

Left Coast Crime 2023

Tucson, Arizona

March 16–19, 2023

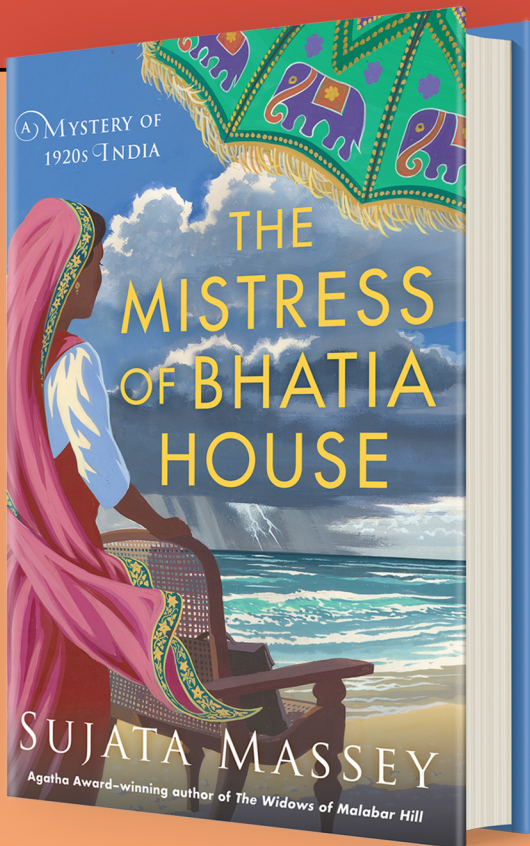


2023

Trouble in Tucson

FROM LEFT COAST CRIME 2023 GUEST OF HONOR

SUJATA MASSEY

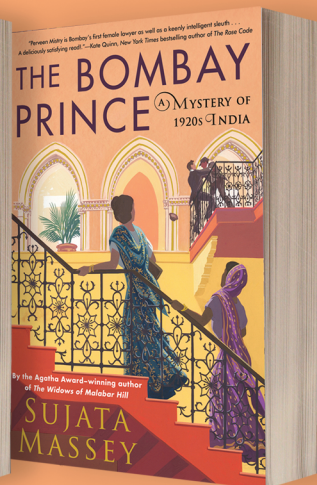
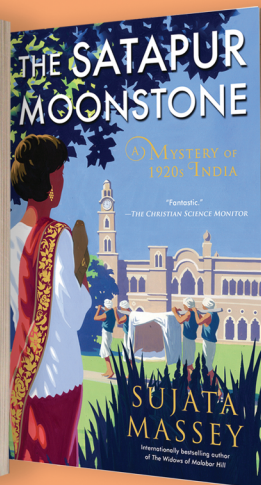
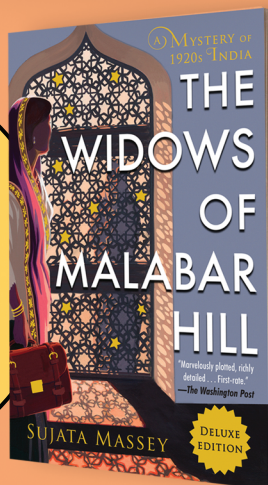


ON SALE
JULY 11, 2023

“Perveen is much more than a sari-clad Miss Marple: she’s Bombay’s first female lawyer as well as a keenly intelligent sleuth . . . DELICIOUSLY SATISFYING.”

—KATE QUINN,
NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR
OF *THE DIAMOND EYE*

ALSO IN
PAPERBACK



**SOHO
CRIME**

Welcome to Trouble in Tucson!

Welcome to Left Coast Crime 2023 — Trouble in Tucson, the 33rd Left Coast Crime convention! Enjoy the wealth of panels, the terrific guest speakers, the Awards Banquet, the author signings, and, best of all, the camaraderie. We hope you soon feel as at home in Tucson as we do. For those of you who are new to the Southwest, enjoy the open landscape, the blue skies, and the funky vegetation. Take a walk into the desert, but be careful! Those teddy bear cholla can jump out and impale the unwary. We even get the occasional rattlesnake! Yes — there are great ways to murder villains out here — on paper, of course!

Tucson has grown exponentially in recent years, but so far it hasn't lost its friendly, small-town spirit. The University of Arizona brings scholars and students from all over the world. Local industries bring tech jobs. The mild winters bring snowbirds. Right now, you might feel like a snowbird yourself!

Maybe you'll want to stay yourselves. For the moment, though, enjoy sights such as the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, a treasure of local plants and animals; the De Grazia Gallery in the Sun, showing off some of Ted DeGrazia's best works; and even the Titan Missile Museum to learn about Cold War deterrents.

If you're too busy reading mysteries to go into town, no one will fault you for taking in a few rays and enjoying the hotel's pools. Enjoy the chance to get together with fellow writers and readers, and don't forget to hydrate!

We would like to give a heartfelt thanks to Lucinda Surber and Stan Ulrich. They've guided us every step of the way, and without their commitment to the mystery community, these conferences couldn't possibly be as much fun or efficient. We also want to thank members of the Tucson Sisters in Crime who've been volunteering their time and encouragement. We also want to thank star volunteer Dotty Morefield, our Registration Captain. Finally, we want to thank Mike Befeler for the New Author Breakfast, and Les and Leslie Blatt for one of the absolute crowd favorites, Author Speed Dating!

Thanks for joining us, and enjoy your 2023 convention!

Evelyn Cirincione
Elaine A. Powers
D.R. Ransdell
LCC 2023 Co-Chairs



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- **Check the Bulletin Board** by Registration for news, programming changes, etc....
- **Don't Forget To Vote!** Put your Lefty Ballot in the box at Registration by 1:30 PM on Saturday afternoon.
- **Your Name Tag** is your "ticket" to all LCC panels, interviews, and other events, such as the Welcome Reception, breakfasts, and the Lefty Awards Banquet (where you'll also need your dinner ticket).
- **Uninvited Guest.** The Covid virus is still lurking so you are encouraged to take personal protective measures. Seating should be sparser than usual in panel rooms. Masks are not required – use your own judgment and be safe!

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Sisters in Crime[®]

Where Writers Belong



**From brainstorming to
book sales, we've got you.**

www.SistersInCrime.org/join-us

Convention Overview

Wednesday, March 15

3:00 PM – 5:00 PM Registration begins in Turquoise Foyer (continuing Thursday 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM; Friday & Saturday 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM; Sunday 8:30 AM – 10:30 AM)

Thursday, March 16

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM Author Speed Dating in Presidio 3-4-5
9:00 AM – 6:00 PM Book Room & Author Signings in Coronado Ballroom
12 noon – 4:00 PM Hospitality & Silent Auction in Agave Room
12 noon – 5:45 PM Panels Interviews begin (see detailed schedule pp. 5-6)
6:15 PM – 7:15 PM Welcome Reception in Presidio 3-4-5: light appetizers, cash bar, Lefty Award Nominees recognized, and more
8:30 PM – 9:30 PM Dru Ann's Pub Quiz in Presidio 5

Friday, March 17

7:15 AM – 8:45 AM Meet the New Authors breakfast buffet in Presidio 3-4-5
9:00 AM – 6:00 PM Panels and Interviews continue (see detailed schedule pp. 7-8)
9:00 AM – 6:00 PM Book Room & Author Signings in Coronado Ballroom
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM Hospitality & Silent Auction in Agave Room
7:30 PM – 9:30 PM Toastmaster Ellen Byron hosts Movie Night – *The Last of Sheila* – in Turquoise 3

Saturday, March 18

7:15 AM – 8:45 AM Breakfast buffet in Presidio 3-4-5
9:00 AM – 6:00 PM Book Room & Author Signings in Coronado Ballroom
9:00 AM – 4:45 PM Panels and Interviews continue (see detailed schedule pp. 10-11)
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM Hospitality & Silent Auction in Agave Room
5:30 PM – 7:00 PM Silent Auction final bidding in Agave Room until 6:00; then cash bars in Presidio Foyer
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM Lefty Awards Banquet in Presidio Ballroom • Four Lefty Awards (see p. 85)
• Silent Auction winners posted (redeem winning bids after banquet)

Sunday, March 19

8:30 AM – 10:30 PM Hospitality & Silent Auction bid redemption in Agave Room
9:00 AM – 1:00 PM Book Room in Coronado Ballroom
9:00 AM – 11:00 AM Regular panels conclude (see detailed schedule p. 13)
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM Guests of Honor closing panel (*no signing afterward*)

So long... Travel safely and we'll see you at LCC 2024 in Bellevue, Washington – Seattle Shakedown!

- **Author Book Signings** are in the Book Room, Coronado Ballroom, following each Panel and Interview.
- **Silent Auction** is ongoing in the Hospitality Room (Agave) – from Thursday afternoon until 6:00 PM Saturday. Winners will be posted and items can be redeemed after the Banquet and on Sunday morning. Bid early, bid often, and take home a treasure! (For info on the auction proceeds recipient, see p. 8.)
- **Volunteers:** If you'd like to help out, check in at the Volunteer Table in the Turquoise Foyer near Registration. There's always something needs doing!
- **Hospitality** in the Agave Room – Coffee, tea, snacks, and conversation. See hours above.
- **Breakfast seating is limited.** First-come, first-served at the breakfast buffets on Friday & Saturday.
- **Don't Forget To Vote!** Your Lefty Awards Ballot was in your registration envelope. Deposit your ballot in the Ballot Box at Registration by 1:30 PM Saturday.
- **Shipping Services:** UPS will take packages at the Kiosk near Turquoise 3, Saturday, Noon to 5:00 PM, and Sunday, 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM.
- **Book Exchange:** Please use only the designated exchange table in the Foyer. Other items on the exchange table will be removed.
- **Promotions & Swag:** Please use the special tables in the Foyer for bookmarks & other promotional wonders, and let's keep it nice and neat!

HELPING YOU FIND YOUR NEXT FAVORITE READ

HAPPINESS IS A BOOK



Capitalizing on a lifetime of reading mysteries, Aubrey highlights forgotten or overlooked crime fiction, mostly from the first half of the 20th century.

LESA'S BOOK CRITIQUES



While Lesa emphasizes current mysteries, she and her readers enjoy sharing their passion for all kinds of books.

Kevin's Corner



Book reviews in various genres, writing advice, observations on life, and some twisted humor are all present on Kevin's Corner.

The Reading Room



Join Kathy to read about new and upcoming mysteries, thrillers, and psychological suspense—and the occasional older book too.

Detailed Schedule

Note: Book signings take place in the Book Room, Coronado Ballroom, immediately following a panel or interview. Panel appearances are subject to change. See the Pocket Guide for the latest printed information. For room locations, see the hotel map on the inside back cover.

Thursday morning, March 16

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM

Author Speed Dating

Hosted by Les & Leslie Blatt, with 40 Authors, limited seating for 144 Fans • *Special Event in Presidio 3-4-5*

Lunch Break (on your own)

Thursday afternoon

12:00 PM – 12:45 PM

International Settings

Kathy McIntosh (M), Sharon Lynn, Ana Manwaring, Dominic Martell, Kenneth Wishnia

• *Panel in Presidio 1-2*

LCC 101

Lucinda Surber (M), Leslie Blatt, Colleen Glynn, Linda McNab, Janet Rudolph • *Panel in Turquoise 1*

Thrillers

Kris Calvin (M), Baron Birtcher, Stephen Buehler, Gloria Casale, Lance Charnes • *Panel in Turquoise 2*

Culinary Mysteries

Daisy Bateman (M), Debra H. Goldstein, G.P. Gottlieb, Lee Hollis (Rick Copp), Lee Hollis (Holly Simason)

• *Panel in Turquoise 3*

1:15 PM – 2:00 PM

Getting Police Procedurals Right

Holly West (M), Colin Conway, Timothy W. Moore, Neil Plakcy, Frank Zafiro • *Panel in Presidio 1-2*

Tucson & Ghost of Honor Winn Bundy

Kate Thornton (M), Evelyn Cirincione, Elaine A. Powers, D.R. Ransdell • *Panel in Turquoise 1*

Celebrating the Short Story

Erynn Crowley AKA Erynn Leigh (M), Kim Keeline, Rena Leith, Melinda Loomis, Claire A Murray

• *Panel in Turquoise 2*

Influence of Modern Technology on Thrillers

Lee Goldberg (M), Jamie Freveletti, Michael Kaufman, Matt Witten • *Panel in Turquoise 3*

LCC thanks
Sisters in Crime
for sponsoring the
Meet the New
Authors Breakfast
on Friday morning

**Sisters
in Crime**[®]

*

 **KENSINGTON
PUBLISHING CORP.**

Our thanks to Kensington Books for
sponsoring Saturday in the Hospitality Room

2:30 PM – 3:15 PM

Historical Mysteries

Jay Shepherd (M), Annamaria Alfieri, Michael J. Cooper, John Maddox Roberts, Rosemary Simpson
• *Panel in Presidio 1-2*

True Crime: Fact & Fictionalized

Stephen Hull (M), James T. Bartlett, James L'Etoile, Peggy Townsend, Betty Webb • *Panel in Turquoise 1*

How We Kill People

Kate B Jackson (M), M.A. Blume, BJ Magnani, John Mullen • *Panel in Turquoise 2*

The Power of Setting

S.J. Rozan (M), John Billheimer, Laurie Loewenstein, Sujata Massey, Susan Cummins Miller
• *Panel in Turquoise 3*

3:45 PM – 4:30 PM

Nuts & Bolts of Writing: Character, Plot, Settings

Rich Ehsen (M), Karen Dodd, Conda Douglas, Gary L. Kreigh, Margaret Lucke • *Panel in Presidio 1-2*

The Joys & Challenges of Producing an Anthology

Kim Keeline (M), Mysti Berry, Sarah M. Chen, Elizabeth Crowens, Holly West • *Panel in Turquoise 1*

A Touch of Romance

Libby Klein (M), Maegan Beaumont, Amy M. Bennett, Dorothy Howell, Lisa Q. Mathews
• *Panel in Turquoise 2*

How Much Torment Can One Character Take?

Connie Berry (M), Matt Coyle, Glen Erik Hamilton, Laurie R. King • *Panel in Turquoise 3*

5:00 PM – 5:45 PM

Plotters & Pantsers

J. Michael Orenduff (M), Daisy Bateman, Cheryl Hollon, Alan Jacobson, Mark Thompson
• *Panel in Presidio 1-2*

Mysteries with Romance

Julie Holmes (M), Anne Louise Bannon, Barbara Barrett, Terry Odell, Emma Pérez • *Panel in Turquoise 1*

Is Your Book Edgy/Cozy, Noir/Traditional, Or?

Betty Webb (M), Mindy Carlson, Corey Lynn Fayman, Con Lehane, Ann Parker • *Panel in Turquoise 2*

How Do You Know What's Funny?

Catriona McPherson (M), Mike Befeler, Leslie Karst, Ed Lin, D.R. Ransdell • *Panel in Turquoise 3*

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**Thursday evening**  
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6:15 PM – 7:15 PM

Welcome Reception • Presidio 3-4-5

Greetings, light snacks, cash bar, Lefty Award nominees introduced ... and more

8:30 PM – 9:30 PM

Dru Ann's Pub Quiz

Hosted by Fan Guest of Honor Dru Ann Love, assisted by Michael Mueller
Limited seating for quiz participation, plenty of audience seats • *Special Event in Presidio 5*

Friday morning, March 17

7:15 AM – 8:45 AM

Meet the New Authors Breakfast – Sponsored by Sisters in Crime

Hosted by Mike Befeler, with the assistance of Les & Leslie Blatt – Program from 7:30 to 8:30
Breakfast buffet. All convention registrants welcome, seating limited • *Special Event in Presidio 3-4-5*

9:00 AM – 9:45 AM

Creating Memorable Characters

Naomi Hirahara (M), Celeste Connally, Jamie Mason, D.M. Rowell, Wendall Thomas
• *Panel in Presidio 1-2*

Crimes Around the World

Alice Volpe (M), Connie Berry, Juliet Grames, Carlene O'Connor, Jeffrey Siger • *Panel in Turquoise 1*

The Accidental Detective

Christina Estes (M), Susanna C. Calkins, Corey Lynn Fayman, Susan Cummins Miller, Iona Wishaw
• *Panel in Turquoise 2*

Lefty Humorous Novel Nominees

Janet Rudolph (M), Ellen Byron, Jennifer J. Chow, A.J. Devlin, Catriona McPherson • *Panel in Turquoise 3*

10:15 AM – 11:00 AM

Resourceful Female Protagonists

Shannon Baker (M), Yasmin Angoe, Susan Alice Bickford, Tracy Clark, Keenan Powell • *Panel in Presidio 1-2*

Why We Love Research

Elizabeth Crowens (M), Clare Broyles, Donis Casey, Francine Mathews AKA Stephanie Barron,
Susan McDuffie • *Panel in Turquoise 1*

Weaving in Humor

Claire Booth (M), Bruce Borgos, Rebecca Dahlke, Michael Griffio, Nina Simon • *Panel in Turquoise 2*

Lefty Debut Novel Nominees

Lucinda Surber (M), Erin E. Adams, Eli Cranor, Ramona Emerson, Meredith Hambrock, Rob Osler
• *Panel in Turquoise 3*

11:30 AM – 12:15 PM

Suspense: Domestic or Psychological?

Maegan Beaumont (M), Lori Rader-Day, Kaira Rouda, Laurie Stevens, Robin Yeatman • *Panel in Presidio 1-2*

The Importance of Editing

David B. Schlosser (M), Rob Hart, Sara J. Henry, Stephen Hull • *Panel in Turquoise 1*

Senior Sleuths

Alicia Gaspar de Alba (M), Mike Befeler, Barna W. Donovan, Ellen Kirschman, Susan McCormick
• *Panel in Turquoise 2*

Lefty Best Novel Nominees

Kristopher Zgorski (M), Kellye Garrett, Laurie R. King, James L'Etoile, Gigi Pandian, Alex Segura
• *Panel in Turquoise 3*

Lunch Break (on your own)

Continuing Conversation – Friday & Saturday 9:00-Noon & 1:30-5:00 in Joshua Tree.
Take a break and enjoy and be part of the free-ranging conversation.

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**Friday afternoon**  
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1:30 PM – 2:15 PM

Lifetime Achievement Honoree JA Jance interviewed by Barbara Peters • *Turquoise 3*

2:45 PM – 3:30 PM

Incorporating Real People

Rosemary Simpson (M), Rhys Bowen, Mariah Fredericks, Francine Mathews AKA Stephanie Barron, Joanna Campbell Slan • *Panel in Presidio 1-2*

Film & TV Storytelling

Nina Simon (M), Erin E. Adams, Lee Goldberg, Meredith Hambrock, Winnie M Li • *Panel in Turquoise 1*

Big Crime in Small Towns

Cheryl Hollon (M), Susan Alice Bickford, Claire Booth, Mary Keliikoa, Peggy Rothschild
• *Panel in Turquoise 2*

Lefty Historical Novel Nominees

Linda McNab (M), Dianne Freeman, Catriona McPherson, Wanda M. Morris, Karen Odden, Ann Parker, Iona Whishaw • *Panel in Turquoise 3*

4:00 PM – 4:45 PM

Call the Cops

James L'Etoile (M), John Mark Bergin, David Putnam, Terry Shames, Shawn Wilson • *Panel in Presidio 1-2*

Mysteries Featuring Food & Drink

Leslie Karst (M), Leslie Budewitz AKA Alicia Beckman, Emmeline Duncan AKA Kelly Garrett, Ed Lin, Jenn McKinlay • *Panel in Turquoise 1*

Why We Write Thrillers

Amy S. Peele (M), Yasmin Angoe, Kris Calvin, Puja Guha, Alan Orloff • *Panel in Turquoise 2*

Disobedient Daughters & Scurrilous Sons

Rosalie Spielman (M), Marco Carocari, Sujata Massey, S.J. Rozan, Faye Snowden • *Panel in Turquoise 3*

5:15 PM – 6:00 PM

Toastmaster Ellen Byron interviewed by Kellye Garrett • *Turquoise 3*

Dinner Break (on your own)

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**Friday evening, April 8**  
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7:30 PM – 9:30 PM

Movie Night – Toastmaster Ellen Byron hosts Movie Night: *The Last of Sheila* • *Turquoise 3*

The Left Coast Crime 2023 Charity is Make Way for Books, an early literacy nonprofit that provides programs, services, and resources to more than 18,000 young children, parents, and educators throughout southern Arizona each year. Our mission is to give all children the chance to read and succeed. We provide proven programs to ensure our youngest children discover the joy of books, develop critical emergent literacy and language skills, and start school ready. We reach young children in the critical birth to five years period to build a foundation for all future learning. Our theory of change is that we get to every caregiver in a child's life and ensure the person understands their incredible power to impact their child's literacy, love of learning, and success.



KENSINGTON PUBLISHING CORP.

KENSINGTON HOSPITALITY SUITE

Saturday 10:00 AM—4:00 PM

Come meet and chat with our authors, receive signed copies of their books, and get some fun Kensington swag!

10:00-11:00

Lynn Cahoon

Nancy Coco

Janet Finsilver

Julia Henry

1:00-2:00

Lee Hollis (Rick)

Lee Hollis (Holly)

Emmeline Duncan

Debra H. Goldstein

11:00-12:00

J.C. Eaton (Ann)

J.C. Eaton (Jim)

Dianne Freeman

Rosemary Simpson

2:00-3:00

Tracy Clark

Maria DiRico/Ellen Byron

Michael Griffo

Carlene O'Connor

[LUNCH BREAK]

3:00-4:00

Susan Alice Bickford

Cheryl Hollon

Dorothy Howell

Libby Klein

**For more information on our books
visit KensingtonBooks.com**

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**Saturday morning, March 18**  
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7:15 AM – 8:45 AM

Breakfast Buffet

All convention registrants welcome, seating limited • *Presidio 3-4-5*

9:00 AM – 9:45 AM

Both Sides of the Law

Jeffrey Siger (M), Curtis Ippolito, Margaret Morse, Karen Odden, Michael Sears • *Panel in Presidio 1-2*

Jewish Noir

Kenneth Wishnia (M), Maria Bivins, Craig Faustus Buck, Ellen Kirschman, Terry Shames
• *Panel in Turquoise 1*

How To Write a Mystery

Laurie R. King (M), Dale Berry, Naomi Hirahara, Gigi Pandian, Alex Segura • *Panel in Turquoise 2*

Dru Ann & Friends Talking About Books

Ellen Byron (M), Grace Koshida, Dru Ann Love, Meredith Taylor, Kristopher Zgorski
• *Panel in Turquoise 3*

10:15 AM – 11:00 AM

Weaving in Political & Social Themes

Leslie Budewitz (M), Tracy Clark, Michael Kaufman, Libby Klein, Merrilee Robson • *Panel in Presidio 1-2*

What Makes It Noir?

Matt Coyle (M), Leo W. Banks, Sarah M. Chen, Winnie M Li, Faye Snowden • *Panel in Turquoise 1*

Setting as Character

Baron Birtcher (M), Diana R. Chambers, Julie Holmes, J. Michael Orenduff, Kwei Quartey
• *Panel in Turquoise 2*

Writing in the New Southwest

Iona Whishaw (M), Ramona Emerson, Christina Estes, Anne Hillerman, J.A. Jance • *Panel in Turquoise 3*

11:30 AM – 12:15 PM

Guest of Honor Glen Erik Hamilton interviewed by Wanda M. Morris • *Turquoise 3*

Lunch Break (on your own)

Lefty Ballots due at 1:30

Convention Breakfasts and the Lefty Banquet

Both convention breakfast buffets will be on a first-come, first-served basis. If you like getting up for events that start at 7:15 AM, join us for breakfast in Presidio 3-4-5. If you've stayed up too late the night before, feel free to sleep in. On Friday morning, Mike Befeler will host the famous and long-running Meet the New Authors Breakfast, sponsored by Sisters in Crime.

You'll need your banquet ticket for the Lefty Awards Banquet on Saturday night. Banquet tickets showing your entrée choice were included in your registration envelope – unless you told us you weren't coming. The ticket fits in the pocket of your nametag holder, so don't lose it! You'll need to show your ticket at the door to the Presidio Ballroom. Please be sure to have your ticket handy so that everyone can enter with as little fuss and feathers as possible. If you bought an Extra Banquet Ticket for your companion, that ticket was included in your registration envelope and will be needed for your companion's admission.

Saturday afternoon

1:30 PM – 2:15 PM

Guest of Honor Sujata Massey interviewed by Juliet Grames • *Turquoise 3*

2:45 PM – 3:30 PM

What Makes a Thriller Thrilling?

Kaira Rouda (M), Marco Carocari, Lee Matthew Goldberg, Wanda M. Morris, Amy Young
• *Panel in Presidio 1-2*

Animals

Leslie Blatt (M), Jennifer J. Chow, Janet Finsilver, J.C. Eaton (Ann Goldfarb), Mary Seifert
Panel in Turquoise 1

All Kinds of Cozies

Barna W. Donovan (M), Lynn Cahoon, Marty Eberhardt, Marjorie McCown, Laura Jensen Walker
• *Panel in Turquoise 2*

Keeping a Series Fresh

Sara J. Henry (M), Rhys Bowen, Matt Coyle, Anne Hillerman, Kwei Quartey • *Panel in Turquoise 3*

4:00 PM – 4:45 PM

Who You Calling Secondary!?

Mysti Berry (M), Dianne Freeman, Rob Osler, Michael Sears, Marty Wingate • *Panel in Presidio 1-2*

Rural Settings

Amy M. Bennett (M), Shannon Baker, Dean Hovey, D.M. Rowell, Rosalie Spielman • *Panel in Turquoise 1*

Cozy Mystery Tropes

Ann Parker (M), Nancy Coco AKA Nancy J. Parra, Julie Hennrikus AKA Julia Henry, Camille Minichino,
Jennifer J. Morgan • *Panel in Turquoise 2*

Outsiders: Sleuths Without Badges

Glen Erik Hamilton (M), Kellye Garrett, Naomi Hirahara, Lori Rader-Day, Alex Segura
• *Panel in Turquoise 3*

Saturday evening

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Silent Auction Final Bidding • 5:30 – 6:00 in Agave.

