



“Wills proves that humor can be found anywhere—from a hospital bed to a tree full of ripening plums. This second book proves that the comic wellsprings in her family never run dry.”

— PAT TEALS
Literary Agent

Memoir

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A CLOWN IN THE TRUNK

The family that once took to the skies and soared on butterfly hang gliders, now rollicks across the landscape in other conveyances—from a broken-down van to the *QE2*, from a media-hyped “Love Train” to the Orient Express.

Older now, but probably no wiser, Maralys Wills and her troupe find adventure lurking where no one else would think to look.

Her writing career, as varied and offhanded as her travels, wanders down myriad paths, from romance novels to nonfiction to techno-thriller to memoirs. Yet Wills never fails to see the overlying humor that marks her life. And she never forgets her first and most essential role: “When you add up the total hours I’ve spent offering brilliant, unwanted advice

to my offspring, you’d have to know I’m mostly a mother.”

In this sequel to *A Circus Without Elephants*, the family must again close ranks to cope with tragedy. But once more she and her large family learn that life indeed goes on — with new members to love and new events that excite, entertain, and defy prediction. Wills writes, “I’ve come to believe that as long as families carelessly scatter seeds, stories will bloom.”

Two of the stories in *A Clown in the Trunk* are written by her sons, Dr. Chris Wills and lawyer Kenneth Wills.

- Author appearances, book-signings, media interviews
- National newspaper ad campaign
- Book website

“Maralys Wills graces us with fresh and memorable true stories of her family’s escapades in exotic and familiar locales. Whether facing challenges on the high seas or stranded in a Caddy by the side of the road, her often edge-of-the-seat adventures sweep us joyfully along in *A Clown in the Trunk* — then out pops Wills’ signature humor, woven with wisdom, which we can always count on to prevail.”

— ALLENE SYMONS
Author, *Adventures Abroad*

“Maralys Wills . . . She is clearly a force to be reckoned with.”

—SIDNEY SHELDON
Author, *The Other Side of Midnight*

“Maralys Wills reminds me of a hip, twenty-first century Lucille Ball. An exceptional writer, she uses words deftly with the most unusual but apt similes I’ve ever bumped into. Each chapter opens with a bang and ends with a punch. I smiled, laughed, cried, and then turned the page to find out what on earth could possibly happen next.”

—BETTY AUCHARD
Author, *Dancing in My Nightgown: The Rhythms of Widowhood*

ElephantsAndClowns.com

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Maralys Wills has published eleven books, raised six children and “lucked into the world’s best teaching job.”

Educated at Stanford and

UCLA, she teaches novel-writing on the college level, and in 2000 was named Teacher of the Year. Her most challenging project, a poignant memoir titled *Higher Than Eagles*, became her greatest triumph, garnering excellent reviews and five movie options.

Wills considers public speaking the dessert for all the hard work of writing, and relishes every moment spent with a receptive audience. She lives and writes in Santa Ana, California.



MARALYS WILLS
SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA

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