month: Amy Poeppel

Erma Bombeck Writers' Workshop

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Blogs

- [Blogs at UD](#)
- [Erma Bombeck Writers' Workshop](#)
- [Humor Writer of the Month: Amy Poeppel](#)



Wednesday February 1, 2023

Amy Poeppel is the award-winning author of the novels *Musical Chairs*, *Limelight*, *Small Admissions* and her latest, *The Sweet Spot*, which is described as "a comic masterpiece" and "a story about forgiveness, growth and the delightful madness of modern family life."

Her writing has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Rumpus*, *LitHub*, *Working Mother*, *Points In Case* and *The Belladonna*.

Born in Dallas, she graduated from Wellesley College and worked as an actress in the Boston area, appearing in a corporate industrial for Polaroid, a commercial for Brooks Pharmacy and "a truly terrible" episode of *America's Most Wanted*, along with other TV spots and several plays. While in Boston, she received her M.A. in teaching from Simmons College.

She is married to David Poeppel, a neuroscientist at NYU and director of the Ernst Strüngmann Institute in Frankfurt. For the past 30 years, they have lived in many cities, including San Francisco, Berlin and New York, and had three sons along the way. Amy taught high school English in the Washington, D.C. suburbs, and after moving to New York, she worked as an assistant director of admissions at an independent school. She attended sessions at the Actors Studio Playwrights/Directors Unit and wrote the theatrical version of *Small Admissions*, which was performed there as a staged reading in 2011.