Silent auction items may be redeemed after the Lefty Awards Banquet and on Sunday morning.

Reception • Cash bars in Presidio Ballroom Foyer 6:00 – 7:00

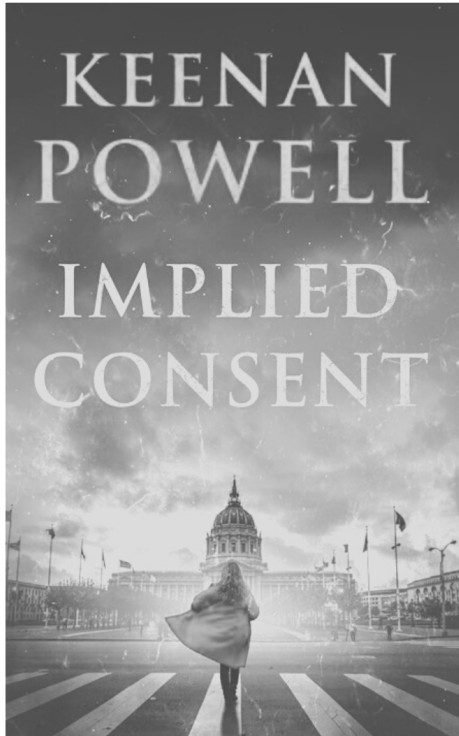
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Lefty Awards Banquet

Hosted by Toastmaster Ellen Byron – Be sure to bring your Banquet Ticket • *Presidio Ballroom*



The Tucson Sidewinders (1998-2008) were Triple-A baseball team affiliated with the Arizona Diamondbacks.

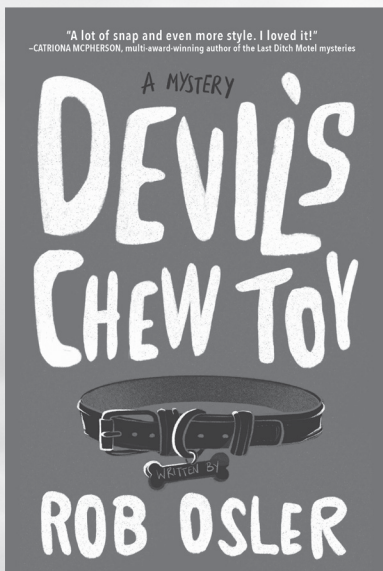
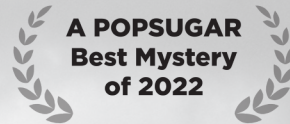
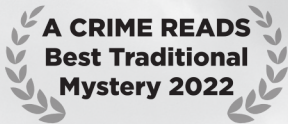


**Lefty-Nominated Author
Keenan Powell**

IMPLIED CONSENT
A Maureen Gould Legal Thriller

**Free Amazon E-book
Three Days Only!
March 16, 17, 18**

2023 Lefty Nominee for best debut MYSTERY NOVEL



"Charming and diverse characters—both human and canine—fill the pages of Rob Osler's delightfully humorous cozy."

— **Gigi Pandian,**
USA Today Bestselling & Agatha-
and Anthony Award-Winning Author

"Rob Osler's debut cozy — or "Quozy" — brings a rainbow of characters into the cozy universe with a lot of snap and even more style. I loved it!"

— **Catriona McPherson,**
multi-award-winning author of the
Last Ditch Motel mysteries

"... a rollicking romp through the tropes of the cozy sub-genre fronted by a gay main character - Hayden McCall - and his clique of diverse sidekicks. Readers will be having so much fun following this gang's escapades they will forget how radical the pairing of the gay male experience and the typically conservative cozy style truly is."

— **Kristopher Zgorski,**
The BOLO Books Review

"Cozy, queer, so much fun!"

— **Raquel V. Reyes,**
award-winning author of the
Caribbean Kitchen Mystery series

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**Sunday morning, March 19**  
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9:00 AM – 9:45 AM

That's News to Me: Journalism

John DeDakis (M), Shelley Blanton-Stroud, Laurie Fagen, Dana Killion • *Panel in Presidio 1-2*

Where We Start: Character, Plot or Setting?

Rena Leith (M), Patrick Balester, S.A. Barron, Kate B Jackson, Anastasia Zadeik • *Panel in Turquoise 1*

Psychological Thrillers

Robin Yeatman (M), S.M. Freedman, Bruce Johnson, Clea Simon, Matt Witten • *Panel in Turquoise 2*

You're Killing Me: Fun with Murder

Lisa Q. Mathews (M), Lawrence Allan, Priscilla Paton, Amy S. Peele
• *Panel in Turquoise 3*

10:15 AM – 11:00 AM

Character Development

Lala Corriere (M), Jenny Andersen, Trish Arrowsmith, Dorothy Leonard AKA Andre Charles,
Richard Meredith • *Panel in Presidio 1-2*

Talk to Us About Left Coast Crime

Left Coast Crime Standing Committee • *Discussion in Turquoise 1*

Packing It All in a Short Story

Alan Orloff (M), Janet Alcorn, Gay Toltl Kinman, Stephen D. Rogers, Kate Thornton • *Panel in Turquoise 2*

Noir: Can It Be Too Dark?

David Boop (M), M.H. Callway, Wayne Johnson, Matt Phillips • *Panel in Turquoise 3*

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Guest of Honor Closing Panel

Lee Goldberg (M), Ellen Byron, Glen Erik Hamilton, J.A. Jance, Dru Ann Love, Sujata Massey
• *Panel in Turquoise 3*

Left Coast Crime Conduct Policy

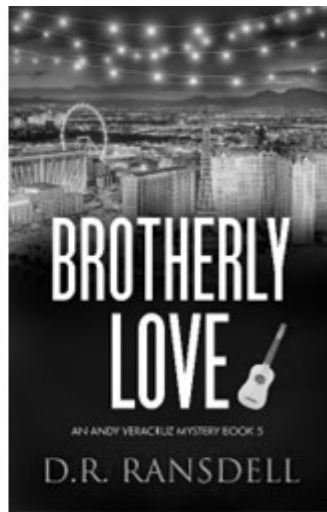
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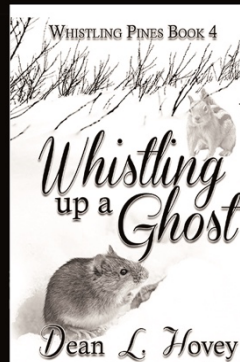
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Lifetime Achievement: J.A. Jance

by Barbara Peters

Back in 1989 when setting up The Poisoned Pen, I took advantage of the major book distributor Ingram's Recommended Opening Inventory program culled from its sales data and strong on regional sellers. There were several hot titles in the paperback original section, a major category then, by some guy named JA Jance about a cop working a Seattle beat. So I ordered them and indeed they sold very well. In time I read *Until Proven Guilty*, the first investigation for detective JP Beaumont, enjoying the vivid characters, the careful and satisfying plotting, and the underlying warmth and humor of JA Jance's voice.

So imagine my surprise when maybe a year or two later a tall, impressive woman walked into the store and introduced herself as JA Jance. And she came fully armed with a red ballpoint pen, her signature signing tool. She also revealed her Arizona roots: "Born in South Dakota, raised in Bisbee, but an Arizona girl at heart. We left South Dakota in January of 1949 at the very beginning of what is still referred to as 'the Blizzard of the Century' which crippled the Upper Midwest. My first conscious memory is standing outside in our new yard in March of 1949 and feeling the warmth of the Arizona sun all over my body."

She began writing *Until Proven Guilty* in 1982 (2022 was JP's and her 40th anniversary) and met her second husband, Bill, the week before it published in 1985. Her first husband, known as "the rat," who declared he would be the only writer in the family, and the University of Arizona's denial of her admission to Creative Writing Program in 1964 on the grounds that she was a "girl," prompted Jance to write my favorite of all her books, *Hour of the Hunter*. Out since 1991, and possibly the occasion of her first formal book event at The Pen, we have sold over 1000 copies in all formats and always have it in stock for her signings. It was the first of her five Walker Family Mysteries. And her first hardcover publication with her first author photo included.

But I am leaving out 1984's *After the Fire*, described as "A memoir in poetry and prose," which chronicles "the death of a relationship as Jance's marriage to her first husband gradually collapsed under the weight of his addiction – aided and abetted by her own unwitting denial and co-dependence – while she struggled to find herself. 'I will not be the price of your redemption,' she wrote then. 'I will not pay my life to ransom yours.'" And so to support herself and her children before her writing began to lift her towards bestsellerdom, she joined the insurance industry. And learned some



marketing skills – she's a pro at the cold call with readers at her book events – that have contributed to her success.

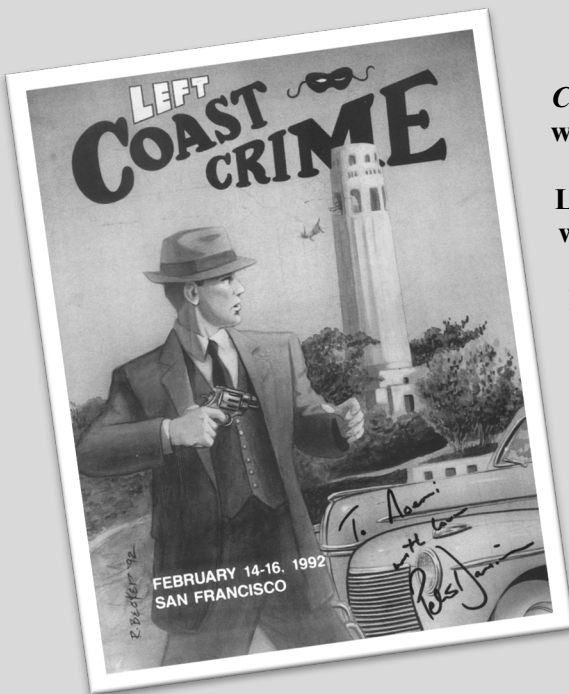
She and Bill have between them five children, ten grandchildren, and four greats. And now live full time in the Seattle area rather than splitting the year with southern Arizona. Their family, like any, has had a share of loss and grief, which she has channeled into her books. She is such a natural and gifted storyteller that everything is inspiration. Nor does she hold emotions back.

Continual observation and inspiration coupled with her relentless work ethic have resulted in 25 JP Beaumont mysteries, the five Walker Family mysteries – with #6, *Blessing of the Lost Girls*, due out in September – 19 Joanna Brady mysteries, 15 Ali Reynolds mysteries with the publication this month (March) of *Collateral Damage*, plus numerous short stories, novellas, and more. For a person who had "always wanted to be a writer from second grade on," she has lived the dream.

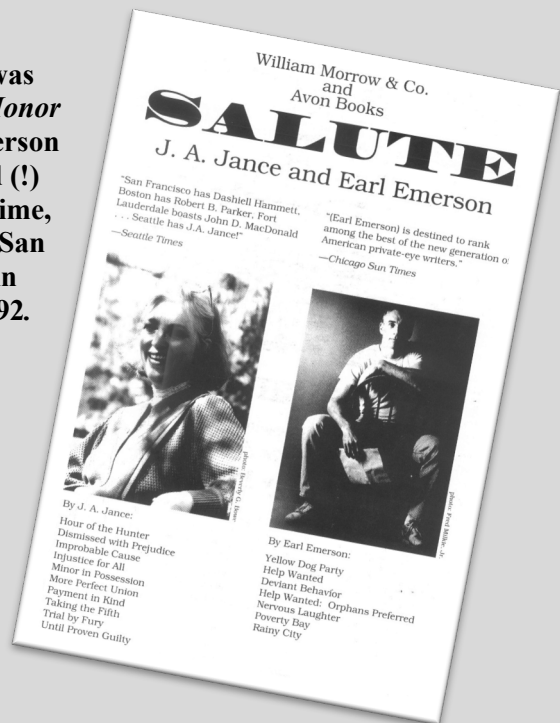
A dream given further substance in 2000 when the university that denied her a start on the path to writing back in 1964 bestowed upon her a doctorate of Humane Letters. Further, that same University of Arizona will house her archives, as it will those of The Poisoned Pen, yet another instance of how our professional lives have entwined over more than three decades.

And finally, by Left Coast's Crime selection of her as its 2023 Lifetime Achievement Honoree, fittingly hosting it in Tucson.

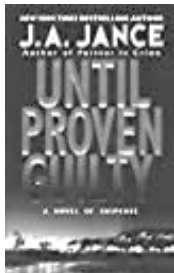
Barbara Peters, *The Poisoned Pen*



**J.A. Jance was
Co-Guest-of-Honor
with Earl Emerson
at the second (!)
Left Coast Crime,
which met in San
Francisco, in
February 1992.**



A Basic J.A. Jance Bibliography *:



J.P. Beaumont, homicide detective in Seattle:

Until Proven Guilty (1985)
Injustice for All (1986)
Trial by Fury (1986)
Taking the Fifth (1987)
Improbable Cause (1988)
A More Perfect Union
(1988)

The Walker Family of Tucson:

Hour of the Hunter (1991)
Kiss of the Bees (2000)
Day of the Dead (2004)
Queen of the Night (2010)
Dance of the Bones (2015)

Ali (Alison) Reynolds, Sedona, AZ:



Edge of Evil (2006)
Web of Evil (2007)
Hand of Evil (2007)
Cruel Intent (2008)
Trial by Fire (2009)
Fatal Error (2011)
Left for Dead (2012)
Deadly Stakes (2013)
Moving Target (2014)
Cold Betrayal (2015)
Claw Back (2016)

Man Overboard (2017)
Duel to the Death (2018)
The "A" List (2019)
Credible Threat (2020)
Unfinished Business (2021)
Collateral Damage (2023)

Joanna Brady & Brandon Walker

Blessing of the Lost Girls (2023)

* Some characters visit other characters to make things even more interesting; the mixes aren't catalogued here.

Joanna Brady, Cochise County Sheriff, Bisbee, AZ:



Desert Heat (1993)
Tombstone Courage (1994)
Shoot, Don't Shoot (1995)
Dead to Rights (1996)
Skeleton Canyon (1997)
Rattlesnake Crossing (1998)
Outlaw Mountain (1999)
Devil's Claw (2000)
Paradise Lost (2001)
Partner in Crime (2002)

Exit Wounds (2003)
Dead Wrong (2006)
Damage Control (2008)
Fire and Ice (2009)
Judgment Call (2012)
Remains of Innocence (2014)
Downfall (2016)
Field of Bones (2018)
Missing and Endangered (2021)

Dismissed with Prejudice (1989)
Minor in Possession (1990)
Payment in Kind (1991)
Without Due Process (1992)
Failure to Appear (1993)
Lying in Wait (1994)
Name Withheld (1995)
Breach of Duty (1999)
Birds of Prey (2001)
Partner in Crime (2002)
Long Time Gone (2005)
Justice Denied (2007)
Fire and Ice (2009)
Betrayal of Trust (2011)
Second Watch (2013)
Dance of the Bones (2015)
Proof of Life (2017)
Sins of the Fathers (2019)
Nothing To Lose (2022)

A Few Words from J.A. Jance



For Mother's Day in 1997, my daughter made an appointment for both of us to go to Glamour Shots for a photo shoot. The results were pretty wonderful, and I ended up purchasing the rights to one photo so I'd be able to use it professionally.

When I started doing a website, my husband and then-webmaster, used that photo. One morning, while working on the first Ali book, I opened my computer and found the following message:

I have just visited your website and seen your photo. Jesus you're an ugly broad. I hope that when you're out in public you wear a bag over your head so you don't frighten people, and I trust that, before your next tour, you'll visit a cosmetic surgeon and have some very necessary work done.

Sincerely, Melissa G.

My website says that I answer all emails, and if I didn't respond, that non-response would count against me. So while my fingers were still shaking in outrage, I replied with the following:

Dear Melissa G.,
Thanks for writing. Your input is appreciated.
Regards, J.A. Jance

In case no one has mentioned this to you previously, it's a bad idea to make mystery writers mad. I was writing *Edge of Evil* at the time. After Ali's life in California blew up and she was cut loose from both her marriage and her career, she went back home to Sedona to duct tape herself back together. As part of that process she started a blog called cutlooseblog.com. Through some strange coincidence, someone named Melissa G. sent Ali that very same message. Unsurprisingly, all of Ali's friends and readers wrote in to comment, and they managed to say exactly what I wanted to say to Melissa G!

So this photo shows me the way I looked in my mid-fifties. In my upper seventies, I don't look that way now. On New Year's Day of this year, I woke up and realized how thin my hair has become after three years of wearing nothing but scrunchies. I went straight out and bought a wig. I wore it once – for a Sisters in Crime Zoom event. It looked like I was wearing a tinfoil bathing cap. I'm not bringing it to LCC. For my first Left Coast Crime I'm sure I wore high heels and pantyhose. For *Trouble in Tucson*, I'll be wearing Skechers. (I still have a few pair of No Nonsense Pantyhose lurking in my underwear drawer. Like Twinkies, they're apparently non-biodegradable.)

But I can tell you this, forty-plus years into my writing career, I'm honored to be given a lifetime achievement award. And, as one of my favorite comedienne's used to say, "Howdy, I'm just so proud to be here!"



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Guest of Honor: Glen Erik Hamilton

by Craig Sisterson

Sometimes you just know. As a keen reader, a reviewer, an awards judge. You're a few pages or a few paragraphs into the first book you've read from a new-to-you crime writer, and you can tell. There's something here, something great. It's not about an eye-catching opening or hashtag-able hook, but something more. The storytelling is assured, the prose sings, everything knits together. Like an orchestra in harmony, you're swept into the story.

I remember feeling that early on during the pandemic when I was a page or two into a soon-to-be-released novel called *Blacktop Wasteland* by S.A. Cosby. A remarkable voice, a new star in crime writing. I remember feeling that way 20 years ago when as a young graduate in New Zealand I was at lunch and bought a copy of *Sleepyhead* by Mark Billingham from the bookshop a block from my law firm, then devoured it all in a night or two after work.

And I remember eight years ago when as a sleep-deprived, brand-new father in London my reading bug was reignited by a superb debut set in Seattle, *Past Crimes*. For Glen Erik Hamilton's first bow on the authorial stage meshed and soared like an orchestra in harmony.

Sometimes you just know.

In early 2015 I wrote that *Past Crimes* was "one of the best debuts I've read in the past decade", and that Hamilton wrote with remarkable assuredness, "balancing action, intrigue, character, and setting in a way reminiscent of the best crime writers out there". I said the main character Van Shaw, a wounded Army Ranger who grew up as a childhood thief, "appeals as a multi-layered protagonist with huge potential as the spine of an ongoing series".

I wrote that after I'd enjoyed the entire book, but I'd suspected it from the earliest pages.

You could say Seattle native Glen Erik Hamilton announced himself on the thriller writing scene like Ichiro Suzuki did with major league baseball when he hit .350 for the Seattle Mariners and lead the league in hits and steals in his first season in the United States in 2001.

And just like Ichiro, who earned Rookie of the Year, a Gold Glove and MVP that year, Hamilton scooped some hardware. The first Van Shaw outing won the Anthony,

Macavity, and Strand Critics Awards, and was nominated for the Edgar, Barry, and Nero Awards.

"Welcome to the show."

Hamilton then showed, like Ichiro who became a perennial All Star, that he was no one-season wonder, backing up his outstanding debut with a terrific ongoing series. For me, whether I'm reading as a critic, an awards judge, or simply a lifelong lover of the mystery genre, whenever I come across a character like Van Shaw in *Past Crimes*, I'm hoping that we'll get more in future. More from a talented author, more from a fascinating character.

As Hamilton's said himself, Van Shaw is "an expert at surviving but an amateur at living".

I'm so, so glad that after setting a high bar with his debut, Hamilton has delivered again and again as Van Shaw's story has unfolded across several terrific novels. Sure, the series is an action-packed roller-coaster with a great hero, but it's also much more than that. I love it for Hamilton's character-centric crime

thriller writing, for the real-life social and personal issues deftly woven in, for the evocative backdrop of the Pacific Northwest.

Past Crimes is an exciting tale of Van Shaw trying to clear his own name while hunting whoever shot his estranged grandfather, but it's also deeply about family and forgiveness.

In the gritty follow-up, *Hard Cold Winter*, Van has left his wars behind, officially, but they hadn't left him. He's wrestling with PTSD symptoms and the ghost of his grandfather while a trying to help a fellow Ranger, find a missing girl tied to Van's past, and having unwittingly stepped into a murder investigation tied to one of Seattle's most prominent families.

Billionaires and brutal gangsters; who's more dangerous? The action keeps the pages whirring but it's the quality of the characters and writing that takes us deeper.

In a starred review, *Library Journal* raved about Hamilton's skillful writing in a book "brimming with action, conflict, and realistic and compelling characters ... aficionados of the genre will eat this one up". The aficionados at the much-missed Seattle Mystery Bookshop (glad I got to visit there in 2013), certainly



agreed: “Chandler once said that the importance of Hammett was that he wrote scenes that had never been written before. *Hard Cold Winter* has that freshness to it, due to the characters, the writing, the plot – the whole damn thing. You’ll find yourself speeding through it, impatient to find out how it all will end.”

When reviewing the third in the series, *Every Day Above Ground*, for *Mystery Scene* in 2017 – as well as for *Good Reading* in Australia – I praised the way Hamilton wrote “really well-balanced thrillers” (meshing page-turning plotlines, memorable characters, good action and a great sense of place) and how he “sprinkles the narrative with fresh description, has a great turn of phrase, and overall just keeps the reader engaged on multiple levels”.

Freshness and balance; two things that quickly come to mind whenever I think of Hamilton’s storytelling, and how he’s marked his own trail through the grand forest of our genre.

I’m stoked that Glen Erik Hamilton is being celebrated as a Guest of Honor by Left Coast Crime this year. He’s a superb storyteller whose books bring an emotional power to match their propulsive storylines. *Mercy River*, *A Dangerous Breed*, and *Island of Thieves* have plenty of adrenaline-sparking scenes and set-pieces, as well as delving into topics such as opioids and white supremacy, bioweapons, and corporate espionage and thought-provoking themes of loyalty and brotherhood, while also delivering the emotional wallop of Van Shaw’s personal relationships and a search for parents he barely remembers or never knew.

But even more than that, Hamilton is a quintessentially “Left Coast” storyteller.

He grew up on a sailboat in marinas and waterways in and around Seattle, reveling in the novels of John D.

MacDonald, Robert B. Parker, and Patricia Highsmith. While living in southern California he witnessed from afar the fast-changing face of his hometown, and began writing a fantastic series that explored some of those changes and showcased the Emerald City as a character (that’s more than the birthplace of grunge and Starbucks, or the headquarters of tech giants Microsoft and Amazon). Through the prism of action-packed crime thrillers, he’s taken readers around the world into the Pacific Northwest. And after a decade and a half in SoCal and serving two terms as President of MWA’s Southern California chapter, Hamilton and his family recently returned to Seattle during the pandemic.

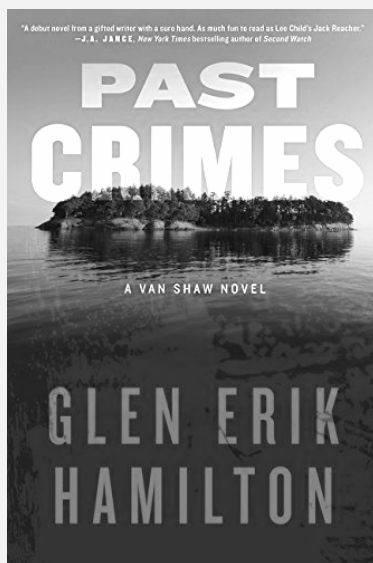
West Coast, best coast.

After being announced as one of this year’s Guests of Honor, Glen Erik Hamilton shared a note with his website readers, saying: “Left Coast Crime is the conference I recommend to mystery fans and authors taking their first plunge into the convention circuit. It offers the warmest welcome any newcomer could want, combined with superb facilitation and panels.”

Thinking back to my sleep-deprived days as a young father in early 2015 when I first read *Past Crimes* and hoped such a terrific debut would be the start of a great series, I’m really glad to see what’s unfolded. Sometimes you just know, yeah. But it doesn’t always happen.

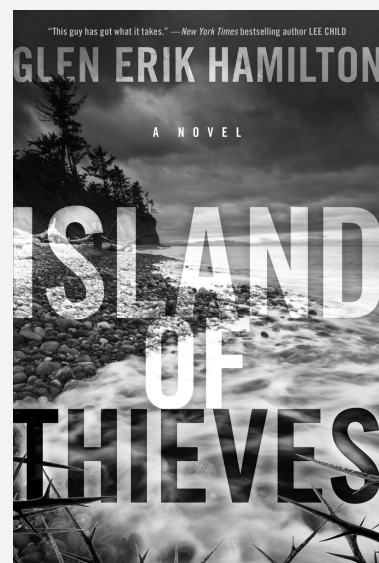
Have a wonderful Left Coast Crime everyone, and congratulations Glen.

Craig Sistrason is a features writer and crime fiction expert from New Zealand who writes for newspapers and magazines in several countries. He’s interviewed 100s of crime writers and talked about the genre on national radio, top podcasts, and onstage at festivals on three continents.

