

## **Greetings to the Virtual Storytelling Conference from Karen Golden in Los Angeles, CA!**

What a delight to be able to send you all a greeting!

I have been a professional storyteller, teacher, recording artist and published author for over thirty years and I have performed internationally, in-person, before Zoom. I tell stories from my Jewish Heritage, world folktales, personal and true stories and original tales. I also play the saxophone, recorder, ocarina, nose flute and world folk instruments and perform for all ages of listeners. I am known for being a bit zany in my storytelling style and for telling stories from my heart.

You can learn more about me here: [Karengolden.com](http://Karengolden.com)

I keep thinking that I will wake up and discover that Covid19 was all a dream. Then I realize that I couldn't even dream up something so crazy.

Here is a fun story, <https://youtu.be/709n1h5cwtY>, about being a good neighbor in our current world. You can even hear me play my saxophone, and you could dance if you might like.

Since the onset of Covid19, I have told stories in Zoom international storytelling gatherings, and have invited storytellers to visit my Zoom storytelling classrooms and they don't even need a visa, only a Zoom invitation! Stories have kept me sane. One of the positive aspects of Covid19 is meeting storytellers from all over the world. I have Zoomed into local groups where I am the only person from the USA. For me this is amazing! It's like traveling without leaving my house and in my pajamas.

We are living the "once upon a time" of the future....so how will this story play out? Will we be good friends and neighbors? Will we save the planet by giving it a rest from human destruction? Will we adopt a slower pace of life? Be kinder? More resourceful, learning new skills and spending more time thinking and telling stories?

As the founding-director of Creative Learning Place, a learning center in Los Angeles, part of my mission in this unfolding story is to take care of my students and make sure they have access to stimulating classes online, including storytelling, and they can still see their friends and hang out in a virtual space. Here is a link to my website: [Creativelearningplace.com](http://Creativelearningplace.com)

A huge thank you to the organizers of the "Virtual Storytelling Conference, Storytelling in a World Shaped by Coronavirus-19."

Stay Safe and Keep Telling Stories!

Yours,

Karen Golden  
May 10th, 2020

Ps. The photo below is from a time when we could still hug each other. I miss these days and I miss seeing my students in-person.

# ZUM GALI GALI GALI ZOOM!

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