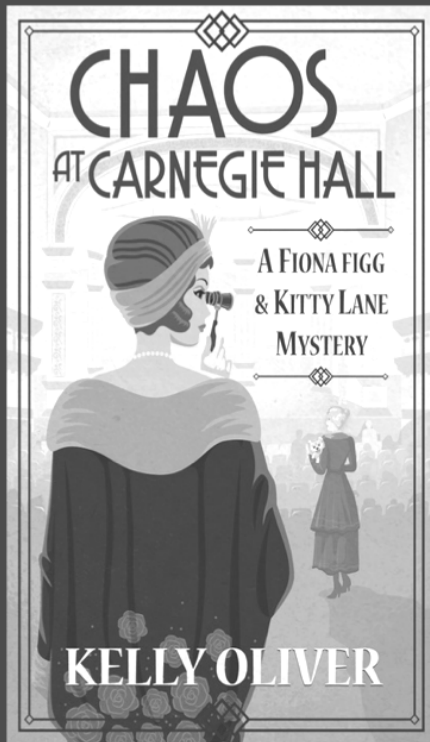


Van Shaw, an Army Ranger raised as a thief, in Seattle

- Past Crimes (2015)
- Hard Cold Winter (2016)
- Every Day Above Ground (2017)
- Mercy River (2019)
- Dangerous Breed (2020)
- Island of Thieves (2021)



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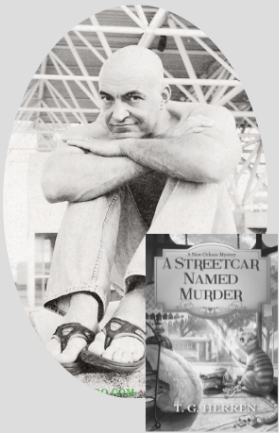
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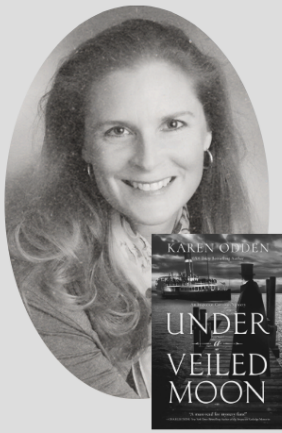


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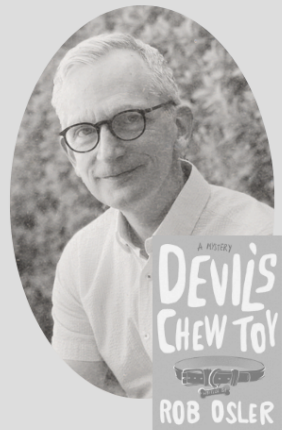
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Under a Veiled Moon
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Guest of Honor: Sujata Massey

by Gigi Pandian

I first met Sujata Massey through her books. Her Rei Shimura mysteries began in 1997 with her debut novel, *The Salaryman's Wife*, which won an Agatha Award for Best First Novel and was also nominated for Barry, Macavity, and Anthony Awards. As soon as I discovered that book, I became an instant fan.

I met Sujata in person a decade later, when I was an aspiring author working on my first novel. I was immediately struck by what a kind and generous person she was. I was unpublished and completely new to the mystery world, and here was one of my favorite authors offering a helping hand. In the years since, she's become a good friend.

Sujata was born in England, the child of parents from India and Germany, and grew up in Minnesota. She wrote this multicultural perspective into her Rei Shimura series. Her main character Rei Shimura was raised in the US by a Japanese dad and American mom before moving to Japan, where Sujata also lived for many years and where the books are set. The insights into both Japanese culture and being the child of two cultures brings added richness to the already outstanding mysteries.

I think of those Rei Shimura books as multicultural traditional mysteries. Sujata began writing them at a time when there weren't many mystery writers of color finding success writing characters of color. Like Sujata, I come from a multicultural family, and I rarely saw characters like me and my own family in the mystery fiction I loved to read. That's one reason I was initially drawn to Rei. Then, the books were so good that I, like so many others, became a fan of the long-running series. There are eleven books in the Rei Shimura mystery series, from debut novel *The Salaryman's Wife* in 1997 to *The Kizuna Coast* in 2014.

A little over a decade ago, Sujata also began writing fiction set in India, beginning with the stand-alone historical novel *The Sleeping Dictionary*, published in 2013.

Around that time, Sujata and I met for coffee in a quiet corner of a mystery convention hotel. She shared with me that she was interested in trying something new: a historical mystery series set in India. She wasn't sure where this new idea would take her, but I could see how excited she was to write a historical mystery and to do more research in India.

She's no stranger to research. Before turning to writing crime fiction, she was a journalist in Baltimore for five years. So she immersed herself in research, which is one of the things she enjoys most about writing – especially when it involves travel.

India Gray was published in 2015. The collection of novellas and short stories is set in historical India, and one of those stories was set in 1918 and introduced Perveen Mistry, a young woman law student from Bombay.

I'm so glad Sujata took a risk and tried that new idea that had her so excited, because Perveen made her first full-length debut in *The Widows of Malabar Hill*, which was published by Soho Press in 2018 to great acclaim, winning Lefty, Agatha, Macavity, and Mary

Higgins Clark awards.

Like Rei, Perveen is a mix of cultures. She's an Oxford-educated Parsi minority in 1920s Bombay, fluent in the cultural traditions of her Zoroastrian family, the dominant Indian culture, and with British culture. She's a compelling character who gets swept up in a twisty legal mystery. Unlike Rei, Perveen was inspired by a historical figure: India's first female lawyer.

So far there are three books in the Perveen Mistry mystery series. After 2018's *The Widows of Malabar Hill*, *The Satapour Moonstone* followed in 2019, and *The Bombay Prince* in 2021. The first two books in the series were nominated for the Harper Lee Legal Fiction Award.

Sujata is active in both Crime Writers of Color and Sisters in Crime, and throughout her 25 years as a writer, she's helped me and so many other new authors find their footing. From the first time I met her more than a



decade ago to the long walk we took exploring Albuquerque during last year's Left Coast Crime, she's never failed to inspire me.

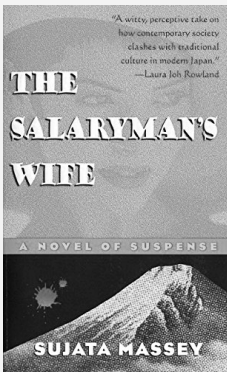
That first time we met back when I was a newbie, she made me feel like a true colleague; and on our most recent meet-up, she helped me think through a writing dilemma I couldn't quite figure out. So as much as I love

reading Sujata's books, I love having her in my life even more.

Gigi Pandian is the child of cultural anthropologists from New Mexico and the southern tip of India. She writes three series: Jaya Jones Treasure Hunt, Accidental Alchemist, and Secret Staircase mysteries.

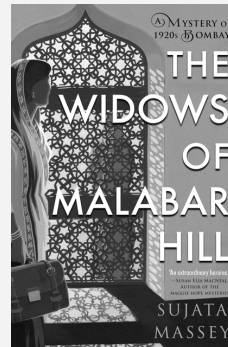
Sujata Massey's series titles:

Rei Shimura, a Japanese-American who would like to become an antiques dealer, in Tokyo

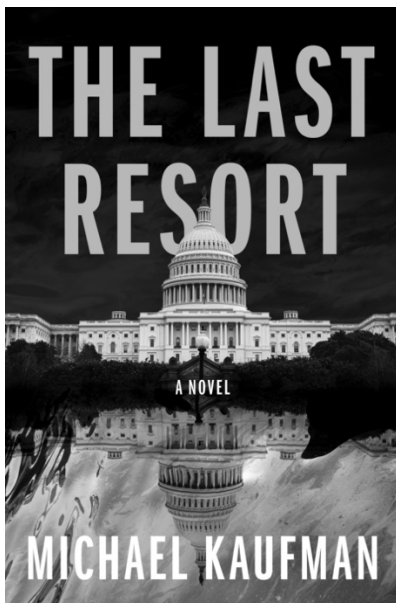


- The Salaryman's Wife (2000)
- Zen Attitude (1998)
- The Flower Master (1999)
- The Floating Girl (2000)
- The Bride's Kimono (2001)
- The Samurai's Daughter (2003)
- The Pearl Diver (2004)
- The Typhoon Lover (2005)
- Girl in a Box (2006)
- Shimura Trouble (2008)
- The Kizuna Coast (2014)

Perveen Mistry, daughter of a respected Zoroastrian family, who has joined her father's law firm, in 1920s Bombay



- The Widows of Malabar Hill (2018)
- APA: A Murder at Malabar Hill
- The Satapur Moonstone (2019)
- The Bombay Prince (2021)
- The Mistress of Bhatia House (due July 11, 2023)



“STELLAR”

“Kaufman is a writer to watch”
Publishers Weekly starred review

Margaret Atwood meets Raymond Chandler meets Greta Thunberg: Jen Lu is back on the case when the death of a trailblazing environmental lawyer sparks an even more intriguing mystery in Michael Kaufman's *The Last Resort*, the second book in his thrilling series.

Rave reviews for the first Jen Lu/Chandler mystery, *The Last Exit*

Publishers Weekly: "Outstanding." *PopSugar.com*: "Must read." *Emma Donoghue*: "Engrossing."
Thomas Perry: "Smart...racing." *Yrsa Sigurðardóttir*: "Characters, plot & style: it's got it all."
Lucinda Surber: "I LOVED it! An odd couple partnership for the ages."

Toastmaster: Ellen Byron

by Lisa Q. Mathews

It's much easier to make people cry than to make them laugh. – Vivien Leigh

As far as I know, multi-award-winning author, playwright, and recovering-TV-sitcom writer Ellen Byron has never made anyone cry. Inconceivable! But she sure can make 'em laugh. She makes writing humor seem like a piece of King Cake, but as many mystery writers have discovered (to deadening silence), it ain't.

You've probably already met Ellen, or at least spotted her trademark purple boots as she whirls through conferences and other events, often with an entourage of fellow writers and enthusiastic readers. She's always on her way somewhere – but never fails to stop for quick greetings or hugs. As Cynthia Kuhn (Lila McLean Mysteries; Starlit Bookshop Mysteries) says, "Ellen has the ability to connect with seemingly everyone at once; anyone who is lucky enough to come within her orbit will experience the gift of her generosity, wit, and warmth."

Community is a primary element of the mystery world to Ellen, and it shows in everything she does. In the few short years since she turned her talents toward literary murder, she's accomplished... a lot. Three popular cozy mystery series, including the USA Today-bestselling Cajun Country Mysteries – winner of multiple Agatha Awards for Best Contemporary Novel and several Leftys – the Catering Hall Mysteries (written as Maria DiRico), and the Vintage Cookbook Mysteries. While those series share Ellen's love for New Orleans and her native New York, she's looking forward to launching the Golden Motel Mysteries, a brand-new series set in her current neck of the woods, California. Bonus: Doing research in places she can actually drive to. Also, she won't be forced to navigate any hurricanes, another feat for which she is known. But if there's anyone you'd want to drive with through wind, rain (her favorite), snow, heat, or gloom of night, it would be El, because nothing stays her from reaching her destinations.

Ellen contributes time as well as talent to the mystery community. She currently serves on the MWA Board, where she is a strong supporter of diversity in both membership and genre. In addition, she's co-founder of the multi-author blog Chicks on the Case and a member of the Cozy Mystery Crew.

You may also know Ellen, the true daughter of a Mad Man, as the Queen of Swag. In the past, she claims, her swag expenses bordered on exceeding her royalties, so she cut back. Her most popular promo items are the ones she creates herself. Ellen is crafty that way. But as fellow Chick Leslie Karst (Sally Solari Mysteries; upcoming memoir *Justice Is Served: A Tale of Scallops, the Law & Cooking*

for RGB) points out, bountiful promo poses certain dangers: "I've had the good fortune to room with Ellen numerous times at many conferences ...and a very good roommate she is. That is, if you don't mind tripping over boxes of Mardi Gras beads and feathered masks, packages of alligator wine glasses and glittery tiaras, and various other bags bursting with swag as you make your careful way to the bathroom in the middle of the night. She also always comes equipped with delicious bottles of wine..."



There's something else Ellen brings to conferences, too: Cheese. Literally. She buys it at Trader Joe's and packs it in her car. I'm not sure how she handles dairy transport by air, but I suspect she checks a cheese wheel or three in her suitcase.

I wish I could tell you that Ellen and I met and bonded over some highbrow literary article or book chat. But no. El and I became "mystery besties" through our mutual love of...dive bars, 80s New York, and close encounters with Martha Stewart. Ellen's encounter was far more interesting than mine: An actress at the time, she moonlighted as a cater-waiter for Martha. Her smiling photo appears in the pages of the classic *Entertaining*.

Ellen and I finally met in person when I accompanied my husband across the country to California on a business trip. She and Jer, her husband, took us to lunch at a trendy, super-healthy new restaurant which was highly recommended. El wanted us to get a true taste of the LA

lifestyle. And we did – almost. No one at the table could get the mystery food down. El apologized profusely – and the very next day, she treated me to a huge greasy meal at another LA gastronomic institution: Bob’s Big Boy. (As I recall, she just had water.)

I asked a few of Ellen’s many mystery friends if they’d like to contribute a quote for her LCC Toastmaster bio. Unsurprisingly, kindness was a top mention:

Kellye Garrett (author of *Like a Sister* and the Detective by Day Mysteries; co-founder of Crime Writers of Color, and last year’s LCC Toastmaster): “Ellen is one of those people who is as kind as she is talented. As someone who also transitioned from writing TV (though my brief career pales in comparison to hers) to writing mystery, I’ve always looked up to her. It’s always amazing that someone who is able to put out so many amazing books still finds the time to reach out with a kind email or a funny text. She’s always one of the first to voice her support—both privately and more importantly, publicly—when it comes to issues with diversity. And I feel like I’m both a better writer and a better friend because of our relationship.”

Jennifer J. Chow (President of Sisters in Crime; Sassy Cat Mysteries; Night Market Mysteries): “Ellen gave me the official invite to join Chicks on the Case on a Mother’s Day because she just couldn’t wait, which is pure Ellen—full of vibrant energy and overflowing with welcome. She said that being a Chick was one of the greatest gifts of her mystery life, so she thought she’d “gift” me with the invitation. It’s no wonder that she is Toastmaster; she deserves it. Cheers to you, El!”

Kathy Valenti (Maggie O’Malley Mysteries): “I met Ellen at my first-ever conference when I was just a baby author. Her humor and warmth immediately drew me in, and I was lucky enough to hang out with her. Years later, I’m even luckier to continue to have her in my life as a friend, confidante, and mentor.”

Vickie Fee (Liv and Di in Dixie Mysteries; Café Cinema Mysteries): “I first got to know Ellen because she suffers from low blood sugar. I had just that moment met El at my first Malice and she asked if I wanted to join her group for dinner. Of course I said yes!”

And from Gigi Pandian (Secret Staircase Mysteries; Accidental Alchemist Mysteries; Jaya Jones Treasure Hunt Mysteries; co-founder of Crime Writers of Color): “I’m lucky to call Ellen both a brainstorm partner and a friend.

She’s one of the most creative and generous authors I know. My own writing is better thanks to her thoughts – plus life with El is just more fun!”

Definitely. Both in person and in her writing, Ellen always has colorful stories to tell. And people want to tell her things, too. That’s due to her aforementioned warm personality, yes, but perhaps also to her skills as an interviewer, honed by years of penning articles for national magazines. Shirley MacLaine helped Ellen (and me, indirectly) deal with a fear of flying by repeating the mantra “I am having a safe, uneventful journey.” Julianne Moore, a fellow nurturer, brought Ellen chicken soup when she was miserable with a cold.

But while so many immediately mention Ellen’s “niceness,” talent, and generosity, she is also the person who gets things done. Ever the professional, she adheres to a strict schedule for writing, appearances, and social media, turning 40-page outlines and final manuscripts in so far before deadlines that editors beg for mercy. She’s direct, honest, and devoted to bringing recognition for cozies – and humor – to the mystery genre. In the words of former SinC President Diane Vallere (Madison Knight Mysteries; Samantha Kidd Mysteries; Material Witness Mysteries; Sylvia Stryker Mysteries; Costume Shop Mysteries), “Ellen is a tireless supporter of mysteries through what she writes and what she reads. Her passion for the cozy genre holds us all to a higher standard.”

Ellen is also a person who never, ever gives up. If there’s no direct route to solving an issue, she finds another, thinking outside the box and putting pedal to the metal the way she drives the 405. As Ellen herself says, “If you take a stand on something, there’s a chance nothing will change. But if you don’t take a stand, that chance turns into a guarantee.”

If you haven’t yet had the pleasure of meeting Ellen or reading her books, please be sure to remedy those situations pronto. Just be sure you’re nowhere near the dance floor if you hear the opening strains of KC & the Sunshine Band’s “Get Down Tonight.” You were warned: Ellen always brings the cheese.

Lisa Q. Mathews is the author of the lighthearted Ladies Smythe & Westin Mysteries. Her short story “Fly Me to the Morgue” appears in the recent Malice Domestic anthology Mystery Most Diabolical. A co-founder of the Chicks on the Case blog, she lives in a cozy NH town.

Ellen Byron’s series titles

Cajun Country

Plantation Shudders (2015)
Body on the Bayou (2016)
A Cajun Christmas Killing (2017)
Mardi Gras Murder (2018)
Fatal Cajun Festival (2019)
Murder in the Bayou Boneyard (2020)
Cajun Kiss of Death (2021)

Vintage Cookbook

Bayou Book Thief (2022)
Wined and Died in New Orleans (2023)

Catering Hall

written as Maria DiRico
Here Comes the Body (2020)
Long Island Iced Tina (2021)
It’s Beginning to Look a Lot Like Murder (2021)
Four Parties and a Funeral (2023)

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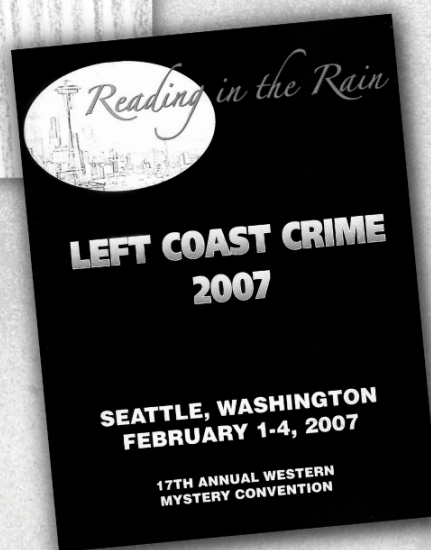
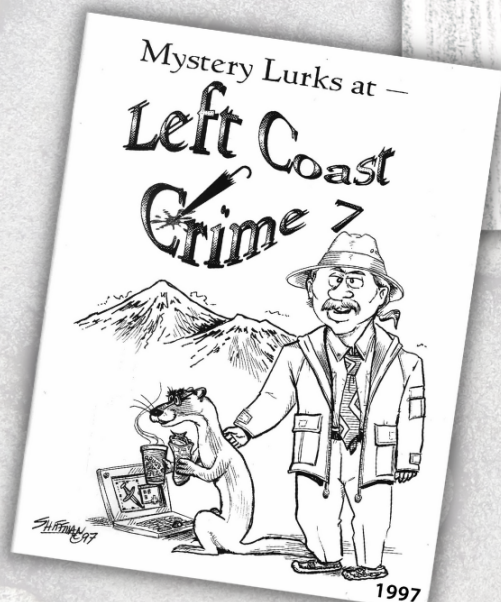
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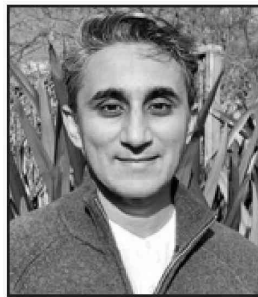
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Fan Guest of Honor: Dru Ann Love

by Heather Webber

In a cozy Brooklyn apartment, you'll sometimes find Dru Ann Love shooing wayward pigeons off her balcony, watching cruise ships heading toward the open waters of the Atlantic, stitching quilts, or crafting Facebook messages that start the morning with a spark of happiness and a burst of positivity.

But more often than not, you'll find Dru Ann reading.

Her love of books started at a young age. She obtained her first library card at four years old and took frequent trips to the Stone Avenue branch of the Brooklyn Public Library, where she'd check out as many books as allowed. Encyclopedia Brown was, and still is, a favorite. The series that featured a young detective sparked Dru Ann's love of the mystery genre. As a keen observer, she loves figuring out the puzzle.

Since then, her love of mysteries has only grown. In any given year, she'll read hundreds of crime fiction novels. In 2008, she launched *dru's book musings* (www.drusbookmusings.com), a blog she created as a way to keep track of the titles she read, an online journal of sorts. For each book she offered a short musing – an impression of the story rather than a full review. During that timeframe she also started following author blogs to keep up with new releases and events. She became a frequent commenter and a familiar name in the mystery community.

In return, the mystery community began taking notice of her blog. Publishers and authors started sending books for her to muse on. What started out as a hobby quickly became a labor of love. In addition to her "Daytime Situation," as Dru Ann mysteriously calls her day job, she spends ten to fifteen hours a week keeping the blog updated and running smoothly.

In 2010, Dru Ann, a quiet, self-described introvert, decided to venture out of her cozy comfort zone in New York to attend her first mystery convention, Malice Domestic, in Virginia. Among so many like-minded, mystery novel-loving people, she felt right at home. She'd found what she affectionately calls her "crime fiction family."

Soon, she was saving vacation days from the Daytime Situation to attend more conferences. Left Coast Crime. Malice Domestic. Bouchercon. Thrillerfest. Deadly Ink. New England Crime Bake. In no time at all, she was

participating on panels at those conventions. She became a member of Sisters in Crime and Mystery Writers of America. She attended as many signings and book



events in and around Brooklyn as she could manage. In the past, she has blogged with the Cozy Chicks and currently she's a regular contributor on the Stiletto Gang blog.

Dru's book musings rapidly evolved into one of the most highly-regarded websites in the mystery community. In addition to her trademark musings, it also features the popular "day in the life" posts, written by authors from the point of view of one of their fictional characters. On the site readers can also find news about upcoming book releases, author events, and cover reveals. It is a treasure trove of information.



Dru Ann with Raquel Reyes and Wanda Moffis



Dru Ann with last year's Fan Guest of Honor, Kristopher Zgorski, in Albuquerque

It didn't take long for the industry to recognize Dru Ann's hard work, dedication, generosity, and love of the genre. *Dru's book musings* has twice been a finalist for the Anthony Award for Best Critical or Non-Fiction Work and Online Content. And in 2017, Dru Ann was awarded the prestigious Raven Award, given by Mystery Writers of America, which honors achievement in the mystery field outside of creative writing.

During free time at conferences you'll most likely find Dru Ann at a table in the hotel lobby with a wide, welcoming smile. This setup has recently been dubbed "*dru's corner*" and it is often the most crowded space in the vicinity. Beyond her love of books and tireless support of writers, it is her wry sense of humor, her innate kindness, and her selfless personality that draws people in.

Ask Dru Ann, and she'll call herself an author champion. A book advocate.

But mention Dru Ann's name to most authors, and immediately a smile appears. We all understand that if her blog is a treasure trove, Dru Ann herself is the true treasure.

Undoubtedly in the months ahead, in a cozy Brooklyn apartment among quilting notions, unrepentant pigeons, and many, many books, Dru Ann will be thinking about the next mystery conference she'll attend.

And no matter which one it is, it will feel suspiciously like a family reunion.

Heartfelt congratulations, Dru Ann, for being chosen Left Coast Crime's 2023 Fan Guest of Honor. Thank you so very much for all you do and for all that you give to the mystery community, to your friends, to your crime fiction family.

Heather Webber writes humorous mysteries featuring Ohio landscape designer Nina Quinn, who has a penchant for digging up trouble. Heather lives in southwest Ohio with her husband, three children, adorable hamster, and assorted aquarium wildlife.

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New Author Breakfast: Mike Befeler

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- Anne Louise Bannon** (Mystery) Mysteries with Romance, Thursday 5 pm
- Laurie Stevens** (Suspense) Domestic or Psychological, Friday, 11:30 am
- John DeDakis** (Mystery) That's News to Me: Journalism, Sunday, 9 am

And the rest of the flock:

- Valerie Biel** (YA)
 - Laurie Buchanan** (Thriller)
 - Avanti Centrae** (Thriller)
 - Tim Chapman** (Thriller)
 - Nick Chiarkas** (Thriller)
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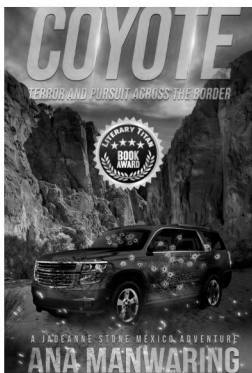
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Ghost of Honor: Winn Bundy

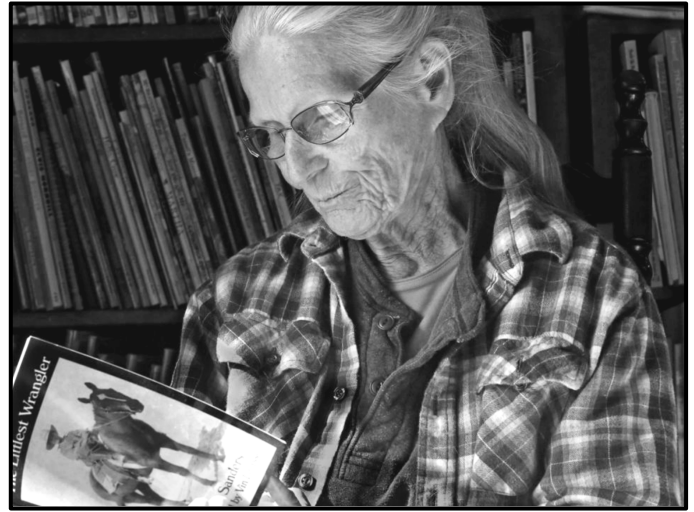
by Kate Steele

Winn Bundy (Winifred Jean Sullivan, born in Oak Park, Illinois 7/22/1930; died in Benson, Arizona, 10/22/2020) is our Ghost of Honor for Left Coast Crime 2023. She was a historian, preservationist, and archivist of Southwest literature, and a determined, generous supporter of writers and readers.

Customers from all over the world delighted in ringing the big steel bell mounted on the tall pole outside Singing Wind Bookstore to announce their presence; her shop at the end of a dusty road outside the rural desert town (barely 3,000 people in 1974 when she opened, about 5,000 now) of Benson, Arizona, became internationally known. The wrought iron sign that reads “Headquarters for Books about the Southwest” marks the narrow, rutted turnoff from the dusty county road. People who had no idea where Benson is located still managed to find Winn’s bookstore, share her hospitality and homemade brownies, and leave with paper bags full of books.

Winn was a friend and resource to authors and their readers. Friends described her as “a force of nature,”[1] “a beacon”[2] and “this shining light of the literary world”[3] whose mission was “to celebrate the literature of this unique place in the country.”[4]

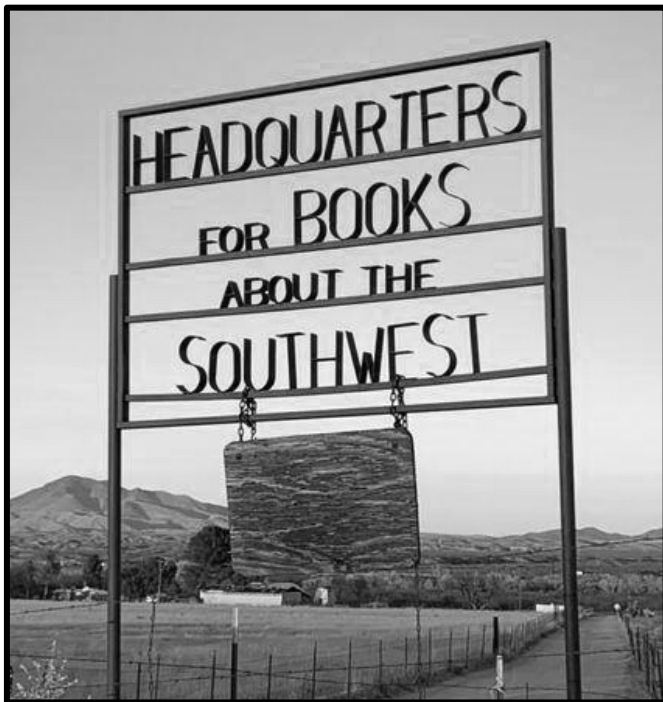
Mastering the intricacies of the convoluted, competitive publishing industry while choosing the authors whose books she stocked was hard work, but she was determined to “get the right book to the right person.” [5] Winn’s philosophy was simple: she stocked and marketed authors whose books she found worthy – “It’s mostly subjective,



whatever I like”[6] – because she “saw (books) as packages of ideas.”[7]

Winn’s collection celebrating the Southwest is one of the best in the country. Rooms full of books, arranged according to Winn’s unique sense of literary order, required a guided tour of the establishment as the first step into this wonderful part of her life’s work. “As a child, I either wanted to have a bookshop or an ice cream parlor... So I decided the bookshop would win out.”[8] She and her husband Bob sourced the mesquite on their ranch and built the shelves for the 10,000-plus books. Thousands more were set aside anywhere she could find space for the volumes of Southwestern history and literature, children’s books, music, culture, religion, mysteries, politics, mythology, women’s writings, architecture, and sports. Winn did not return unsold books to the publishers, as many bookstores do. She kept them in stock, some long after they were out of print, and sold them at their original prices, while other bookstores charged a premium for hard-to-find editions.

“She created an experience of discovering, purchasing and reading a book about the Southwest that is... unique.”[9] Her guided tours covered the layout of the store: “Over the door is finance, and I truly believe all of that is fiction... and here’s women’s experiences in the West, which aren’t fiction, I promise.” She stocked books her first customers – local ranchers and cowboys – might enjoy reading, including “cowboy humor,” “cowboy poetry,” “transportation in the West,” “Buffalo soldiers,” and, of course, “famous wildfires.”[10] Winn carried books she thought were worthy, not because they were popular or trending on bestseller lists; she sold the authors. When fortunate writers read from their own works at her annual Thanksgiving Fiestas, she always told the guests, “You need to buy their books.”[11] Bundy





Winn Bundy in 1980

accepted cash or checks, no debit or credit cards (she did not sell books online). She ran the totals on a calculator and wrote receipts by hand. She did very little marketing and advertising: her customers learned about her collection by word-of-mouth and articles in *The Wall Street Journal*, *Time Magazine*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Boston Globe*, and *National Geographic Traveler*, among others. Tour buses put Singing Wind on their regular itineraries, and Winn and her books were a favorite field trip for students from area schools.

Winn and Bob Bundy bought the place she named Singing Winds Ranch – after the wind-borne music from



the mesquite bosques (the small forests along the San Pedro River) – in 1956. Bob and she worked hard to restore the house and outbuildings that had been a “shambles”[12] when they found it, and proceeded to raise three children and Charolais beef cattle on the 600-acre property.

She opened her bookstore in 1974, two years after she completed her masters’ degrees in history and political science, and library science, at the University of Arizona.

Winn was honored with many awards in the 46 years she ran Singing Wind: the 2009 Lawrence Clark Powell Award for her Lifetime Contributions to the Literature and History of the Southwest [13]; the 2009 Juliana Yoder Friend of the Humanities Award [14]; the 2015 Sharlot Hall Award [15] for her work as an historian, preservationist and archivist of Southwest literature, among others.

We are delighted to celebrate Winn Bundy, her dedication to Southwest authors and readers, and her contributions to literacy and the humanities with the 2023 Ghost of Honor Award at Left Coast Crime.

Footnotes:

- 1-5, 7, 9, 11-12: Tony Davis, “Singing Wind Bookshop owner, ‘force of nature’ Winn Bundy dies at 90” tucson.com. Oct. 21, 2020
- 6. Gisela Telis, “A Bookstore at the End of the World,” Web Feature, *AZPM*, Oct. 12, 2011
- 8 & 10: Lauren Modery, *Future Travel*, “The Little Bookshop in the Middle of the Desert,” Nov. 7, 2016
- 13-15: Dana Cole, “Bookshop Owner Honored with Prestigious Sharlot Hall Award,” myheraldreview.com, July 26, 2016

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Booksellers 23 years ago LCC #10 in Tucson

TWO SQUARE MILES

by Eva Eldridge



Tucson's beginnings lie at the base of what we now know as "A Mountain" or Sentinel Peak. The O'odham's village was known as Ts-iuk-shan, or, Chuk Shon — Black Base because the bottom of the mountain is darker than the top. Located west of the Santa Cruz River, Sentinel Peak Park has limited hours for auto access, but there is a parking lot located mid-way up where you can leave your car and walk to the top. From the top, you can clearly see across the ephemeral Santa Cruz River and the downtown area.

On west Congress and Avenida del Convento, you will find Mercado San Agustin. This is part of the Rio Nuevo development which includes shopping and housing. The mercado has restaurants, a bakery, and several shops. Tables are scattered about the courtyard where you can enjoy a cup of coffee, pastry, tacos, and other wonderful fare. Across the street is the west terminus of the Sun Link Streetcar. The streetcar runs from the mercado area thru downtown to 4th Avenue, then on to the Main Gate area and the University of Arizona. If you want to park your car and venture on foot, this a great way to get around. Currently the fare for riding Sun Link is free.



Three or four blocks north of the Congress or Broadway Sun Link stops is the historic footprint of the Presidio San Agustin del Tucson, established in 1775. The fort was built to protect the San



Xavier Mission and settlers of the area. The original fort was made of wood but was quickly replaced by adobe walls. The Presidio San Agustin Del Tucson Museum provides cultural information, reenactments, children's programs, and walking tours of the Tucson area. You can see the recreated adobe walls of the fort and a row house which is typical of the barrio areas of old Tucson. From North Church Street and along West Washington Street there are plaques embedded in the ground explaining the timeline of the inhabitants of the area going back more than 4,100 years.

Within the area of the old presidio are many buildings and businesses including law offices, engineering firms, shops, and restaurants. Old Town Artisans, located at 201 North Court Avenue, is a collection of shops featuring local and area specific arts and crafts, wine, old records, and food. The buildings are 19th century adobe with an open courtyard and large shady trees where you can enjoy lunch and listen to occasional entertainment.

Less than a block away is the Tucson Museum of Art which hold a large exhibit of Colonial Latin American artwork and changing exhibitions of historical, modern, and area specific art. Check their website to see what is currently showing.





Head a block south and you can see Tucson's historic courthouse, built in 1929 with its blue tiled dome. It's a beautiful Spanish Colonial Revival building that gained its historic designation in 1978.

All over downtown Tucson are murals and artistic bus and streetcar stops. In fact, there are murals all over Tucson. Some depict the nature of the area and others are whimsical, like the bike riding creatures on North Church Avenue. This mural celebrates the El Tour de Tucson bike race held each year in November where more than 7,000 bikes hit the road on a 100-plus mile loop around Tucson. This area has 131 miles of bike path including set-aside areas downtown for bikers. Please keep an eye out for them.

From the historic courthouse heading south and east you come into the heart of downtown. Congress Street, Broadway Boulevard, Pennington, Stone Avenue, and 6th Avenue are filled with restaurants. So many cuisines to choose from you'll need come back to try another eatery. In 2015, Tucson was named by UNESCO as a city of gastronomy because of its rich heritage and variety of food. If you can't find what you are looking for downtown, you'll find it elsewhere in Tucson.



Check out Hotel Congress during your visit to downtown. This establishment has been here since 1919. It has a wonderful history that you can read about on their website or inside the hotel. In January, 1934, John Dillinger, the famous bank robber, stayed at the hotel. Subsequently a fire broke out and events led to Dillinger's arrest a few days later in Tucson.

Heading south on Stone Avenue you can see the beautiful architecture of Saint Augustine Cathedral. The church building began in the late 1800's and stands today as the center of the Catholic diocese in Tucson. The structures were updated, restored, and rededicated in 2011. It is a beautiful building and well worth a visit.

The neon sign on top of Hotel Congress goes hand in hand with the mid-century neon sign project implement in 2012. Tucson Historic Preservation Foundation and Pima Community College joined forces to restore and reinstall many of the old neon signs along the Miracle Mile vicinity. Other signs in town were restored and they glow proudly in the Tucson nights.

A person could spend a couple of days exploring the downtown area. If you have time check out 4th Avenue which is next to downtown or the University of Arizona. Going a bit further you can visit the Saguaro National Monuments, Tucson Botanical Gardens, Colossal Cave, San Xavier Mission, Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum, and many more places. Come enjoy the history, culture, and beauty the area has to offer.

© Eva Eldridge

Remembering Bryan Barrett



BRYAN BARRETT at age 64, on June 21, 2022, in Olympia, Washington. He was one of the most important and well-loved people in mystery fandom. He was especially known for his work on mystery conventions for fans. Bryan chaired the San Francisco Bouchercon in 1985. In 1997, with Bruce Taylor, he co-chaired the very successful Bouchercon in Monterey, California. In 1991, with Janet Rudolph and Donna Rankin, he founded a new convention called Left Coast Crime (LCC) and was its Chairman in its first year. With Debbie Cross in 2002 he was co-chair of that year's LCC in Portland, Oregon. Barrett often worked on mystery conventions with Thom Walls, and in 2004, at Left Coast Crime in Monterey, they were deservedly the Fan Guests of Honor.

by Marvin Lachman

Editor's Note: I first met Bryan at the San Francisco Bouchercon, October 2010, when Lucinda and I were working the LCC table promoting the upcoming Santa Fe convention in March 2011. Bryan sidled up to the table – he was using a walker at that time – and said, out of the blue (to me), “You know, I wrote the Bylaws for Left Coast Crime.” And he had done that, and a lot more.

As we got into organizing conventions, Bryan would be a valuable, experienced resource. The one bit of advice that stands out today was “make sure you get the ice clause!” Bryan anticipated hotels charging for every little thing, just like hospitals, and wanted to make sure our hotel contract included free ice water in pitchers on panel tables. Bryan was a forceful advocate for finding LCC convention locations that were inexpensive – in fact, the Reno LCC in 2018 was part of his legacy.

The last time I saw Bryan was at the 25th LCC in Portland in 2015, though we exchanged occasional emails. The last one, shortly before he died, referred mysteriously (how appropriate!) to some things he needed to tell me. I emailed back to find out what he wanted to talk about, but there was never a reply.



*Bryan Barrett, Donna Rankin & Janet Rudolph
Founders of Left Coast Crime*

Bryan Barrett and Thom Walls, who worked on many LCC, Bouchercon, and SciFi conventions over the years, were Co-Fan-Guests of Honor at the Monterey LCC in 2004. Bryan and Thom wrote “dueling” appreciation essays – this is an excerpt from Thom’s:

I’ve known Bryan for about 25 years, so what can I say without saying anything actionable and/or libelous. As the saying goes, I’ll stick with “just the facts” as I know them.

In some ways, he would have been a great nineteenth century naturalist, he’s always curious about the natural sciences. He’s always identifying plants, animals, and birds while we are on the road, driving to conventions. He’s a bit of a lefty, gets it from his grandfather, who was active in Seattle’s longshoremen’s union.

He’s been selling comics, books, and interesting stuff his whole adult life. He went to college and minored in theater. He

worked on a student production with Tom Hanks, yes, *that* Tom Hanks. He’s tried out for “Who Wants To Be A Millionaire,” got the first call back, but didn’t advance any further. He should have told them about the connection to Tom Hanks, but forgot, until it was too late.

Bryan’s fannish career started with working on comic conventions, then on the science fiction conventions, and in the 80s on the 1982 Bouchercon, in San Francisco. He was the Chairman, of the 1985 Bouchercon. As he says, he had no assets, so they made him the Chair and had him sign the contracts with the hotel.

He helped found the Left Coast Crime Conventions, as there weren't a lot of regional mystery conventions back in 1990. He convinced me to Chair the Seattle Bouchercon in 1994 and helped with the bidding. When, at the 1993 Bouchercon in Omaha, the gauntlet was thrown down that there would never be another Bouchercon in the Bay area without the effort of the person speaking. Bryan took it upon himself to start organizing a bid for the 1997 Bouchercon, which he co-chaired with Bruce Taylor.



Thom Walls

He's a funny writer and keen observer of his times, and movies. He just can't spell. In fact, one of his favorite sayings is "I was a Chairman, and Chairmen can't spell." He currently resides in the Pacific Northwest, where a large part of his extended family resides. He moved up here in the late 90s, when the city of Oakland gave him money to go away. To explain it a little better, after an earthquake in the Bay Area, the building his store was in, survived without damage, and it happened to be around the corner from City Hall. So the city declared eminent domain, and paid him,

Bryan has helped others get involved with organizing and running mystery conventions; he was the co-chair, with Debbie Cross, of the Portland LCC in 2002, mainly serving as hotel liaison and speaker to other conventions. He helped convince the Austin committee to put on the 2002 Bouchercon. He has also been in charge of various dealers' rooms in a few mystery conventions.

along with the rest of the co-op residents to go away. It allowed him to move up to the Pacific Northwest and to take care of his mother in her later years.

So what else could I say. He's a good friend and it certainly has been interesting knowing him all these years.

From the Program Book for the 12th Left Coast Crime Convention, Portland, Oregon, March 2002:

Left Coast Crime: A Brief History

by Bryan Barrett, Co-Chair

Welcome to Portland! The 12th incarnation of The Western Regional Mystery Convention—whew!—it's been a long time coming. This year's committee has spent over a thousand hours of work to bring it to you, the membership, for which I am eternally grateful. To see something that I helped start over 13 years ago still going on as an institution is quite a sight.

You see, the first Left Coast Crime almost didn't happen.

The Left Coast Crime Convention was the brainchild of veterans of the San Francisco Bouchercon of 1985—Donna Rankin, Janet Rudolph, and I. It came from a shared belief that the West Coast needed a mystery gathering for fans every year, not just the years there was a western Bouchercon. Science fiction fans had regional conventions, why not mystery fans? So, the Western Regional Mystery Convention was launched—and sank without a trace in 1990.

The best laid plans of mice and mystery fans can come unglued. Don't panic, we told ourselves, just start again. We did, and with a new name: The Left Coast Crime Convention.

Back in those days an executive decision had been made that the person with the least amount of assets would be the chairman of the convention and sign the hotel contract. Signing a hotel contract for a new event such as Left Coast is not for the faint of heart; it was pledging your personal fortune. My mottos became, "No mortgage, no worries," along with, "You can't get blood from a stone," and the ever popular, "What, me worry?" I had chaired a Bouchercon at the same hotel—what could go wrong?

The Gulf War! Needless to say, attendance was off.

We needed 300 members to break even; 130 bought memberships in advance, 245 showed. As the event approached it became apparent that this was not going to be enough. There weren't even enough bodies to interest the hotel in

doing a banquet, but a banquet was held nonetheless at Johns' Grill, one of Hammett's hangouts, and was the highlight of the convention for those who went.

The convention wasn't going to reach any goal the hotel contract called for.

Well, I didn't have a house anyway.

But there was a war on, so the Sir Francis Drake Hotel* forgave us. I could breathe again. As a result, there was Left Coast Crime 2. To pay for number 1. Thus, this beloved convention was started.

And brings us to Portland today.

* The Drake declared Bankruptcy six weeks after Left Coast Crime 1!

Program Participants

- For a general schedule of Special Events, Interviews, Panels, etc., see page 3. A detailed schedule starts on page 5.
- The Pocket Program includes an alphabetical index of appearances by each of the participants.
- Anthony® is a registered trademark of Bouchercon World Mystery Convention, Inc.
- Edgar® is a registered trademark of Mystery Writers of America.

Erin E. Adams



Erin E. Adams, author of *Jackal*, is a first-generation Haitian American writer and theatre artist. As an actor, you might have seen her as an assistant on S02E02 of *Succession* on HBO. You probably haven't seen her on stage, but if you did it was most likely in a production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (she's been in it three times). Though she loves writing horror/thrillers, she can only watch scary movies at home with all the lights on. An award-winning playwright and actor, Adams has called New York City home for the last decade.

@iameeadams & www.erinadams.com

Janet Alcorn



Janet Alcorn is a librarian who launched a lifelong dream by Googling “how to write a novel,” on a slow afternoon at work. Since that inauspicious start, she's published several short stories and drafted two novels; her short story, “Adam Carmona and the Saguaro Ripper,” appears in the *Trouble in Tucson* anthology available for purchase at the conference. When she isn't wrangling cantankerous fictional people or earning a living, Janet blogs, gardens, listens to 80s rock at ear-bleeding volume, and annoys her husband and son. She lives here in Tucson.

@ja_alcorn & janetalcorn.com

Annamaria Alfieri



Annamaria Alfieri wants to take you in her time machine to exotic places, where her imaginary friends will tell you deeply human and suspenseful stories. Go with them to South America and meet the threatened abbess of a convent (*City of Silver*) or a team of desperate villagers looking for a murderer in war-torn Paraguay (*Invisible Country*), or Evita herself (*Blood Tango*). Or you can accompany Annamaria on safari in early 1900s Kenya, where a missionary's daughter and Yorkshire earl's son along with a tribal policeman solve murders and otherwise enjoy themselves (*Vera and Tolliver*). No passports or luggage needed.

www.annamariaalfieri.com

Lawrence Allan



Lawrence Allan is an award winning mystery writer, Midwestern as f@!k, and loves heroes who use humor to cover their emotional trauma. His work has appeared in *Shotgun Honey* and the crime anthology *Wrong Turn*. His debut novel *Big Fatf@!K-Up* won two Claymore Awards at Killer Nashville, including Best Comedy in Mystery. The follow-up, *Big F@!King Deal*, will be out in Spring of 2023. He lives in Los Angeles.

@WriteLarryWrite & LawrenceAllanWrites.com

Jenny Andersen



Jenny Andersen is a retired scientist turned full-time writer. “Write what you know” might have been coined just for her – mineral museum curator, field camp cook, soda jerk, mother, scuba diver, teacher, materials analyst, geologist, antique jewelry dealer, and GIA certified gemologist. These last are particularly useful in writing her Emma Goldsmith gemology mysteries, the most recent of which is *Ended by Emerald*. Now, like most writers, she leads an adventurous life full of daring deeds, brave heroes, shivering suspense, priceless gems, desperate criminals, and happy endings – found only in the pages of her books.

www.jennysfiction.com

Yasmin Angoe



Yasmin Angoe is the award-winning, first-generation Ghanaian American author of the acclaimed thrillers, *Her Name Is Knight* and *They Come at Knight*. She received the 2020 Eleanor Taylor Bland Award from Sisters in Crime and, in 2021 an Anthony Award nomination. Her books were listed as Amazon’s “Best Book of the Month” and Editor’s Picks and were optioned for TV which are currently in development. Reviews of Yasmin’s work can be found in outlets like *The New York Times*, *OprahDaily.com*, and *The Guardian*. The final of the Nena Knight trilogy, *It Ends with Knight*, releases September 2023. Yasmin lives in South Carolina with her family.

yasminangoe.com

Trish Arrowsmith



Trish recently moved across the country where she found her forever home, enjoying the desert sunshine and wildlife all year long. She was born and raised in a small town in northern Connecticut. Growing up, she was always fascinated by unsolved mysteries and true crimes as well as the psychological elements behind them. As an avid reader, her go to books are thriller/suspense, true crime, and cozy mysteries. Trish currently has three books published: one standalone and one duology. She also has two cozy mystery series started. The first book of each will be published this year.

www.trisharrowsmithauthor.com

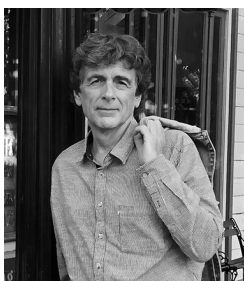
Shannon Baker



Despite nearly daily declarations she’s giving up writing forever, Shannon Baker managed to have published over a dozen novels in three mystery series, two stand-alone suspenses, and a few contemporary romances. A winner of the New Mexico/Arizona book award and two-time Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers Writer of the Year, Baker loves a cold cocktail at sunset on her Tucson deck, which is on traditional Pascua Yaqui land, but she is, and always will be, a Nebraska Cornhusker.

shannon-baker.com

Leo W. Banks



In high school, Leo W. Banks worked loading delivery trucks with the Sunday edition of the *Boston Globe*. In those days the Sunday paper was really heavy, so he switched from lifting to writing. He graduated from Boston College and earned a Masters degree from University of Arizona. He has been a correspondent for the *Los Angeles Times* and the *Boston Globe*. He’s won more than 38 statewide, national and international journalism awards. His debut novel, *Double Wide*, won two Spur Awards from the Western Writers of America. The sequel, *Champagne Cowboys*, received a starred review from *Publishers Weekly*. Brash Books published his third novel, *45-Caliber Perfume*, in October 2022. His fourth novel, *The Flying Z*, will be published this summer. He lives in Tucson.

leowbanks.com

Anne Louise Bannon



Author Anne Louise Bannon's husband says that his wife kills people for a living. Bannon does mostly write mysteries, including the Old Los Angeles Series, the Freddie and Kathy series, and the Operation Quickline series. She has worked as a freelance journalist for magazines and newspapers, including the *Los Angeles Times*. She and her husband, Michael Holland, created the OddBallGrape.com wine education blog, and she co-wrote a book on poisons. Her latest novel is book nine in the Operation Quickline series: *Just Because You're Paranoid*. She and her husband live in Southern California with an assortment of critters.

FB RobinGoodfellowEnt & AnneLouiseBannon.com

Barbara Barrett



Ever tried to wallpaper with a spouse? It's not a fun experience. Our walls are all now paint only. On the other hand, home renovation has always fascinated me, in particular, the home renovation shows on HGTV. That's what inspired me to write the Nailed It Home Reno Mysteries series featuring a retired homicide investigator turned interior designer and co-owner of a home renovation business. Book 5, *Nuts and Bolts*, launched in February 2023. I also write the Mah Jongg Mystery series based on my love of this retirement pastime.

www.barbarabarrettbooks.com

S.A. Barron



I'm the author of the soon to be released – *The Deliverer: A Blackwell Novel, Book One*. I love telling stories and have spent the past decade helping over 50,000 professionals across North America excel in their careers and life by combining storytelling and human behaviour. Before teaching, I spent my time as a Private Investigator and Certified Fraud Examiner. Everything I have learned through the years has helped me weave stories of mystery, suspense, and psychological mayhem, to take you on an exhilarating adventure with every page turn! I am also a member of Sisters in Crime National and a Member at Large with the Canada West chapter.

www.sabarron.com

James T. Bartlett



James T. Bartlett is the author of *The Alaskan Blonde: Sex, Secrets, and the Hollywood Story that Shocked America*, a true crime book reexamining a scandalous 1953 murder that began in Alaska and ended in Hollywood, and his short story "Death Under the Stars" was included in the recent Sisters in Crime Los Angeles anthology *Entertainment To Die For*. He has written for the *LA Times*, BBC, *LA Magazine*, *Real Crime*, *Atlas Obscura*, *Whitechapel Journal*, and many inflight magazines, and as author of the Gourmet Ghosts alternative guides to L.A., he has appeared on Ghost Adventures and The UnXplained. Originally from London, James always travels with English tea bags.

www.thealaskanblonde.com & www.gourmetghosts.com

Daisy Bateman



Daisy Bateman is the author of the Lefty-nominated Marketplace Mysteries series, in which artisan marketplace owner Claudia Simcoe solves mysteries and eats things in an idyllic small town on the Northern California coast. A mystery lover, cheese enthusiast, and world-renowned expert in *Why You Should Buy That*, Daisy lives in Alameda, California, with her husband and dog, and in what passes for normal life, she works in biotech. She mostly tweets, and occasionally writes a newsletter, offering plot ideas and cheese recommendations. She is currently learning to play the Murder She Wrote theme on the harp.

daisybateman.com

Maegan Beaumont



Maegan Beaumont is the author of the award-winning Sabrina Vaughn thriller series and the Georgia Fell romantic suspense series with Bookouture. When she isn't locked in her office, torturing her protagonists, she's busy chasing chickens, hanging laundry and burning dinner. Either way, she is almost always in the company of her ten 1/2 dogs, her truest and most faithful companions, and her almost as faithful husband, Joe. She also writes contemporary romance as *USA Today* bestselling author, Megyn Ward.

maeganbeaumont.com

Mike Befeler



Mike Befeler is author of 19 books including *Old Detectives Home*, *Paradise Court*, *Back Wing*, *Front Wing*, *Death of a Scam Artist*, *Mystery of the Dinner Playhouse*, *Unstuff Your Stuff*, and the Paul Jacobson Geezer-lit Mystery Series. He was twice a finalist for the Lefty Award for best humorous mystery. After a 39-year business career, he retired into writing. He grew up in Hawaii, lived in Boulder, Colorado, and currently resides in Lakewood, California, with his wife Wendy. When not writing, he can be seen taking his grandson to the park.

www.mikebefeler.com

Amy M. Bennett



Amy M. Bennett spent 22 years working retail in preparation for writing murder mysteries. Born and raised in El Paso, TX, she moved to New Mexico in 1988 where she discovered her love of writing and New Mexico wines. She is the author of the Black Horse Campground mysteries, a cozy series set in an RV campground with a little romance, a little humor, and a lot of local flavor. She is currently working on the ninth book in the series, slinging vino for Noisy Water Winery in Ruidoso, and enjoying life in general with husband Paul.

amymbennettbooks.com

John Mark Bergin



Mark Bergin spent four years as a newspaper reporter, winning the Virginia Press Association Award for general news reporting, before joining the Alexandria, Virginia, Police Department in 1986. Twice named Police Officer of the Year for narcotics and robbery investigations, he served in most of the posts described in *Apprehension*, his debut novel. Kirkus Reviews calls *Apprehension* "compelling," and says Bergin is a "gritty and authentic new voice in police fiction." His short stories appear in several anthologies including *Paranoia Blues*, *Land of 10,000 Thrills*, *The Tattered Blue Line*, and *The Eviction of Hope*.

markberginwriter.com

Connie Berry



Connie Berry writes the award-winning and best-selling Kate Hamilton Mysteries, set in the UK and featuring an American antiques dealer with a gift for solving crimes. Her debut novel was an Agatha Award finalist; and her latest, *The Shadow of Memory*, has been nominated for a Lilian Jackson Braun Memorial Award (presented at the 2023 Edgar Banquet). Connie was raised by antiques dealers who instilled in her a passion for history, fine art, and all things British. She loves foreign travel, adventure, cute animals, and licorice (the order varies, depending on the day). Connie lives in Ohio and northern Wisconsin with her adorable Shih Tzu, Emmie, and her equally adorable husband, Bob.

www.connieberry.com

Dale Berry



Dale Berry is a San Francisco-based writer and illustrator, who has produced independent comics since 1986. His graphic novels (*The Be-Bop Barbarians* with author Gary Phillips; the Tales of the Moonlight Cutter series) have been published by the mainstream, and by his own imprint (www.myriadpubs.com), while his graphic short stories have appeared in *Alfred Hitchcock's Mystery Magazine*. His life has included stints as a carnival barker, Pinkerton's guard, stagehand, fencing instructor, and rock radio DJ. He serves as a Board Member At-Large for the Northern California chapter of MWA.

Mysti Berry



Mysti loves voting rights, single-malt whisky, and crime fiction – not always in that order. She's published short stories in *Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine*, *Alfred Hitchcock's Mystery Magazine*, and many other anthologies. Her latest story about crime and equity is due out May '23 in an anthology edited by Gary Phillips. If you see Mysti whizzing by in a motorized chair, wave hello! She's hoping by LCC '24 to be out of the chair and walking again.

www.mystiberry.com

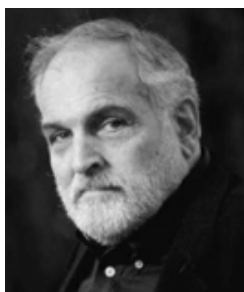
Susan Alice Bickford



Susan Alice Bickford was born in Boston, Massachusetts, and grew up in Central New York, the setting for many of her stories. Eventually she moved to Silicon Valley, where she became an executive at a leading technology company. Bickford writes thrillers and suspense stories that are deeply embedded in the rural areas of New York State and New England, featuring resourceful female protagonists. Bickford's debut novel, *A Short Time To Die*, was nominated for the 2018 Left Coast Crime Best Debut Novel. Her second novel, *Dread of Winter*, was nominated for an Edgar.

susanalicebickford.com

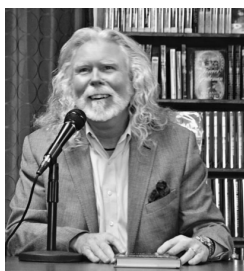
John Billheimer



John Billheimer, a native West Virginian, lives in Portola Valley, California. He holds an engineering Ph.D. from Stanford and is the author of the “funny, sometimes touching” Owen Allison mysteries set in Appalachia's coalfields. The most recent book in the series is *Primary Target*, which deals with coal country election shenanigans. A second series features Lloyd Keaton, a Midwest sportswriter with a gambling habit (*Field of Schemes*, *A Player to be Maimed Later*). A nonfiction work, *Hitchcock and the Censors*, documents Alfred Hitchcock's battles with bluenoses and won an Edgar award in 2020.

www.johnbillheimer.com

Baron Birtcher



Baron is the winner of the Silver Falchion Award (*Hard Latitudes*); Winner of Killer Nashville Readers Choice Award (*South California Purples*); and 2019 Best Book of the Year Award for *Fistful of Rain*. He has also been nominated for the Nero Award, the Lefty, the Foreword Indie, the Claymore, and the Pacific Northwest's Spotted Owl Awards. Baron's writing has been hailed as “The real deal” by *Publishers Weekly*; “Fast Paced and Engaging” by *Booklist*; and “Solid, Fluent and Thrilling” by *Kirkus*. Bestselling author, Don Winslow, has said, “You want to read Baron's books, then you want to live in them.”

FB BaronRBirtcher

Maria Bivins



Dr. Dawna Maria Bivins-Smith (D.M. Evans) is a licensed psychologist with a doctoral degree in Clinical Psychology. She works with serious mental illness in forensic hospital and community mental health settings, and conducts forensic psychological evaluations. She is the author of the non-fiction book, *Control Your Crazy: Work the Good, Tame the Bad and Ugly*. She enjoys running, reading, and watching, as well as writing mystery crime fiction. Her latest work of fiction, “If It Doesn’t Kill You, Just Wait” appears in the *Jewish Noir II* Anthology under the penname D.M. Evans. She’s currently working on the novel, *Return to Murder*, set in 1980s New York City – drugs, sex, and the death of disco.

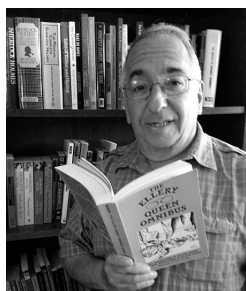
Shelley Blanton-Stroud



Shelley’s the daughter of Dust Bowl immigrants who made good on their ambition to get out of the field, though she still no doubt has dust in her lungs and maybe her elbows. She taught college writing forever and still consults with writers in the energy industry. She throws love into 916 Ink, an arts-based creative writing nonprofit for children, the Gould Center for Humanistic Studies at Claremont McKenna College, and Stories on Stage Sacramento. She interviews mystery and thriller authors for the Mystery Review Crew. *Copy Boy, Tomboy*, and *Poster Girl* (November 2023) are her Jane Benjamin novels.

shelleyblantonstroud.com

Les Blatt



Les Blatt is a retired (and recovering) journalist. For nearly 15 years, he wrote and published reviews of classic mystery books on the Classic Mysteries podcast and blog, both of which are currently on hiatus, but which remain available online. He and his wife, Leslie – yes, two of us with the same first name – are active at several mystery conferences each year.

www.classicmysteries.net

Leslie Blatt



Leslie Blatt is a Retired School Library Media Specialist. In her 40 years of being in schools, she worked with all grade levels. Mysteries were always a major theme in her library as a resource for inquiry/critical thinking teaching, as well as getting kids to read. Mysteries have always been a favorite genre for Leslie since she was young, beginning with Nancy Drew.

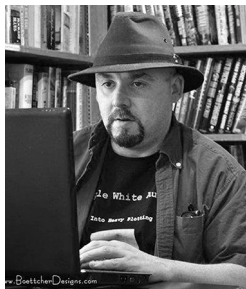
M.A. Blume



When Covid ended her career as a theatrical tour publicist, M.A. Blume turned her flirtation with mystery writing into a fully committed relationship. Like any romance, it’s been a mix of elation, heartbreak, and hard work. Just like true love, she wouldn’t change it for anything. A lifelong Chicagoan, she loves time on the lake, exploring her city, and studying its history. Her stories are set in the teens and 1920s in, of course, Chicago.

mabscribe.com

David Boop



David Boop is a Denver-based speculative fiction author & bestselling editor. He's also an award-winning essayist, and screenwriter. Before turning to fiction, David worked as a DJ, film critic, journalist, and actor. His debut novel, *She Murdered Me with Science*, is a retro sci-fi/noir, which he followed up with a prequel novella, *A Whisper to a Scheme and I'll Be Your Scam in Motion*. He writes the flash fiction series Trace Walker Temporary Mysteries for Gumshoereview.com. Boop's recent release is the weird western novel, *The Drowned Horse Chronicle Volume 1*.

FB dboop_updates & @David.boop & Davidboop.com

Claire Booth



Claire Booth is the author of the Sheriff Hank Worth mystery series. Before escaping into the world of fiction, she was a journalist whose writing career took her from Missouri to Washington, D.C., South Florida, the Seattle area, and the Bay Area. She's reported on many high-profile crimes, including a deadly cult leader who became the subject of her nonfiction book, *The False Prophet*. After that, she had enough of real crime and decided to start making things up. Her acclaimed Sheriff Hank Worth novels take place in Branson, Missouri, where the small-town Ozarks meet big-city country music tourism.

www.clairebooth.com

Bruce Borgos



Bruce Borgos lives and writes from the Nevada desert where he works hard every day to prove his high school guidance counselor had good instincts when he said "You'll never be an astronaut." He has a lifelong obsession with words and stories and a fascination with how telephones work. The author of three novels, his latest, *The Bitter Past* (Minotaur Books, July 2023) is a dual-timeline story combining Cold War atomic espionage with a present day hunt for an assassin in the high desert of Nevada. It has been described by Bruce's 92-year-old father as "a good book."

www.bruceborgos.com

Rhys Bowen



Rhys Bowen is the NYT-bestselling author of two historical mystery series: the Molly Murphy mysteries about an Irish Immigrant in New York (now co-written with her daughter Clare) and the lighter Royal Spyness novels. She also writes bestselling historical standalone novels. Her work has been translated into 30 languages, including Moldovan and Macedonian (who knew?). A transplanted Brit, she divides her time between California and Arizona.

www.rhysbowen.com

Clare Broyles



Clare Broyles was happy to join the family business last year as she became the co-author of the Molly Murphy series with her mother, Rhys Bowen. She is a music and math teacher at a Montessori school, as well as an AriZoni-nominated theater composer and arranger and a member of a local improv troupe. She lives in Phoenix with her husband and two goofy dogs. They have three children who have all flown the nest. Clare's first novel, *Wild Irish Rose*, came out in March 2022 and her second, *All That Is Hidden*, is due out in March. At least two more adventures are in the works for the Molly Murphy series in the coming years.

www.clarebroyles.com

Craig Faustus Buck



Craig Faustus Buck has won numerous awards for his neo-noir romp, *Go Down Hard*, and his short stories, many of which are available free at his website. He is also a screenwriter, having written and/or produced more network television than he cares to admit. Some highlights include the seminal miniseries *V: The Final Battle*, the Oscar-nominated short film, *Overnight Sensation* (starring Louise Fletcher and Robert Loggia), and the famous episode where The Incredible Hulk drops acid. He is currently drowning in the second act of his WIP.

CraigFaustusBuck.com

Leslie Budewitz AKA Alicia Beckman



Leslie Budewitz is a three-time Agatha Award winner and the best-selling author of the Spice Shop mysteries, set in Seattle's Pike Place Market, and Food Lovers' Village mysteries, inspired by Bigfork, Montana, where she lives. The worse the joke, the better the title. Hence the latest, *Peppermint Barked*, and the next, *Between a Wok and a Dead Place* (coming July 2023). As Alicia Beckman, she writes moody suspense, beginning with *Bitterroot Lake* and continuing with *Blind Faith*. Leslie is a past president of Sisters in Crime. More about Leslie, her books, and cat pictures at her website.

www.LeslieBudewitz.com

Stephen Buehler



Stephen Buehler's short story, "Not My Day," was a Derringer Finalist. In 2019, his short story, "Girl of 100 Lists," appeared in *Murder a Go-Gos*, an anthology based on songs by the GO-GOs. He's had a con man story published in both *Low Down Dirty Vote Vol. 2* and *Low Down Dirty Vote Vol.3*. Stephen's current project is a book-within-a-book called *If the Gumshoe Fits*, which alternates between today and the world of a 1930s PI. By day he is a script/story consultant and magician. He lives in Los Angeles with a dog named Seymour.

www.stephenbuehler.com

Ellen Byron AKA Maria DiRico



Ellen's most impressive achievement is working as a cater-waiter for Martha Stewart and being pictured in the book *Entertaining*, where she looks very Downstairs to Martha's Upstairs. Her Cajun Country Mysteries won two Agatha Awards and multiple Best Humorous Mystery Leftys. *Bayou Book Thief*, her first Vintage Cookbook, is nominated for both Agatha and Lefty awards. She also writes the Catering Hall Mystery series as Maria DiRico. Ellen is an award-winning playwright and non-award-winning TV writer of hits like *Wings*, *Just Shoot Me*, and *Fairly OddParents*, plus many shows that quickly and justifiably disappeared.

[Ed. Note: You've probably noticed that Ellen is also Toastmaster!]

www.ellenbyron.com

Lynn Cahoon



After "wanting to write" for most of her life, Lynn Cahoon got a scare from the universe that pushed her into actually doing it in 2007. She sold her first romance a short five years later and then three cozy mysteries in 2013 – one which hit the NYT list in 2014. Since that time, she's written books in six different cozy mystery series focusing on relatable amateur sleuths who get to have the careers Lynn always wanted to have, including bookseller, chef, and author/writing retreat owner. You can find out more about her cozy mysteries at her website.

www.lynncahoon.com

Susanna C. Calkins



Susanna Calkins writes the award-winning Lucy Campion historical mysteries set in 17th century London and the Speakeasy Murders set in 1920s Chicago. She throws herself into her research – for her first series, she served as a living history specialist (AKA a pirate! Arrrr!) aboard the *Golden Hinde*, a museum replica dry-docked in London. Her books have been nominated for the Mary Higgins Clark, the Agatha, the Anthony, the Macavity and the Lefty (best historical). Born and raised in Philadelphia, she lives in the Chicago area now, with her husband and two sons.

www.susannacalkins.com

M.H. Callway



Madeleine (pen name M. H. Callway) had a long career in science, business, and IT before returning to her childhood love of writing. She met Queen Elizabeth, toured working mines, and helped solve a real-life murder case – though not all at the same time! She has published more than 20 short stories; many have won or been short-listed for awards, including the Crime Writers of Canada and the Derringer awards. Her novel, *Windigo Fire*, was a finalist for the CWC's Best First Novel Award. In 2013, she co-founded the Mesdames and Messieurs of Mayhem, a collective of 25 leading Canadian crime writers and artists. They have five critically acclaimed anthologies: *Thirteen*, *13 O'clock*, *13 Claws*, *In the Key of 13*, and *In the Spirit of 13*.

www.mesdamesofmayhem.com & mhcallway.com

Kris Calvin



Honored by the California Governor's office for her leadership in child advocacy, Kris Calvin is a single mother of three who writes thrilling mystery/crime fiction stories for adults in which no harm comes to children. Kris's writing has received multiple awards, including Best First Novel, Best Female Detective/Sleuth, and Best Political Thriller. Her new series features Emma Lawson, an ethics investigator, and Detective Alibi Morning Sun, who together track down corruption and killers in California's capital of Sacramento. Learn more about Kris and her books (also available as audiobooks) at her website.

www.kriscalvin.com

Mindy Carlson



Mindy Carlson, author of *Her Dying Day*, grew up on a farm in northern Iowa. She got her degree in Animal Science and then instead of going to vet school she took a left turn and moved into a commune in Berkeley, CA. Naturally, she now writes comedic mysteries featuring messy women heroes in impossible situations. Mindy lives outside Washington, DC, with her husband, two kids, and two cats. She loves coffee shops, curling, and champagne brunches. If you want to see what she's baking, knitting, writing, reading, or thinking, you can pop by her website.

www.MindyCarlson.com

Marco Carocari



Marco Carocari hails from Switzerland, where he worked numerous jobs and enjoyed five seconds of fame in a mostly forgotten but gratifying career as a photographer of erotic art. His debut, *Blackout*, was nominated for a Lefty and won TheNYCBigBookAward and Independent Press Award for Best LGBTQ Novel. His short stories appear in *Malice Domestic 16: Mystery Most Diabolical* (All in the Planning) and *Saints & Sinners 2023 Short Fiction Anthology* (Grace). Marco lives in the Californian desert with his exceptionally sweet and supportive (aka patient) husband.

www.marcocarocari.com

Gloria Casale



Gloria Casale is a small-town girl from New Jersey. She earned her medical degree from the University of Kentucky and completed advanced training in Preventive Medicine and Public Health. In addition, she was a consultant to the Division of Transnational Threats at Sandia Laboratory. She's been an invited speaker to the members of the United States military and has given multiple lectures to various groups on the international transport of disease.

www.gloriacasalewrites.com

Donis Casey



Donis Casey is the author of 12 historical mysteries, including a new mystery/thriller series set in glamorous 1920s Hollywood, starring Bianca LaBelle, intrepid heroine of the silent screen action serial, *The Adventures of Bianca Dangereuse*. Donis also penned ten Alafair Tucker Mysteries, set in Oklahoma during the booming 1910s and featuring the incredibly determined mother of ten children. Donis has twice won the Arizona Book Award and has been a finalist for the Willa Award and the Oklahoma Book Award. Her first novel, *The Old Buzzard Had It Coming*, was named an Oklahoma Centennial Book. Donis is a former teacher, academic librarian, and entrepreneur. She lives in Tempe, AZ.

doniscasey.com

Diana R. Chambers



Born with book in one hand, passport in the other. One thing led to the next: Paris translation agency, Asian arts export/import, LA costumer, scriptwriter... until characters demanded their own (spy) novels – *Stinger*, set Pakistan/Afghanistan border; sequel, *The Company She Keeps*, set in Paris and Tehran. Latest is *The Star of India*, pubbed Penguin Random House India, based on true story of Hollywood actress and Cambridge-educated maharaja during last days of the Raj. Wrote miniseries pilot. Member WGA, PEN, MWA, past-president SinC-NorCal, I live in Sonoma County and Aix-en-Provence. (Meanwhile our cat, Marco Polo, practices French.)

Insta @dianarc1 & dianarchambers.com

Lance Charnes



Lance Charnes has been an Air Force intelligence officer, information technology manager, computer-game artist, set designer, and *Jeopardy!* contestant, and is now an emergency management specialist. He's had training in architectural rendering, terrorist incident response, and maritime archaeology, though not all at the same time. His Facebook page features spies, archaeology, and art crime. Lance is the author of the DeWitt Agency Files series of international art-crime novels, the DeWitt Agency Adventures series of action-adventure novels, the international thriller *Doha 12*, and the near-future thriller *South*. His first historical espionage novel, *Bluejay Rises*, is due in early 2023.

www.wombatgroup.com

Sarah M. Chen



Sarah M. Chen is a children's author and award-winning short story writer based in Los Angeles. Her noir novella, *Cleaning Up Finn*, was an Anthony finalist and IPPY Award winner. She's the co-editor for several anthologies and her writing has appeared in the *Los Angeles Review of Books* and *Hapa Mag*, among others.

sarahmchen.com

Jennifer J. Chow



Jennifer J. Chow, unapologetic Christie fan and Oxford comma supporter, enjoys matcha hot – or on the rocks. She’s the author of the Lefty Award–nominated series: Sassy Cat Mysteries and L.A. Night Market Mysteries. *Hot Pot Murder*, the second book in her Night Market series, comes out on June 6. Jennifer stays active by chauffeuring her kids around and juggling presidential duties for Sisters in Crime. She lives near the beach in sunny SoCal, but spends much of her time indoors blogging at www.chicksonthecase.com and checking Crime Writers of Color’s online discussions.

www.jenniferjchow.com

Evelyn Cirincione AKA Catherine Paul



Evelyn Cirincione writes under the pen name Catherine Paul. She is the current president of Tucson Sisters in Crime. She is a retired Special Needs teacher, specialty, the deaf. Her books in the Cousins Books series have touched on the deaf and have been well received. She lives in Tucson with her two dogs: Bonnie, a West Highland Terrier, and Fiona, a chihuahua rescue dog. Evelyn enjoys research into the history of the Southwest from the earliest times. She is working on her next book *Dane of Sinclair*.

www.catherinepaulmysterywriter.com

Tracy Clark



Tracy Clark, a native Chicagoan, is the author of the Cass Raines Chicago Mystery series and the Det. Harriet Foster series, both set in Chicago. A multi-nominated Anthony, Lefty, Edgar, Macavity and Shamus Award finalist, she is also the 2020 and 2022 winner of the G.P. Putnam’s Sons Sue Grafton Memorial Award. Tracy is a member of Crime Writers of Color, Sisters in Crime, and Mystery Writers of America, and serves on the boards of Bouchercon national and the Midwest Mystery Conference. When not writing, she’s watching old black-and-white movies, reading, or rooting for the Cubs, the Sox, the Bears, the Blackhawks, the Chicago Sky, and the Chicago Fire – equally.

www.tracyclarkbooks.com

Nancy Coco AKA Nancy J. Parra



USA Today Bestselling Author, Nancy J. Parra AKA Nancy Coco AKA Nell Hampton is the author of over 30 published novels which include five mystery series: The Oregon Honeycomb Mystery Series (Kensington), The Candy-Coated Mysteries (Kensington), The Kensington Palace Mystery Series (Crooked Lane), The Wine Country Tours Mystery Series (Crooked Lane), The Gluten-free Baker’s Treat Mysteries (Berkley Prime Crime), and The Perfect Proposal Mysteries (Berkley Prime Crime). Her writing has been called witty and her protagonists plucky by reviewers around the world. Nancy is a member of Sisters in Crime, and loves to talk with readers.

www.nancyjcoco.com

Celeste Connally



Celeste Connally is the author of The Ancestry Detective series, an Agatha Award nominee, and a former freelance writer and editor, all under her other name of S.C. Perkins. A lifelong devotee of historical novels and adaptations fueled by her passion for history – plus weekly doses of PBS’ Masterpiece – Celeste loves reading and writing about women who don’t always do as they’re told. Celeste’s next book is a historical mystery with a dash of romance. Set in Regency England and titled *Act Like a Lady, Think Like a Lord*, it hits shelves November 14th.

Insta/Facebook @CelesteConnallyAuthor; celesteconnally.com

Colin Conway



Colin Conway is the creator of the 509 Crime Stories, the Cozy Up series, and several others. He served in the U.S. Army and later was a police officer. Along with writing crime fiction, Colin is a commercial real estate broker and investor. He lives in Eastern Washington with his girlfriend and a codependent Vizsla that rules their world.

colinconway.com

Michael J. Cooper



Michael Cooper fled to Israel in 1966 and lived in Jerusalem during the last year the city was divided between Israel and Jordan. One thing led to another and he stayed for the next decade. Among other misadventures, he graduated from Tel Aviv University Medical School. Now a pediatric cardiologist in Northern California, he volunteers for medical missions to Palestine serving children who lack access to care. His historical fiction is set in the Holy Land; *The Rabbi's Knight* in 1290, *Foxes in the Vineyard* in 1948, *Wages of Empire* in 1914.

michaeljcooper.net

Rick Copp AKA Lee Hollis



Lee Hollis is the pen name for the brother and sister writing duo of Rick Copp and Holly Simason, who prove the theory that when siblings work together, they don't always necessarily want to kill each other. Rick is a veteran Hollywood screenwriter whose credits include *The Golden Girls*, *Wings*, *The Brady Bunch Movie*, and *Scooby Doo*. Holly is an award winning food columnist. Together they write the Hayley Powell Food & Cocktails Mysteries. Rick also writes the Poppy Harmon and the Maya & Sandra mysteries as Lee Hollis.

LeeHollisMysteries.com

Lala Corriere



What do you do when you sink your heart and soul into a novel, publish it, make some decent money, and get a review that reads that I, the author, should keep my day job? The problem was that this WAS my day job. Good news? I continued with my words. Prior to my writing, my 5th-grade teacher suggested my path as a writer. I chose other avenues to pay my bills. Done with that! My heart called to me. Blessed was I to receive a kind mentorship with Sidney Sheldon before his passing. "Corriere's hallmark original plots, in-depth character portrayals, rich settings, and authentic dialogue, all delivered with a fresh new voice and plenty of plot twists."

www.lalacorriere.com

Matt Coyle



Matt Coyle is the author of the bestselling Rick Cahill crime series. He knew he wanted to be a mystery writer at the age of thirteen when his father gave him Raymond Chandler's *The Simple Art of Murder*. Matt's books have won the Anthony, Shamus, Lefty, Authors on the Air Book of the Year, Ben Franklin Silver, Foreword Reviews Book of the Year Silver, and San Diego Book Awards. He was named the Mystery Writer of the Year for 2021 by the San Diego Writers Festival. *Doomed Legacy* is the ninth book in the Rick Cahill series.

mattcoylebooks.com

Eli Cranor



Eli Cranor played quarterback at every level: peewee to professional, and then coached high school football for five years. These days, he's traded in the pigskin for a laptop, writing from Arkansas where he lives with his wife and kids. He is the author of *Don't Know Tough* and the forthcoming *Ozark Dogs*.

elicranor.com

Elizabeth Crowens



Elizabeth Crowens has worn many hats in the entertainment industry, contributes to Black Belt, Black Gate, and Sherlock Holmes Mystery magazines, has published short stories in Hell's Heart and the Bram Stoker-nominated *A New York State of Fright* and has a popular Caption Contest on Facebook. She has three award-winning alternate history novels. Awards include 2020 Leo B. Burstein Scholarship from the MWA-NY Chapter, New York Foundation of the Arts grant, an Eric Hoffer Award, Honorable Mention in the Glimmer Train Awards, and two grand prize and three first prize Chanticleer Awards. Crowens also writes in the Hollywood mystery genre.

www.elizabethcrowens.com

Erynn Crowley AKA Erynn Leigh



Erynn is an Arizona-based writer with Midwestern roots. She's loved mysteries since reading her first Trixie Belden in third grade. After recently escaping a 30-year urban planning/public administration career, Erynn is now pursuing her writing passion. She combines her love of mystery with interests in history, architecture, and genealogy to write twisty tales featuring family history, lies, and deceit – often involving unique homes or buildings. Her recently published short story, "Truth Be Told," and her WIP novel, *Buried Truths*, are set in a fictional version of her hometown of Bloomington-Normal, IL. When not writing, Erynn can be found reading, traveling, or taking way too many photos.

erynnleigh.com

Rebecca Dahlke



RP Dahlke is the author of The Dead Red Mystery Series, two Romantic Suspense novels based on her time sailing in Mexico, and beginning with Book#1, *Hiding in Plain Sight*, the Frankie Gates Paranormal Mystery series. Her books are available on Amazon. Memberships: Tucson Sisters in Crime, Sisters in Crime National, and Arizona Mystery Writers. She's been a speaker on the subject of promoting at the following conferences: Left Coast Crime, California Crime Writers Conference, and Las Vegas Writers Conference.

rpdahlke.com

John DeDakis



Award-winning novelist, writing coach, and manuscript editor John DeDakis is a former editor on CNN's "The Situation Room with Wolf Blitzer." DeDakis is the author of five mystery-suspense-thriller novels. In his most recent novel, *Fake*, protagonist Lark Chadwick is a White House correspondent defending against "fake news" in the era of #MeToo. DeDakis, a former White House correspondent, regularly leads writing workshops at literary centers and writers' conferences. He is also the host of the video podcast "One-to-One" on YouTube, Facebook, and LinkedIn. In his spare time, what little he has of it, he's a jazz drummer.

www.johndedakis.com

The Missing Author



*This space is dedicated to an author
who had to cancel right before the Program Book
was delivered to the printer.*

A.J. Devlin



A.J. Devlin grew up in Vancouver, before moving to Southern California where he earned a BFA in Screenwriting from Chapman University, an MFA in Screenwriting from the American Film Institute, and was a screenwriter in Hollywood. In 2019, *Cobra Clutch*, first in the “Hammerhead” Jed pro-wrestler PI mystery-comedy series, was nominated for a Lefty Award for Best Debut and won the Crime Writers of Canada Award of Excellence for Best First Novel. The highly-acclaimed sequel, *Rolling Thunder* (2020), was featured in Kirkus, Mystery Tribune, and LJ Reviews. Book three, *Five Moves of Doom*, was selected by *The Globe and Mail* as a Best Books of 2022, won the 2022 Crime Fiction Lover Editor’s Choice Award for Best Indie Crime Novel, and is nominated for a 2023 Lefty for Best Humorous Mystery.

@ajdevlinauthor; ajdevlin.com

Karen Dodd



Karen Dodd’s Nicoló Moretti Crime Thriller and Stone Suspense series take readers from Calabria, Italy, to historic Malta and into the wild world of assassinations, political intrigue, and money-laundering. What readers of Karen’s novels say repeatedly is that they can hear, smell, and feel themselves in the settings as vividly seen through the eyes of her characters. When she’s not traveling for research (a dirty job, but somebody’s got to do it!), she resides in a small seaside village on the west coast of British Columbia with one husband, an assertive Ragdoll cat, and an English Cream Golden Retriever puppy who’s soon to be conceived.

karendodd.com

Barna W. Donovan



Barna William Donovan is an author and professor of Communication and Media Studies at Saint Peter’s University. He is the author of the bodybuilder murder mystery *Fatal Pose*, as well as the thrillers *Confirmation: Investigations of the Unexplained* and *The Cedar Valley Covenant*. He is also the author of several nonfiction books on films and audiences, including *Conspiracy Films: A Tour of Dark Places in the American Conscious.* His commentaries on conspiracy theories, film, TV, and pop culture have been quoted in media like Forbes, Variety, Yahoo News, HLNTV, CNBC, and various publications from Europe to Latin America.

barnadonovan.blogspot.com & www.barnadonovan.com

Conda Douglas



Conda V. Douglas adores using settings as characters in her work. Her short story “Triple Dang,” in the *Trouble in Tucson* anthology, was sparked by her inadvertent visit to a skanky Tucson bar. When not wrangling her furred beasts (rat terrier, orange cat and bearded husband), Conda delights in baking new recipes and working on the third in her Starke Dead Mysteries series, *The Great Ganja Goodbye*, (without sampling the ganja for research!). Conda’s had oodles published, short and long.

Emmeline Duncan AKA Kelly Garrett



Like her Ground Rules Mystery series, Emmeline Duncan is based in Portland, Oregon. Her series includes *Fresh Brewed Murder*, *Double Shot Death*, and *Flat White Fatality*, which comes out on May 23rd. Emmeline also writes for teens as Kelly Garrett. Her debut YA novel, *The Last To Die*, was an Oregon Book Awards finalist. She was also a 2020 Oregon Literary Fellow. When not writing, she spends her time seeking out new coffee shops and hiking trails to explore, frequently accompanied by her Great Pyrenees sidekick.

emmelineanduncan.com

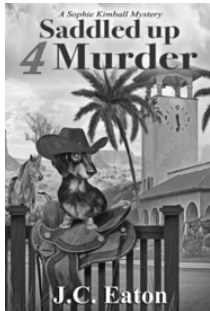
J.C. Eaton (Jim Clapp)



J.C. Eaton is the husband-and-wife cozy mystery team of James E. Clapp and Ann I. Goldfarb. The real mystery is how they've managed to write over 20 books together without murdering each other! Jim is a former tasting room manager for a large winery in upstate New York who traded non-fiction writing for the world of cozies, while Ann is a retired teacher and school principal who started out writing YA time travel mysteries before she discovered cozies. Together they pen the Sophie Kimball Mysteries, set in a senior community in ...

[continued following]

J.C. Eaton (Ann Goldfarb)



...Sun City West, Arizona, the Wine Trail Mysteries, located in New York's Finger Lakes and their new Charcuterie Shop Mysteries, featuring a feisty ghost in Cave Creek, Arizona. All of their cozies are meant to keep readers laughing and guessing whodunnit. In addition, they have a detective series that takes place in New Ulm, Minnesota (The Marcie Rayner Mysteries).

www.jceatonmysteries.com

Marty Eberhardt



Marty Eberhardt is a retired botanical garden executive director and nonprofit professional who now prefers to use the right side of her brain to write fiction. *Death in a Desert Garden*, her first novel, won the Arizona/New Mexico Book Award for cozy mystery in 2022, as well as two Firebird awards and a CIPA/EVVY award. *Bones in the Back Forty*, out in January 2023, is the second in the Bea Rivers botanical garden mystery series. Marty and her husband divide their time between Tucson and the small mountain town of Silver City, NM, enjoying the flora, fauna, and quirky characters of both locations.

martyeberhardt.com

Rich Ehsen



Rich Ehsen is editor in chief at *Capitol Weekly*, a nonprofit news publication that covers the California State Capitol. When not chronicling public policy issues, he is the producer and moderator of The Open Mic: Writers in Their Own Words podcast/YouTube show, which features his entertaining discussions on writing with authors like Jonathan Maberry, J.A. Jance, Lincoln Child, Tracy Clark, Peter Abrahams, Connor Sullivan, Stephen Mack Jones, Tori Eldridge, and many more. In his free time (insert eye roll here) Rich has convinced himself this is the year he finally lands a book deal for the crime fiction novel he has been working on since dirt was new.

richehsen.com

Ramona Emerson



Ramona Emerson is a Diné writer and filmmaker originally from Tohatchi, New Mexico. She received her degree in Media Arts in 1997 from the University of New Mexico and her MFA in Creative Writing (Fiction) in 2015 from the Institute of American Indian Arts. She is an Emmy nominee, a Sundance Native Lab Fellow, a Time-Warner Storyteller Fellow, a Tribeca All-Access Grantee, and a WGBH Producer Fellow. Ramona enjoys long days watching the First 48 and anything involving demons, ghosts, or evil forces. She also loves short walks into her house, all things Prince, and large doses of gummy bears.

reelindianpictures.com

Christina Estes



Emmy award-winning reporter Christina Estes is the recipient of the Tony Hillerman Prize for Best First Mystery set in the Southwest. Her debut, *Off the Air*, features a Phoenix reporter investigating the murder of a controversial talk show host, and is inspired by Christina's career. She currently reports for the NPR member station in Phoenix. Minotaur Books will publish *Off the Air* in 2024.

www.christinaestes.com

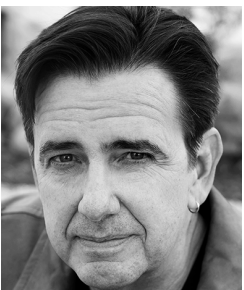
Laurie Fagen



An honorable mention in an Alfred Hitchcock contest led to multiple published anthology stories, and her crime fiction novel series Behind the Mic Mysteries – *Fade Out*, *Dead Air*, and *Bleeder* – are available in e-book, print, and audiobook. She's working on *Raw Image*, the first in a new series – Behind the Lens Mysteries – and just launched "Murder in the Air Mystery Theatre" podcast. Fagen is a member of Sisters in Crime and chapters including Los Angeles, San Diego and Grand Canyon Writers.

www.ReadLaurieFagen.com

Corey Lynn Fayman



"A powerful new voice on the crime-fiction scene" (ForeWord Reviews), Corey Lynn Fayman has done hard time as a musician, interactive developer, and theatrical sound designer, but still refuses to apologize for it. His hometown of San Diego, CA provides the backdrop for his mystery series featuring the guitar-slinging private detective Rolly Waters, including the award-winning *Border Field Blues* and *Desert City Diva*. The latest in the series, *Ballast Point Breakdown*, was awarded the best-in-show Geisel Award at the 2021 San Diego Book Awards. The fifth book in the series, *Gillespie Field Groove*, arrives March 2023.

www.coreylynnfayman.com

Janet Finsilver



USA Today best-selling author Janet Finsilver and her husband reside in the San Francisco Bay Area. Janet loves animals and has a Rhodesian ridgeback and a boxer/coonhound. Dogs with special abilities bound through the pages of her mysteries. You'll meet dogs trained in a variety of areas such as cancer detection, hearing assistance, and tracking to name a few. Her protagonist, Kelly Jackson, is assisted by a group of crime-solving senior citizens, the Silver Sentinels. The series currently consists of *Murder at Redwood Cove*, *Murder at the Mansion*, *Murder at the Fortune Teller's Table*, *Murder at the Mushroom Festival*, *Murder at the Marina*, and *Murder in the Wine Country*.

www.janetfinsilver.com

Mariah Fredericks



Mariah Fredericks was born, raised, and still lives on that other coast in the city they call New York. She graduated from Vassar College with a degree in history. She is the author of the Jane Prescott mystery series, which has twice been nominated for the Mary Higgins Clark Award. Her latest novel, *The Lindbergh Nanny*, was hailed by CrimeReads as one of the Best Historical Mysteries of 2022 and listed by BookBub among the Best Historical Fiction of Fall 2022.

mariahfredericksbooks.com

S.M. Freedman



S.M. Freedman studied at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York and spent years as a private investigator on the not-so-mean streets of Vancouver, before returning to her first love: writing. Her latest cult thriller, *Blood Atonement* (Dundurn Press), about a woman who escapes an isolated sect of the FLDS and must determine if her alter personality is a murderer or if she's about to be the next victim, made *The Globe and Mail's* Top 100 Best Books of 2022. She's also the author of *The Day She Died* (Dundurn Press) and The Faithful series (Thomas & Mercer).

www.smfreedman.com

Dianne Freeman



Dianne Freeman is the acclaimed author of the Countess of Harleigh Mystery series. She is an Agatha Award and Lefty Award winner, as well as a finalist for the prestigious Mary Higgins Clark Award and the Sue Feder Historical Mystery Award. After thirty years of working in corporate accounting and finance, she now writes full-time. Born and raised in Michigan, she and her husband split their time between Michigan and Arizona.

www.DiFreeman.com

Jamie Freveletti



Jamie Freveletti is an award winning author of seven novels and four short stories. Her Emma Caldridge series (*Running from the Devil*, *Running Dark*, *The Ninth Day*, *Dead Asleep*, *Blood Run*) won an International Thriller Writers Best First Novel award, a Barry, and was a VOX media pick in Germany. She's written for Robert Ludlum's Covert One series (*The Janus Reprisal*, *The Geneva Strategy*) and is a contributor to the non-fiction anthology *Anatomy of Innocence, Testimonies of the Wrongfully Convicted*. A former lawyer, avid distance runner and black belt in aikido, she loves writing and drinks prodigious amounts of coffee.

www.Jamiefreveletti.com

Kellye Garrett



Kellye Garrett is the author of *Like A Sister*, about a black woman in New York City looking into the mysterious overdose of her estranged reality star sister. In addition to being featured on the *TODAY* show, the suspense novel was a Book of the Month April 2022 selection, the Oxygen channel's July Book Club pick and nominated for both Lefty and Edgar awards. The cofounder of Crime Writers of Color also wrote the Detective by Day lightweight mysteries, which have won the Anthony, Agatha, Lefty, and IPPY awards.

KellyeGarrett.com

Alicia Gaspar de Alba



Alicia Gaspar de Alba leads a double life. By day, they're a professor of Chicana and Central American Studies, English, and Gender Studies at UCLA, where they have taught since 1994. By night, once their daughter is tucked into bed and their wife is napping in front of the TV, they don their writing hat and let themselves slip into the rabbit hole of their own creative "Wonderland." They've published 13 books, including award-winning novels, collections of poems and short fiction, and academic books.

aliciagaspardealba.net

Colleen Glynn



Colleen Glynn is a retired administrative assistant with Worksafe BC. A resident in Richmond, BC, Canada, she is a big fan of murder mysteries and was the co-chair of the Vancouver Left Coast Crime convention in 2019. She has been attending the LCC conventions since 2014 and loves participating in the volunteer work at the conventions as well as attending all the panels. She is very excited about the convention in Tucson.

Lee Goldberg



Lee Goldberg is the #1 New York Times bestselling author of nearly 40 novels, including *Lost Hills*, *True Fiction*, fifteen Monk mysteries, the first five "Fox & O'Hare" books (co-written with Janet Evanovich), and is the co-founder of the publishing company Brash Books. He's also written and/or produced many TV shows (Diagnosis Murder, SeaQuest, Monk, etc.), co-created the hit Hallmark movie series Mystery 101, and wrote the upcoming Pierce Brosnan movie *Fast Charlie*. His latest novel, *Malibu Burning*, will be out in June.

www.leegoldberg.com

Lee Matthew Goldberg



Lee Matthew Goldberg is the author of 13 novels including *The Ancestor* and *The Mentor*. *The Great Gimmelmans* will be released November 2023. His books are in various stages of development for film and TV off of his original scripts. He has been published in multiple languages and nominated for the Prix du Polar. After graduating with an MFA from the New School, his writing has also appeared as a contributor in CrimeReads, Pipeline Artists, LitHub, *The Los Angeles Review of Books*, The Millions, Vol. 1 Brooklyn, LitReactor, Mystery Tribune, Cagibi, and others. He is the co-curator of The Guerrilla Lit Reading Series and lives in New York City.

LeeMatthewGoldberg.com

Debra H. Goldstein



Judge Debra H. Goldstein writes Kensington's Sarah Blair mystery series (*Five Belles Too Many*, *Four Cuts Too Many*, *Three Treats Too Many*, *Two Bites Too Many*, and *One Taste Too Many*). Her novels and short stories have been named Agatha, Anthony, Derringer, and Silver Falchion finalists, and won IPPY, AWC, and BWR awards. Debra served on the national boards of Sisters in Crime and Mystery Writers of America and was president of the Guppy and SEMWA chapters.

www.DebraHGoldstein.com

G.P. Gottlieb



G.P. Gottlieb's motto is, "never pass up a piece of pie," but she's open-minded about trying cakes, cookies, and other pastries. She authored the Whipped and Sipped Mystery Series published by D.X. Varos (*Battered* 2019, *Smothered* 2021, and *Charred* 2023). As host for New Books in Literature, a podcast channel on the New Books Network, Gottlieb has interviewed over 175 authors. She used to be a musician but now she mostly just listens and/or critiques.

FB [authorgottlieb](#) & [gpgottlieb.com](#)

Juliet Grames



Juliet Grames is SVP & Associate Publisher at Soho Press, where she edits the critically acclaimed Soho Crime list. In 2022, she received the Ellery Queen Award from Mystery Writers of America for her editorial contributions to the genre. In her free time, she is a novelist. Her second novel, *The Lost Boy of Santa Chionia*, a murder mystery set in 1960 Southern Italy, will be published by Knopf in 2024. Juliet counts Tucson, her dad's hometown, as her second home, and hopes everyone is planning a trip to the Desert Museum and to El Charro, where the chimichanga was invented in 1922.

[Sohopress.com](#)

Michael Griffo



Michael Griffo has published 14 novels with Kensington Books under four different names. He's currently seeking treatment for his identity crisis. *Murder in an Italian Village*, the first in a new series, will be published October '23 – in hardcover baby! – under the name Michael Falco. As J.D. Griffo, he's penned six cozies in The Ferrara Family Mystery Series, which he describes as The Golden Girls meets Nancy Drew. As Michael Griffo he's written two YA supernatural trilogies, and as Michael Salvatore he's published two LGBTQ novels. That's quite a range, if he does say so himself. He's won awards for his plays, written screenplays that nobody seems to want to buy, and is a Level 6 adult figure skater. [www.michaelgriffo.com](#)

Puja Guha



Puja Guha grew up and has worked all over the world, something which she channels into her writing, incorporating settings from New York to Madagascar to Iran. So far, she has published five spy thrillers, an international family drama and a psychological thriller. Her spy thriller series The Ahriman Legacy is an Amazon bestseller. Her recent psychological thriller *Sirens of Memory* was named one of the best crime fiction books of 2021 by Diverse Voices Book Review.

[www.pujaguha.com](#)

Meredith Hambrock



Meredith Hambrock is a Canadian fiction and television writer. She most recently worked on the sitcom "Corner Gas Animated" where she wrote for many hilarious Canadians, among them Michael J. Fox, and Bret "The Hitman" Hart. Her short fiction has been published in *Maisonneuve*, *The Rusty Toque* and *Descant* and she's been shortlisted for the CBC Short Story Prize and The House of Anansi/Broken Social Scene Short Fiction Prize. The New York Times called her debut novel *Other People's Secrets* "audacious." Being a southpaw, she's extra honoured to be nominated for Best Debut Novel at this year's Lefty Awards.

[meredithhambrock.com](#)

Glen Erik Hamilton



A native of Seattle, Glen Erik Hamilton's novels have won the Anthony, Macavity, and Strand Magazine Critics awards, and been nominated for the Edgar, Barry, and Nero awards. His series featuring reformed thief Van Shaw has been called "outstanding" (*Publishers Weekly*), "perfect mix of serious crime and caper movie" (*Criminal Element*), and "a must-read series" (*Mystery Scene Magazine*). The latest, *Island of Thieves*, was named one of *USA Today's* "5 Books Not to Miss." Glen never misses a *Columbo* rerun.

glenerikhamilton.com

Rob Hart



Rob Hart is the author of *The Paradox Hotel*, one of NPR's best books of 2022, as well as *The Warehouse*, which sold in more than 20 languages and was optioned for film by Ron Howard. He also wrote the Ash McKenna crime series, the short story collection *Take-Out*, the novella *Scott Free* with James Patterson, and the comic book *Blood Oath* with Alex Segura.

www.robwhart.com

Julie Hennrikus AKA Julia Henry



Julie Hennrikus has worked in arts administration for over thirty years, and is the current executive director of Sisters in Crime. Her tenth novel, *The Plot Thickets* written as Julia Henry, was published last fall. She also writes as Julianne Holmes and J.A. Hennrikus.

[@wickedauthors](https://twitter.com/wickedauthors) & [@jhauthors](https://twitter.com/jhauthors) & [JHAuthors.com](https://twitter.com/JHAuthors.com)

Sara J. Henry



Sara J. Henry, the author of *Learning To Swim* and *A Cold and Lonely Place*, tucked away an Agatha, Anthony, and Mary Higgins Clark award before turning to fiction editing. Long ago she wrote sports for newspapers and magazines, then wrote and edited non-fiction at Rodale Press. She now edits and acquires crime fiction for Crooked Lane Books, loves well-crafted novels with memorable characters, and enjoys bantering with her authors. She's from Tennessee and lives in Vermont with her teenage son and possibly too many dogs and cats and bicycles.

www.sarajhenry.com

Anne Hillerman



Anne Hillerman grew up in Santa Fe and Albuquerque. Even as a little girl, she loved to make up stories. In 2013, she published her first mystery, *Spider Woman's Daughter*, which continues the adventures of Navajo law enforcement characters created by her father, Tony Hillerman. Her eighth mystery, *The Way of the Bear*, (the 26th in the series), will be released April 27. Her numerous honors include the New Mexico/Arizona book award, the Frank Waters award for contributions to the literature of the Southwest, and the Rounders Award for helping keep the spirit of the American West alive.

annehillerman.com

Naomi Hirahara



Naomi Hirahara has been friendly with a crocodile in Ghana, West Africa, ate a grilled squirrel in Japan, and worked on an interpretive exhibition at the Manzanar National Historic Site. History is her passion and she's enjoying writing historic mysteries for Soho Crime, the first being *Clark and Division*, which won the Mary Higgins Clark Award, and the inaugural Bill Gottfried Memorial Lefty Award for Best Historical Mystery Novel last year. *Evergreen*, the second in the Japantown Mysteries, will be released this August. Contemporary mystery sleuths include Mas Arai, Ellie Rush, and Leilani Santiago.

www.naomihirahara.com

Cheryl Hollon



Cheryl Hollon writes full-time after an engineering career designing and installing military flight simulators in England, Wales, Australia, Singapore, Taiwan, and India. She combines a love of writing with a passion for oil painting and creating glass art in downtown St. Petersburg, Florida. Cheryl is a Past President of the Florida Gulf Coast Sisters in Crime, a member of Florida Mystery Writers of America, and International Thriller Writers

www.cherylhollon.com

Julie Holmes



Award-winning author Julie Holmes writes a variety of mysteries, from suspense with a touch of romance to police procedurals with a brush of extrasensory, with forays into fantasy and science fiction. A former aircraft mechanic for a commuter airline, she is now a technical writer for a software company during the day, and a novelist at night. She is a member of MWA and Sisters in Crime, and hails from south-central Minnesota, where she lives on a small hobby farm with her husband and a menagerie of pets.

[@julieholmesauthor](https://twitter.com/julieholmesauthor) & julieholmesauthor.com

Dean Hovey



A reviewer wrote, "Dean Hovey creates characters I'd like to invite over for a beer." Whether you're following Park Service investigators Doug and Jill Fletcher as they chase a murderer on horseback across the Arizona desert (*Dead End Trail*), laughing at Peter Rogers, the Whistling Pines recreation director as he tries to control an unruly group of senior citizens during the live broadcast of a cooking show (*Whistling Bake Off*), or following sheriff's deputies C.J. (Charlene) Jensen and Pam Ryan as they investigate a deer hunter's suspicious death (*Deadly Business*), you'll be drawn in by the genuine characters and twisting plots in any of his 30 mysteries.

bookswelove.net/hovey-dean

Dorothy Howell



Dorothy Howell is the *USA Today* Bestselling author of 48 novels in the mystery and romance genres. Her books have been translated into a dozen languages with millions sold worldwide. Dorothy writes the Sewing Studio mystery series, as well as the Hollis Brannigan personal shopper series, and the Haley Randolph and Dana Mackenzie series. She writes historical romance novels under her pen name Judith Stacy. Dorothy lives with her family in Los Angeles.

www.DorothyHowellNovels.com

Stephen Hull



Stephen Hull's career in book publishing has included stints with Little, Brown & Co., Simon & Schuster, indie presses, and university presses. From 2001 to 2009 he owned and ran Justin, Charles & Co., an indie press in Boston publishing literary and mystery/crime fiction, an experience he likens to being chained to a rock where an eagle visited him daily to dine on his liver. He is currently Director of the University of New Mexico Press, and a Professor of Practice at the University of New Mexico. With a high desert noir set in Santa Fe currently out on submission, Stephen feels like he's back on that rock greeting the eagle.

Curtis Ippolito



Curtis Ippolito is the author of the crime novel *Burying the Newspaper Man*. He's actively querying his latest novel to agents, meaning if you see him with his face in his phone at this conference it just means he's checking his email for the 1,000th time that day. Curtis enjoys Tucson quite a bit, and has been here several times. His suggestion for out-of-towners is if you have time, download the Mt. Lemmon Science Tour guide from your phone's app store and take the drive up Mt. Lemmon. Also, if you get Mexican food, you must order the cheese crisp.

curtisippolito.com

Kate B Jackson



Despite being voted "most likely to become an obnoxious politician" in high school, Kate B Jackson is a PNW author of mystery novels for grownups and mystery/adventure novels for kids. Her most recent middle grade release is *The Sasquatch of Hawthorne Elementary* about a 12-year-old boy hired by the most popular girl at his new school to investigate what she saw in the nearby woods. Book one in the Chattertowne Mysteries series, *Secrets Don't Sink*, (Level Best Books July 2023) introduces Audrey O'Connell, a small town feature reporter who, when her former boyfriend's body is found floating in the local marina, uncovers the depths to which some will go to keep secrets submerged.

KBJackson.com

Alan Jacobson



Alan Jacobson is the *USA Today* bestselling author of the FBI profiler Karen Vail series and OPSIG Team Black covert ops books. His mother was mayor of San Francisco and his grandfather designed the Golden Gate Bridge. That's not true, but Jacobson has set books in San Francisco and on the bridge, as well as all over the world. Several of his novels have been optioned by Hollywood and his debut mystery, *False Accusations*, was adapted to film by acclaimed Czech screenwriter Jiri Hubac. Jacobson was co-producing the first Karen Vail novel, *The 7th Victim*, for TNT before the project blew up just prior to filming. (Oddly, the NBA was to blame – and that is true.) His latest book, the first in the fixer Mickey Keller series, is *The Lost Girl*.

www.AlanJacobson.com

J.A. Jance



Born in South Dakota, raised in Bisbee, Arizona, and now living in the Seattle area, J.A. Jance, a former snowbird, is as bi-regional as her books. Over the past 40 years, she has written and published more than 60 murder mysteries in four different series — J.P. Beaumont, Joanna Brady, Ali Reynolds, and the Walker Family. Her weekly blog, published Fridays at jajance.com/blog, is a letter to her fans that offers a window on a writer's world. [Editor's Note: In addition, J.A. Jance is being recognized for Lifetime Achievement at this year's Left Coast Crime!]

Bruce Johnson



In over four decades of working in computer technology, Bruce published a dozen non-fiction books that helped thousands of software developers build the websites that people complain about. In a move that surprised his kids (their concern about disruption to their flow of money is altruistic... promise), he pivoted to writing psychological thrillers. He's currently querying his first novel, *Identity*, and is working on his second, *Tourist Trap*. You can get updates on his progress and his thoughts as he travels the world looking for inspiration at his website.

www.williambrucejohnson.com

Wayne Johnson



Wayne Johnson is the author of seven novels, a collection of stories, a memoir, and two nonfiction works. Three of his books have been nominated for the Pulitzer Prize, two have been *New York Times* Notable Books of the Year, one a selection of the Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers series, and another a *Kansas City Star* Book of the Year. His awards include a Stegner Fellowship from Stanford, O. Henry and Best American Short Stories citations, and a Chesterfield Writer's Film Project Fellowship in L.A., sponsored by Steven Spielberg. Wayne has worked in Hollywood for nearly 30 years under his own and pen names. As ghostwriter/editor he's seen over 70 books to completion; as script doctor has worked on countless films, two of them Sundance finalists. His new novel, *The Witch Tree*, is forthcoming April 15th.

waynejohnsonauthor.com

Leslie Karst



The daughter of a law professor and a potter, Leslie Karst learned early, during family dinner conversations, the value of both careful analysis and the arts – ideal ingredients for a mystery story. Putting this early education to good use, she now writes the Lefty Award-nominated Sally Solari Mysteries, a “snarky cozy” culinary series set in Santa Cruz, California. Leslie is also the author of a memoir, *Justice is Served: A Tale of Scallops, the Law, and Cooking for RBG*.

LeslieKarstAuthor.com

Michael Kaufman



Michael is the author of the Jen Lu mystery series, set in Washington D.C. in the 2030s. *Publishers Weekly* called *The Last Resort* “stellar” and *The Last Exit* (the first book in the series) “outstanding.” When he isn't gratefully blushing, Michael has worked in 50 countries with the United Nations, governments, companies, and NGOs engaging men to promote women's rights, end gender-based violence, support diversity and inclusion, and positively transform the lives of men. His most recent non-fiction book is *The Time Has Come: Why Men Must Join the Gender Equality Revolution*.

@KaufmanWrites & FB: MichaelKaufman.mk & www.michaelkaufman.com

Kim Keeline



Kim Keeline, when not running a 1907 Steam Locomotive or lecturing on Shakespeare, is active in the mystery community. She is organizing Bouchercon 2023: San Diego. Her first published story was a 2021 Derringer finalist. Another story was an honorable mention for the Al Blanchard Short Story award. Her sixth short story will be published soon. She is revising her novel while freelancing for authors in marketing & web designing.

www.kimkeeline.com

Mary Keliikoa



Mary Keliikoa is the author of *Hidden Pieces*, a Misty Pines mystery, and the PI Kelly Pruett mystery series, which includes the Lefty, Agatha, and Anthony-nominated *Derailed*. Her short stories have appeared in *Woman's World* and in the anthology *Peace, Love and Crime*. A Pacific NW native, she admits to being that person who gets excited when called for jury duty. When not in Washington, you can find Mary with toes in the sand on a Hawaiian beach. But even under the palm trees and blazing sun, she's plotting her next murder — novel that is.

www.marykeliikoa.com

Dana Killion



Dana Killion grew up in northern Wisconsin, reading Nancy Drew and dreaming of living surrounded by tall buildings. A career in the apparel industry satisfied her city urge and Nancy Drew evolved into Grafton and Evanovich. One day, frustrated that her favorite authors weren't writing fast enough, an insane thought crossed her mind – “Maybe I could write?” That manuscript lives in the back of a closet. Her first novel, *Lies in High Places* (2017) kicked off the series that is currently five books. In May 2023, Dana will present her debut memoir, *Where the Shadows Dance*. Dana currently lives in Tucson avoiding snow and mending her heart.

www.danakillion.com

Laurie R. King



Laurie R. King is the bestselling author of 30 novels and other works, including the Mary Russell-Sherlock Holmes stories (*The Beekeeper's Apprentice* is “One of the 20th Century's Best Crime Novels” from the IMBA.) She has won the Agatha, Anthony, Edgar, Lambda, Wolfe, Macavity, Creasey dagger, and Romantic Times Career Achievement awards, has an honorary doctorate in theology, and is both a Baker Street Irregular and a Mystery Writers of America Grand Master. She co-edited (with Lee Child) the new MWA handbook, *How To Write a Mystery*, and started a new contemporary series featuring SFPD Inspector Raquel Laing, with *Back to the Garden*.

www.LaurieRKing.com

Gay Toltl Kinman



Gay Toltl Kinman has nine award nominations for her writing including several short stories in magazines and in 15 anthologies; five children's books; a Y.A. gothic novel; eight adult mysteries; and eight collections of short stories; 20 short plays; professional articles including in MWA's *How To Write a Mystery*; co-edited two non-fiction books, and two anthologies. This year two more anthologies she co-edited were released: *Edgar & Shamus Go Golden* with Andrew McAleer; and a SinC-LA publication, *Entertainment To Die For* with Meredith Taylor and Susan Rowland. Kinman has library and law degrees.

gaykinman.com

Ellen Kirschman



I write the Dot Meyerhoff mystery series. Four books so far, a fifth on the way. Like myself, only younger and thinner, Dot is a police psychologist embedded in a department that isn't sure it wants her there. Recently married at 52, she struggles to find an elusive work-life balance that includes time for her husband and time to find justice for her clients. I can relate. Learn more at my website, sign up for my newsletter, and follow my blog on *Psychology Today*.

www.ellenkirschman.com

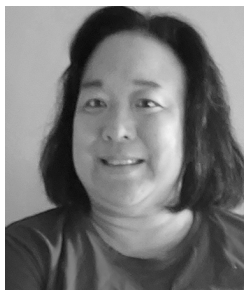
Libby Klein



Libby Klein graduated Lower Cape May Regional High School in the '80s. Her classes revolved mostly around the culinary sciences and theater, with the occasional nap in Chemistry. She writes culinary cozy mysteries from her Northern Virginia office while trying to keep her naughty cat Figaro off her keyboard. Libby was diagnosed with an autoimmune disease that prevents her from eating gluten without exploding. Because of her love for cake, she now creates gluten free goodies and includes the recipes in her Cape May based Poppy McAllister series.

www.libbykleinbooks.com

Grace Koshida



Grace Koshida is a retired climate change researcher with the Canadian federal government. A Toronto native, Grace has been an avid reader and collector of crime fiction for over 45 years. To satisfy her love of mysteries and her penchant for travel, Grace has gone to mystery conventions since the early 1990s, but she has a special soft spot for Left Coast Crime. Going to LCC allows Grace to thaw out from the long Ottawa, Ontario, winters, connect with friends, and add even more books to her out-of-control TBR mountains.

Gary L. Kreigh



Perhaps an abundance of beads, colors, costumes, and living with intriguing individuals in New Orleans account for Gary Kreigh's elaborate mystery plots and characters. It's that or his 35 years as a forensic fraud examiner, writing about corporate and social issues, with experiences that affect ordinary people in extraordinary situations. His Callan Morrow Series is contemporary, set in the Midwest. His Reverend Fountain Series are lighter mysteries set in New Orleans in the mid-1950s. He juggles his time and residence between New Orleans and Gulf Shores, Alabama.

www.GaryKreigh.com

Con Lehane



Con Lehane is the author of the 42nd Street Library mystery novels, most recently *Murder by Definition*. He's also published stories in Alfred Hitchcock and Ellery Queen mystery magazines, and is the author of the Bartender Brian McNulty mystery series. He holds an MFA in fiction writing from Columbia University School of the Arts and teaches fiction writing and mystery and suspense writing on occasion at The Writer's Center in Bethesda, Maryland. Visit his website to learn more about him than any right-minded person would want to know.

www.conlehane.com

Rena Leith



Writing a funny bio is hard. My ghost is a lot funnier than I am. Let's see. I love mysteries, obviously. Like many mystery writers, I started with the Mildred Wirts' Nancy Drew books from the Thirties. I love cats as well as ghosts and chocolate. Thor, the cat in my books, is based on my cat Klaus, who's now a ghost. Cass' housemate ghost is based on my mother's ghost. Hmm. There's a theme here. I guess the best way to learn about me is to read my books because I believe in the adage "Write what you know."

www.renaleith.com

Dorothy Leonard AKA Andre Charles



What can two retired professors (Dorothy Leonard & Walter Swap) who have co-authored several management books for a major business publisher and killed whole forests of trees writing academic articles, chapters, case studies, etc., do when a pandemic grounds them? They have fun writing their first mystery, *The Bell Tower*, under the pseudonym Andre Charles. And then they're hooked! The Molly and Mike mysteries series features a pair of amateur sleuths living in a retirement community outside of Tucson. Proving that 60 is indeed the new 40, they engage in all sorts of activities (e.g., pickleball), build a romantic relationship and, working with local police, solve complex mysteries. The second book in the series, *Overkill*, is in final draft and a third is in the planning stage.

www.andrecharles.com

James L'Etoile



James L'Etoile uses his 29 years behind bars as an influence in his award-winning novel, short stories, and screenplays. He is a former associate warden in a maximum-security prison, a hostage negotiator, and director of California's state parole system. *Black Label* earned the Silver Falchion for Best Book by an Attending Author at Killer Nashville, and he was nominated for The Bill Crider Award for short fiction. His most recent novel is the Lefty Award-nominated *Dead Drop*. Look for *Devil Within* and *Face of Greed*, both coming in 2023.

www.jamesletoile.com

Winnie M Li



Winnie M Li is an author and activist, who has spent the last two decades living in Ireland, Qatar, Singapore, and the UK. Her latest novel *Complicit* draws from her earlier career in the film industry and was a *New York Times* Editor's Choice. Her debut *Dark Chapter* won *The Guardian's* Not The Booker Prize, was nominated for an Edgar Award, and translated into ten languages. Previously she wrote for travel guide books, produced independent feature films, and programmed for film festivals. A longtime advocate against sexual violence, she currently lives in a cold stone cottage in the English countryside with her partner and toddler. So she is very happy to be somewhere warm this March.

@winniemi & winniemi.com

Ed Lin



Ed Lin is a native New Yorker of Taiwanese and Chinese descent. He is the first author to win three Asian American Literary Awards. His books include a mystery trilogy set in New York's Chinatown in the '70s, and a Taipei-based series published by Soho Crime, the latest of which is 2022's *Ghost Month*.

www.edlinforpresident.com

Laurie Loewenstein



In 1888, my great-grandfather was shot to death in his Missouri saloon. That same year, another great-grandfather was killed after quarreling over a cattle deal in eastern Oklahoma. It seems my fascination with murder comes naturally. My series, *Death of a Rainmaker* (2018) and *Funeral Train* (2022), is set in the Dust Bowl. Both received enthusiastic reviews: “[Loewenstein] creates a vivid cast of gossips and cranks, loners and busy bodies.... All are connected to the secrets that lie just beneath the surface of the town's dusty streets.” – *Washington Post*. I am excited to talk about crime books with fellow readers and writers.

laurieloewenstein.com

Melinda Loomis



Melinda Loomis was born and raised in Southern California. Her short stories have appeared in various anthologies, most recently in *Entertainment To Die For* from Sisters in Crime Los Angeles. She currently lives in Los Angeles with her extremely photographic cat Sophie.

www.melindaloomis.com

Dru Ann Love



Dru Ann Love reportedly spends her working hours at the mysterious daytime situation. Her non-working hours are spent less reclusively on *dru's book musings*, her award-winning blog where the “day in the life,” “get to know you,” and “word with the author” segments are prominently featured besides her short “musing” reviews. In 2017, Dru Ann was awarded the MWA Raven Award for “outstanding achievement in the mystery field outside the realm of creative writing.” Dru Ann was nominated twice for the Anthony Award. Dru Ann is the Fan Guest of Honor at Left Coast Crime Tucson and Bouchercon San Diego (2023).

drusbookmusing.com

Margaret Lucke



Margaret Lucke flings words around in the San Francisco Bay Area. Her most recent novels are *House of Desire*, the second book in the Claire Scanlan Haunted House series, and *Snow Angel*, featuring San Francisco artist and detective Jess Randolph in a search for a missing child. She also is the editor of the anthology *Fault Lines: Stories by Northern California Crime Writers*. Peggy teaches fiction writing classes for UC Berkeley Extension and has published nonfiction books on the craft of writing. She’s a former president of MWA NorCal. Sign up for her newsletter on her website.

www.margaretlucke.com

Sharon Lynn



Sharon Lynn was raised in Arizona, but it was living in England as a teenager and every return trip since that inspired the setting of her first novel, *Death Takes a Bath: A Cotswold Crimes Mystery*. As a professor of theater, film, and writing, she coaches and mentors aspiring artists. Her short stories can be found in anthologies from Malice Domestic and Desert Sleuths. She is a member of the Mystery Writers of America, Sisters in Crime, and the Author’s Guild. Please sign up for her news updates at her website.

www.sharonlwrites.com

BJ Magnani



BJ Magnani’s fascination with toxicology led her to a career in pathology and laboratory medicine. She is Professor of Anatomic and Clinical Pathology Emerita at Tufts University School of Medicine and writes the Dr. Lily Robinson thriller series (*The Queen of All Poisons*, *The Power of Poison*, *A Message in Poison*) about a poison-savvy physician recruited by the U.S. government as a covert assassin. A portion of the proceeds from her novels helps women receive free breast and cervical cancer screening through the CAP Foundation’s See, Test, & Treat program. You can learn more about Dr. Magnani, her work, and her Poison Blog on her website.

www.bjmagnani.com

Ana Manwaring



Ana Manwaring is the author of the JadeAnne Stone Mexico Adventures: *Set Up*, *The Hydra Effect*, *Nothing Comes After Z*, *Coyote*, and in 2023 *Backlash*. She is currently finishing her Mexico memoir, *Saints and Skeletons* – call it a prequel – the real adventure. Ana produces both North Bay Poetics and SincNorCal’s monthly events. She’s branded cattle, consulted a brujo, and target practiced with an Uzi. She lives with two feral kittens and her husband, a Leo mostly tamed, in Wine Country. Join Writing on the Wall, a periodic newsletter, at her website.

www.anamanwaring.com

Dominic Martell



Dominic Martell was born in the United States and has spent most of his life there, but he has lived and traveled extensively in Latin America, Europe, and the Middle East. He has worked as a teacher and a translator and speaks six languages. He has published crime and suspense novels under two names, six as Dominic Martell and nine as Sam Reaves.

dominicmartell.com | samreaves.com

Jamie Mason



Jamie Mason was born in Oklahoma City and grew up all over the Washington, DC area. She’s most often reading and writing, but in the life left over, she enjoys films, Formula 1 racing, football, traveling, and, conversely, staying at home. Jamie lives with her husband and two daughters in the mountains of western North Carolina. She writes more whydunnits than whodunnits because the *why* in stories is her favorite part, and she is the author of *Three Graves Full*, *Monday’s Lie*, and *The Hidden Things*.

www.jamie-mason.com

Sujata Massey



Sujata Massey’s books have won the Lefty, Agatha, Macavity, and Mary Higgins Clark awards, and been nominated for the Edgar and Anthony. Her current mystery series stars Perveen Mistry, a female lawyer in 1920s Bombay. The most recent Perveen title is *The Bombay Prince*, and the fourth book in the series, *The Mistress of Bhatia House*, comes out in July 2023. Sujata lives in Baltimore, Maryland, where she enjoys gardening, cooking, and caring for a mischievous terrier who sometimes appears in her books.

[Ed. Note: And as everyone knows, Sujata is a Guest of Honor at LCC this year!]

sujatamassey.com

Francine Mathews AKA Stephanie Barron



Francine Mathews, who also writes as Stephanie Barron, is the author of 30 novels of suspense, espionage, and historical fiction, including the Merry Folger Nantucket Mysteries and the Jane Austen Mystery Series. A graduate of Princeton, Mathews received an Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowship in the Humanities and earned a Masters in History from Stanford University. She has also worked as a journalist and as an intelligence analyst for the Central Intelligence Agency, where she briefly served on the investigation into the bombing of Pan Am 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland. She lives and works in Denver, Colorado.

francinemathews.com

Lisa Q. Mathews



Lisa Q. Mathews used to put Nancy Drew in a corner – just part of her job as a kids’ book editor. She later worked at Random House and wrote the Lizzie McGuire Mysteries and other kids’ series. A co-founder of the Chicks on the Case blog, Lisa writes the odd-couple adult sleuth series *The Ladies Smythe & Westin*. Her short story “Fly Me to the Morgue” in the Malice Domestic anthology *Mystery Most Diabolical* has been nominated for this year’s Agatha Award. Lisa lives in New England, where she’s a fan of stone walls, the Sox, and Dunks iced tea.

LisaQMathews.com & ChicksOnTheCase.com

Susan McCormick



Susan McCormick is a retired doctor and writer in Seattle. She graduated from Smith College and George Washington University School of Medicine, with additional training in San Francisco where she lived in an elegant apartment building much like the one in the award-winning Fog Ladies cozy mystery series, which features spunky senior sleuths and an overstressed doctor-in-training. Susan served as a doctor in the U.S. Army for nine years before moving to civilian practice in the Pacific Northwest. She also wrote *Granny Can’t Remember Me*, a picture book about Alzheimer’s disease and dementia, and *The Antidote*, a timely middle grade and up medical/STEM fantasy. Susan lives in Seattle with her husband and two boys and loves giant dogs, the bigger and slobberier the better.

susanmccormickbooks.com

Marjorie McCown



Marjorie McCown has spent her entire professional life in the story-telling business, though she started out on the visual side of the craft. She began her career designing costumes for theater and opera all over the country, including New York City Opera, before moving to LA to work on feature films. She spent more than 25 years in Hollywood working as a key member of the costume design teams for movies including *Forrest Gump*, *Apollo 13*, *The Firm*, *A Bronx Tale*, *Wag the Dog*, *The Aviator*, *Hairspray*, *Angels and Demons*, and *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*. McCown has a BA in Theater from the University of Virginia and an AAS in Fashion Design. She is a member of Sisters in Crime and Mystery Writers of America. Her novel, *Final Cut*, set in the film industry, is due June 6 (Crooked Lane Books).

marjoriemccown.com

Susan McDuffie



As a child Susan McDuffie spent such vast amounts of time reading stories set in the past that she wondered if she had been born in the wrong century. Her love of hot baths has since reconciled her to life in this era. Susan’s latest release, *Death on the Rio Chiquito* (2023), takes place in New Mexico during the Second World War. It proved quite a jump in time periods from her 2022 release, *The Suicide Skull*, and her award-winning Muirteach MacPhee mysteries, all set in medieval Scotland.

FB [SusanMcDuffieAuthor](https://www.facebook.com/SusanMcDuffieAuthor) & www.medievalmysteries.net

Kathy McIntosh



While others dreamt of Edgars, Agathas, and Leftys, Kathy McIntosh yearned for a moment on stage with *The Rock Bottom Remainders*. That wish thwarted, she contents herself with loving jazz and old musicals, traveling and finding good eats and writing about a female chef, and guide for an ecotouring company. That sassy sleuth stars in her short story in the just-released anthology *Trouble in Tucson*. She and her husband moved to Tucson from Idaho, where she set her first two novels. Together they explore the country and cuisine of the Sonoran Desert. Her latest novel, *Murder, Cottonwood Style*, is set in Cottonwood, Arizona – neighbor to Sedona but with fewer vortexes.

www.KathyMcIntosh.com

Jenn McKinlay



Jenn is the *New York Times*, *USA Today*, and *Publishers Weekly* bestselling author of several mystery and romance series. She is also the winner of the RT Reviewer's Choice Award for romantic comedy and the Fresh Fiction award for best cozy mystery. A TEDx speaker, she is always happy to talk books, writing, reading, and the creative process to anyone who cares to listen. She lives in sunny Arizona in a house that is overrun with kids, pets, and her husband's guitars.

www.jennmckinlay.com

Linda McNab



Linda McNab was co-chair for Whale of a Crime 2019 in Vancouver – the first Left Coast Crime convention to be held in Canada. An avid reader of crime fiction, Linda leads a local mystery book club and loves finding new authors to read. Thanks to Cathy Ace, she has discovered turquoise nail polish. Her non-book activities include spoiling her grandchildren, playing Scrabble, and swimming. During the pandemic, she started birdwatching and learned how to play mahjong. Linda lives in Richmond, BC, with her husband Pantelis, an elderly finch, and a cranky lovebird named Kiwi.

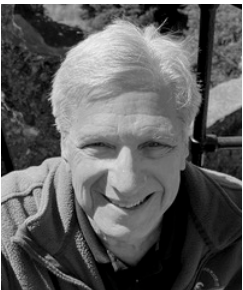
Catriona McPherson



Catriona McPherson (she/her) was born in Scotland and immigrated to the US in 2010. She writes: preposterous posh 1930s detective stories set in the old country; modern comedies set in the Last Ditch Motel in a fictional (yeah, sure) version of the new country; and, darker than those (not difficult), a strand of contemporary psychological thrillers. Wait! Plus a new series that begins in the late 1940s with *In Place of Fear*, finally marrying her love of historicals with her own working-class roots. Catriona is a proud lifetime member and former national president of Sisters in Crime.

www.catrionamcpherson.com

Richard Meredith



Growing up on Jacques Cousteau and *Sea Hunt*, Richard Meredith dreamed of the sea. The Navy granted the Flint, MI, native his wish and stationed him in California. With degrees in Biology, he began his career as a marine scientist and wildlife biologist. His newest novel, *Maskirovka – The Russian Science of Deception*, was a Top 100 Indie Books of 2022 (Kirkus), which draws on his work as an environmental consultant with the petroleum industry. His experience on Pacific commercial fishing boats formed the backdrop of his thriller, *The Crow's Nest*, winning the Silver Falchion Award for best Action-Adventure novel at Killer Nashville 2021. He's on the board of Capitol Crimes, Sacramento's Sisters-in-Crime chapter, and is married with two children and four grandchildren.

www.richardwmeredith.com

Susan Cummins Miller



Recovering field geologist and Tucson author Susan Cummins Miller writes the Frankie MacFarlane, Geologist, mysteries and Keridec Rees historical mysteries. "112 in the Shade," a Frankie MacFarlane/Detective Toni Navarro short story, appears in *Trouble in Tucson* (2023 Tucson Sisters in Crime anthology). Toni Navarro stories were also included in the Desert Sleuths SinC anthologies *SoWest: Love Kills* and *SoWest: So Deadly*. In addition, Susan recently released two poetry collections, *Making Silent Stones Sing* and *Deciphering the Desert*. She's currently working on the seventh Frankie MacFarlane mystery, set in Sonora, Mexico, and southwestern Arizona.

www.susancumminsmiller.com

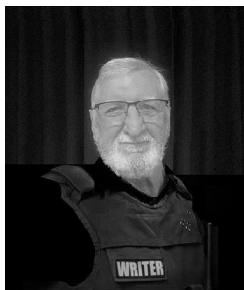
Camille Minichino



Camille Minichino's book on nuclear waste management wasn't very popular, so she turned to writing mysteries. Her five series feature some of her own many careers – a physicist, a miniaturist, a college math professor, a postal worker, and most recently, as Elizabeth Logan, a diner owner in Alaska. She teaches science at Golden Gate University in San Francisco and writing workshops around the SF Bay Area. Camille is a member and Past President of NorCal Mystery Writers of America, NorCal Sisters in Crime, and the California Writers Club. For complete publication information, visit her website.

www.minichino.com

Timothy W. Moore



Timothy W. Moore is the co-author of *Mirandized Nation: The Inside Story of Ernesto Miranda and the Phoenix Police Department*. He's a long-time member of Sisters in Crime and is a founding member of the Sisters in Crime Grand Canyon Writers Chapter. He prides himself in helping writers and authors "write it right" when it comes to police procedures. He is a retired Phoenix police detective, who served more than three decades in a wide range of assignments: the Property Crimes Bureau, Violent Crimes Bureau–Homicide Detail, and the Crime Gun Intelligence Squad. He retired in 2016.

phoenixsleuth.com

Jennifer J. Morgan



Being offered a panel spot at LCC – Wow! How? I'm a newbie. And, this after I'd learned that *Shadows in the Forest* earned semi-finalist in the American Book Fest 2022 Awards. I'm still trying to figure that out! In 2019, I decided to leave my soul-sucking corporate career and pursue a new direction – my life's second act. Then, the pandemic hit – time to make lemonade out of those lemons! Surrounded by a loving family and my two pups, I just dove right in. It wasn't long before the Libby Madsen Cozy Mysteries series was born. Thank you, Secret Staircase Books! I'm thrilled to be joining so many fantastic authors and all the fans in Tucson – I look forward to meeting you.

www.jenniferjmorgan.com

Wanda M. Morris



Wanda M. Morris is the acclaimed author of *Anywhere You Run*, which was named One of the Top Ten Crime Fiction Books of 2022 by *The New York Times*. Her debut novel, *All Her Little Secrets*, was named as one of the "Best Books of 2021" by Hudson Booksellers. When she's not writing or carpooling a middle-schooler, she can be found napping.

www.wandamorriswrites.com

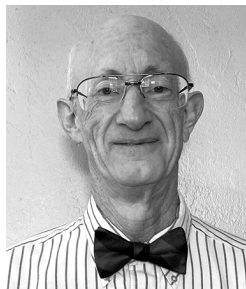
Margaret Morse



Margaret C. Morse writes a series featuring a lawyer who has magic powers. In the most recent, *Murder Hexes the Reunion*, Petra Rakowitz has to solve a murder to save her newly discovered birth mother from arrest. When characters can kill with magic, the ways to dispatch a victim dramatically increase. After 25 years as a Public Defender she knows a lawyer can transform into a witch. If she's not planning how to kill someone, Margaret loves cooking, bird watching, and visiting stark landscapes.

margaretmorseauthor.com

John Mullen



John Edward Mullen is the award-winning author of *Digital Dick* in which an Artificial Intelligence investigates a murder. In his latest novel, *Nell: Marshal of Bodie*, 18-year-old, one-legged Nell Doherty dreams of becoming a Pinkerton detective in 1892 California. First, though, she must take her father's place as Marshal, and – with the help of her half-Irish, half-Chinese best friend – track down the desperadoes who shot him. In prior lives, John worked as a wild-lands firefighter, economist, financial analyst, university lecturer, and programmer/analyst. He lives in the San Diego area with his wife.

www.johnedwardmullen.com

Claire A Murray



Claire A Murray writes crime, mystery, fantasy, and sci-fi where everyday people encounter unusual or extraordinary situations. Thirteen short stories are in anthologies and online magazines – two earning Honorable Mention and one placing third in competitions. Expanding one short into a suspense-fantasy novel put the first book of a trilogy, a completed sleuth novel, and its unfinished prequel on hold. Claire is an animal lover, dog enthusiast, educator, manager, and advocate. President of Sisters in Crime Desert Sleuths chapter, she belongs to several other chapters, the Short Mystery Fiction Society, and Mystery Writers of America.

cam-writes.com

Carlene O'Connor



Carlene O'Connor is the *USA Today* bestselling author of *The Irish Village Mysteries*, *Home to Ireland Mysteries*, and the new, darker *County Kerry Mysteries*. *No Strangers Here* received a starred review from Kirkus and was included in Apple's Best Books of November. Her works are translated into German, Estonian, and the UK, and optioned for television. Readers can get in touch via Facebook, Goodreads, Book Bub, or via CarleneOConnor.net. She is always up to Zoom with book groups or even travel to meet with readers in person. She has a 10-year-old Labradoodle who has 10% Irish Wolfhound in her.

Karen Odden



USA Today bestselling author Karen Odden received her PhD in English from NYU, writing her dissertation on how Victorian railway injuries were the foundation for our current understanding of PTSD. She taught at UW-Milwaukee and published essays on Victorian literature before turning to writing fiction, which she sets in the sordid corners of 1870s London. Her fifth mystery, *Under a Veiled Moon* (2022), features Michael Corravan, a former thief and bare-knuckles boxer who becomes a Scotland Yard Inspector; it was nominated for a Lefty and an Agatha. Karen lives in Phoenix and invents murderous plots while hiking the desert.

www.karenodden.com

Terry Odell



Terry Odell began writing by mistake when her son mentioned a television show and she thought she'd watch it so they'd have common ground for discussions. Now she's a multi-published, award winning author of over 30 novels, novellas, and short stories. She writes mysteries and romantic suspense, but calls them all "Mysteries With Relationships." Her awards include the Silver Falchion, International Digital Awards, and HOLT Medallion. A Los Angeles native, she moved to Florida where she spent 30 years in the heat and humidity. She now enjoys life with her husband and rescue dog in the cooler, dryer climate of the Colorado Rockies, where she watches wildlife from her windows.

terryodell.com

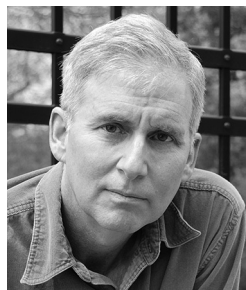
J. Michael Orenduff



Mike Orenduff grew up so close to the Rio Grande that he could Frisbee a tortilla into Mexico. He earned an MA at the University of New Mexico and later served as president of New Mexico State University. Mike and his wife – the noted art historian Lai Chew Orenduff (author of *A Scenic Tour of Modern Art* and *The Transformation of Catholic Religious Art in the Twentieth Century*) – have lived and taught in New Mexico, Utah, Maine, Wyoming, and Georgia, and in Bermuda, Bulgaria, Chile, and Italy. Mike's Pot Thief books have won many awards, including the Lefty for best Humorous Mystery in 2011.

openroadmedia.com/search/Orenduff

Alan Orloff



Alan Orloff has published ten novels and more than 40 short stories. His work has won an Anthony, an Agatha, a Derringer, and two ITW Thriller Awards. He's also been a finalist for the Shamus Award and has had a story selected for *The Best American Mystery Stories* anthology. Alan's next novel, *Sanctuary Motel*, will be released in October from Level Best Books. He loves cake and arugula, but not together. Never together. He lives and writes in South Florida, where the examples of hijinks are endless.

www.alanorloff.com

Rob Osler



A mild-mannered gay dating blogger teams up with a Mohawk-sporting lesbian to solve a modern-day whodunit in Rob's *Devil's Chew Toy* — a 2023 Left Coast Crime nominee for best debut novel and named a 2022 Years Best by Crime Reads, BOLO Books, PopSugar, and Book Riot. His first publication, "Analogue," (EQMM), won the 2022 MWA Robert L. Fish Award for best short story by a debut author. Rob's a member of MWA and Sisters in Crime. On good days, he writes, plays tennis, and eats pie in California, where he lives with his partner and a tall, gray cat.

robosler.com

Gigi Pandian



Gigi Pandian is a *USA Today* bestselling mystery author, breast cancer survivor, and locked-room mystery enthusiast. She's been awarded Agatha, Anthony, Lefty, and Derringer awards, and is a co-founder of Crime Writers of Color. Gigi spent her childhood being dragged around the world on her professor parents' research trips, which inspired her fiction. She writes the Accidental Alchemist Mysteries, Jaya Jones Treasure Hunt Mysteries, and her new Secret Staircase Mysteries beginning with *Under Lock & Skeleton Key* (called "wildly entertaining" by the *New York Times*). Follow-up *The Raven Thief* is out now.

www.gigipandian.com

Ann Parker



California native Ann Parker is a fiction writer at night and a science writer by day... Oh wait! That's not true! Ann recently RETIRED from the day job and is still trying to wrap her head around that.... Her Silver Rush historical mystery series, set in the 1880s U.S. West, features Colorado-saloon-owner-turned-San-Francisco-music-store-owner/angel-investor Inez Stannert. During Ann's not-so-copious free time, she walks, reads, placates her cat, and drinks way too much coffee. Her most recent book, *A Secret in the Wall*, is a Lefty nominee.

www.annparker.net

Priscilla Paton



Priscilla Paton stays out of trouble by writing about the fictional kind in her Twin Cities Mystery series. The newest is *When the House Burns* – sex, death, and real estate, which follows the award-nominated *Where Privacy Dies* and *Should Grace Fail*. Priscilla grew up on a dairy farm in Maine and currently lives in Northfield, Minnesota, with her husband who cooks. She participates in community advocacy and literacy programs and is on the board of the regional HOPE Center, which serves victims of domestic abuse.

priscillapaton.com

Amy S. Peele



Amy S. Peele, RN, is the award-winning, best-selling author of *Cut, Match, and Hold*, medical mysteries with a mission and a side of humor. Amy enjoyed a fascinating 35-year career in the organ transplant field, providing an authentic backdrop to her books. She also studied and graduated from Second City Players Workshop in Improv which helped provide levity in her intense career and life in general. Her books have reached bestseller status on Amazon and gained national recognition with such awards as the NYC Big Book Award, Chanticleer International Book Awards, IPPY, Independent Press Awards. Amy loves to speak, swim, teach chair yoga, meditate, and kill the people she didn't like from work in her mysteries and use their organs – why waste the kill?

AmysPeele.com

Emma Pérez



A native of Texas, Emma Pérez lives blissfully in Tucson, having fallen in love with saguaros and ocotillos. She earned a PhD in history from UCLA in the 1980s and currently is a professor at the University of Arizona. She's published a history monograph, academic essays, prose poetry, and three novels. Her queer historical novel, *Forgetting the Alamo, Or, Blood Memory*, won the Christopher Isherwood Writing Grant and was a Finalist in General Fiction, Lambda Literary Awards. Emma's erotic mystery, *Electra's Complex*, focuses on a history professor at an underfunded college in New York City, who must prove her innocence when she stumbles upon the murdered Dean. Her short story, "The Dogs are Back," appears in the anthology, *Trouble in Tucson*, edited by Eva Eldridge.

swc.arizona.edu/people/emma-perez

Barbara Peters



After careers at the Library of Congress and in law, Barbara Peters moved to Arizona and founded The Poisoned Pen Bookstore in 1989 – still run as a not-for-profit corporation. In 1997, she and husband Robert Rosenwald founded Poisoned Pen Press, now the mystery imprint at Sourcebooks. Barbara was nominated for a 1998 Edgar Allan Poe Award, has received Mystery Writers of America's Raven Award (bookselling) and Ellery Queen Award (editing), has earned a dozen nominations as Bookseller of the Year, and a 2011 Lifetime Achievement Award / Million Dollar Club from the *Arizona Republic*. Her Lifetime Achievement honors include the Bouchercon, Left Coast Crime, and Malice Domestic mystery conventions.

www.poisonedpen.com

Matt Phillips



Matt Phillips lives in San Diego. His next book, *A Good Rush of Blood*, is slated for release in November 2023. His novel *Know Me from Smoke* has been called a "noir masterpiece." Other novels include *Countdown* and *You Must Have a Death Wish*. Matt runs the popular Roughneck Dispatch podcast and newsletter.

www.mattphillipswriter.com

Neil Plakcy



Neil Plakcy has been a construction manager, a computer game producer, a college professor, and a dog walker, and all those jobs have influenced his writing. He treasures the Lefty he won in Waikoloa in 2009, which has pride of place beside his male hula doll and his collection of rubber ducks and Starbucks bears. He lives in South Florida with his husband and two rambunctious golden retrievers.

www.mahubooks.com

Keenan Powell



Keenan Powell is a Lefty and Agatha nominated author. Although she was one of original Dungeons and Dragons illustrators, art seemed an impractical pursuit – not an heiress, wouldn't marry well, hated teaching – so she went to law school. The day after graduation, she moved to Alaska where she has vowed to practice until she gets it right. She is delighted that her latest book, *Implied Consent*, A Maureen Gould Legal Thriller, averaged 5-star reviews on Netgalley and received a Booklife Editor's Pick Review.

www.keenanpowellauthor.com

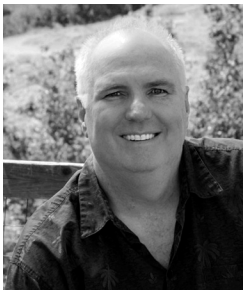
Elaine A. Powers



Elaine A. Powers, originally from Peoria, IL, currently resides in Tucson, AZ. After a career as a laboratory biologist, she is now pursuing her dream of writing science-based children's books, murder mysteries, and audio theatre scripts. Elaine continues her work as a citizen scientist for iguana conservation, serving on the IUCN Iguana Specialist Group. She is a founding member of the Tucson Sisters in Crime chapter and President of the Tucson Poetry Society. She also has original videos on her YouTube Channel, Curtis Curly-tail Speaks.

www.elaineapowers.com

David Putnam



During his career in law enforcement, best-selling author David Putnam has: worked in narcotics, violent crimes, criminal intelligence, hostage rescue, SWAT, and internal affairs, to name just a few. He is the recipient of many awards and commendations for heroism. *The Scorned* is the tenth novel in the best-selling Bruno Johnson Crime Series, following *The Disposables*, *The Replacements*, *The Squandered*, *The Vanquished*, *The Innocents*, *The Reckless*, *The Heartless*, *The Ruthless*, and *The Sinister*. Putnam lives in the Los Angeles area with his wife, Mary.

davidputnambooks.com

Kwei Quartey



Kwei Quartey went to medical school at Howard University. This would be completely irrelevant to you, except that, as a kid, Quartey wanted to be a writer, and then he wanted to be a doctor, and then he wanted to be a writer again. Confused? So is Kwei Quartey. After beginning to practice medicine in southern California, Quartey began his Inspector Darko Dawson series. As if that weren't enough, this over-achieving and profoundly insecure man decided he should have a second crime fiction series, the Emma Djan Investigations, introducing West Africa's only female private investigator. *The Missing American*, the series debut, won a 2021 Shamus Award and was a 2021 Edgar nominee.

Insta @crimefictionwithkwei; kweiquartey.com

Lori Rader-Day



Lori Rader-Day is the Edgar and Lefty Award–nominated, and Agatha, Anthony, and Mary Higgins Clark award–winning, sentient stack of teacups who wrote *Death at Greenway*, *The Lucky One*, *Under a Dark Sky*, and others. She recently brushed off cancer to write *The Death of Us* (Harper Collins William Morrow, fall 2023). Lori lives in Chicago, where she co-chairs the Midwest Mystery Conference, teaches genre writing at Northwestern University, and takes pictures of her dog.

www.LoriRaderDay.com

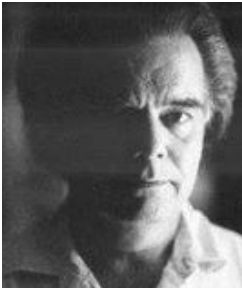
D.R. Ransdell



By day D.R. Ransdell teaches composition at the University of Arizona. By night she decides which students should be models for her villains. A violinist herself, in her mariachi mysteries, Andy Veracruz chases lost musicians rather than learning new songs. In his newest misadventure, *Brotherly Love*, he's given the impossible task of teaching high school students. The heroine of Ransdell's recent *Party Wine*, which takes place in Northwestern Italy, has a worse problem: she's of Italian descent, but she can't stand drinking wine.

www.dr-ransdell.com

John Maddox Roberts



John Maddox Roberts is the author of more than 50 books, including the Edgar finalist *SPQR*, first in a series that now numbers 13 titles, and the Gabe Treloar series of contemporary mysteries. He spent three years in the Army, including a tour in Vietnam. This remains the only period of his life involving a regular paycheck. He and his wife, Beth, live in the tiny rural New Mexico town of Estancia, in a century-old adobe house with an ever-varying number of cats and a dog named Peaches. The picture was taken 30 years ago, when he looked much better than he does now.

Merrilee Robson



Merrilee Robson's short stories have appeared in *Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine*, *Alfred Hitchcock Mystery Magazine*, *People's Friend Mystery Magazine*, and many other magazines and anthologies. Her traditional mystery, *Murder Is Uncooperative*, is set in a non-profit housing co-op. Merrilee has served on the boards of Sisters in Crime – Canada West and Crime Writers of Canada. She is currently a member of the Vancouver Police Board, which provides civilian oversight to the Vancouver Police Department. She lives in Vancouver and spends a lot of time with at least one cat on her lap.

merrileerobson.ca

Stephen D. Rogers



Stephen D. Rogers is the author of *Shot to Death* and more than 800 shorter works. His website includes a list of new and upcoming titles as well as other timely information. This is only his second Left Coast Crime, and certain not to be his last. Unless a shot rings out...

www.StephenDRogers.com

Peggy Rothschild



After losing their home during a California wildfire, Peggy Rothschild and her husband moved to the beach community of Los Osos along the central coast. She has authored two mysteries in the Molly Madison Dog Wrangler mystery series, *A Deadly Bone To Pick* and *Playing Dead*, as well as short stories, and one young adult adventure, *Punishment Summer*. Peggy is a member of Sisters in Crime, Mystery Writers of America, and the SLONightWriters. When not at her desk or out walking, you can usually find her in the garden.

peggyrothschildauthor.com

Kaira Rouda



Kaira Rouda is an award-winning *USA Today* and Amazon Charts bestselling author of contemporary fiction that explores what goes on beneath the surface of seemingly perfect lives. Her novels of domestic suspense include *Somebody's Home*, *The Next Wife*, *The Favorite Daughter*, *Best Day Ever*, *All the Difference*, and *The Widow*. Her latest, *Beneath the Surface*, is out September 5, 2023. She is a founding member of the Killer Author Club.

KairaRouda.com

Donna Rowell



D.M. Rowell (Koyh Mi O Boy Dah), like her protagonist, Mud, comes from a long line of Kiowa storytellers within a culture that treasures oral traditions. After a 32-year career spinning stories for Silicon Valley start-ups and corporations, with a few escapes creating award-winning independent documentaries, Rowell started a new chapter, writing the Mud Sawpole mysteries featuring a Silicon Valley professional Kiowa woman solving thefts and murders in Kiowa country. The first in the series, *Never Name the Dead*, is a nominee for a Mary Higgins Clark Award to be presented at the Edgar Awards in April.

[@DMRowellAuthor](https://twitter.com/DMRowellAuthor) & www.dmrowell.com

S.J. Rozan



SJ Rozan is the author of 18 novels and over 80 short stories, and the editor of three anthologies. She has won multiple awards, including the Edgar, Shamus, Anthony, Nero, Macavity; Japanese Maltese Falcon; and Life Achievement Awards from both the Private Eye Writers of America and the Short Mystery Fiction Society. She speaks and lectures widely and will be teaching this summer at the Art Workshop International in Assisi, Italy (www.artworkshopintl.com). Her latest book is *Family Business*.

www.sjrozan.net

Janet Rudolph



Janet Rudolph is the Editor of the Mystery Readers Journal. She blogs daily at [Mystery Fanfare.com](http://MysteryFanfare.com) and DyingforChocolate.com, facilitates a weekly mystery book group, hosts Author Literary Salons, and has organized numerous mystery conventions. She is a founder of LCC and on the permanent Board. She has been Fan Guest of Honor at Left Coast Crime, Malice Domestic, and Bouchercon. She has received the Ellery Queen Award, Hercule Poirot Award, Anthony Award, and the Don Sandstrom Award, among others. She's a Chocolate Judge at International Chocolate Salons. She lives in Berkeley (CA) with her husband, two golden retrievers, and two cats (behind her garden gate). She's a gardener, photographer, and a collector of folk art and books – no surprise there!

www.mysteryreaders.org

David B. Schlosser



Writing as dbschlosser, David B. Schlosser is an award-winning author and editor. His website delivers daily journaling and writing prompts. He's taught higher-education writing and crime fiction, served MWA as Northwest chapter president and Editorial Freelancers Association on its board, and delighted and offended people via the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Hard Copy*, and *Inside Edition*. A Kansas native now living in Seattle, he earned degrees at Trinity University and University of Texas. Read his short fiction in *The Best American Mystery Stories 2020* and *Coming Through in Waves: Crime Fiction Inspired by the Music of Pink Floyd*.

www.PromptInspiration.com

Michael Sears



Michael Sears took the Nero Wolfe award this year for his most recent book, *Tower of Babel*. His first book, *Black Fridays*, was nominated for five awards, including the Edgar, and won the Shamus – which his mother insisted was the “Irish award” referring, against all evidence to the contrary, that it was spelled Seamus, like Michael’s cousin whom he has never met, as various branches stopped speaking to each other long before Michael was born, this being a typical feature of extended Irish and Irish-American families. More recently, he submitted the sequel to ToB, tentatively titled *Love the Stranger*.

michaelsears.com

Alex Segura



Alex Segura is the bestselling and award-winning author of the comic book noir novel, *Secret Identity*, which *The New York Times* called “wittily original” and which was listed as a Best Book of 2022 by NPR, CrimeReads, *South Florida Sun-Sentinel*, and more. Other novels include *Star Wars Poe Dameron – Free Fall*, and the acclaimed Pete Fernandez Miami Mystery series. Alex is also the author of many comic books and short stories. A Miami native, he lives in New York with his wife and children.

www.alexsegura.com

Mary Seifert



Mary Seifert loves a good mystery, and can never leave a brain teaser or puzzle go unchallenged – she can get lost for days. As a former math teacher, she brings numbers and logic to the Katie and Maverick Cozy Mystery mayhem game. When not writing, she's making memories with family and friends, carefully deleting references of murder from her web-browser, walking her dog whose only speed is faster, dabbling in needlecrafts, taste-testing cocktail recipes, and pretending to cook. You can also find her sneaking bites of chocolate and sipping wine, both of which sometimes occur while writing and reading.

Maryseifertauthor.com

Terry Shames



Terry Shames is the author of the popular, award-winning Samuel Craddock series, set in small town Texas. The latest, *Murder at the Jubilee Rally*, came out October 2022. Terry has no idea why the series hasn't been optioned for TV or film, but she's not holding her breath. The first book in her new Jessie Madison series is slated for spring, 2024.

Terryshames@gmail.com

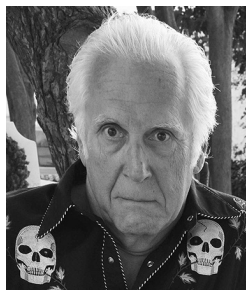
Jay Shepherd



Jay Shepherd is a thriller writer and recovering lawyer from Boston. *Law & Politics* magazine once named him one of the “Top 100 Lawyers in New England.” He promptly left the law before anyone could ask for a recount. Jay was an inveterate blogger, back when blogging was a thing. A stint as treasurer of the MWA’s New England chapter led to fewer than expected indictments. An elected member of the Bouchercon National Board, Jay is the author of *Firing at Will* (Apress/Springer) and is currently writing a spy thriller. He is a decent speller but a poor typist.

jayshep.com

Jeffrey Siger



Jeff fled his career as a name partner in his own NYC law firm to live and write mystery thrillers on a Greek island. *The New York Times* picked him as Greece’s thriller novelist of record, and *Reader’s Digest Select Editions* described him as one of its “new favorite authors.” He’s received Lefty and Barry “Best Novel” nominations, been Chair of Bouchercon, and served as adjunct professor of English at Washington & Jefferson College, teaching mystery writing. Jeff blogs Saturdays on murderiseverywhere.blogspot.com, and the 12th book in his Chief Inspector Andreas Kaldis series is *One Last Chance*.

www.jeffreysiger.com

Holly Simason AKA Lee Hollis



I am the Lee of the Lee Hollis writing team. As office manager at a newspaper in Bar Harbor, Maine, I became obsessed with the Food Network. When the food columnist left, I begged the editor to let me write it. Besides recipes, I included little stories about my life, kids, and friends. It was well received – my brother read it and had an idea. He showed up at my house with my favorite bottle(s) of wine and proposed a book idea. I initially said no, but he knows me so well that after more glasses of wine we were toasting our new book idea. That night the Hayley Powell Food and Cocktail Mystery series was born. After 17 in the series, we are still happily writing with more to come. Holly now resides in North Carolina with her husband, dog, three cats, three chickens, and one scary rooster.

www.leehollismysteries.com

Clea Simon



Before turning to a life of crime (fiction), *Boston Globe*-bestselling author Clea Simon was a journalist and penned three nonfiction books. Now she mixes cats and crime and rock and roll in mysteries ranging from cozy (such as her most recent *Witch Cats of Cambridge* outing *A Cat on the Case*) to the dark psychological suspense of *Hold Me Down* and *World Enough* (both named as Mass. Book Award “must reads”). To find out more about her “lyrical, layered, and full of surprises” work (thank you, Lisa Unger), visit her website.

www.CleaSimon.com

Nina Simon



Nina Simon writes crime stories about strong women. Her first novel, *Mother-Daughter Murder Night*, will be published by William Morrow in September 2023. Nina lives off the grid in the Santa Cruz mountains in a sort-of-commune. At LCC, she hopes to make new friends, nerd out on craft, plan a heist (for her next book), and conquer the hotel water slide.

www.ninaksimn.com

Rosemary Simpson



Rosemary Simpson was born on an island in New York Harbor and almost immediately began roaming, traveling extensively throughout the United States, Far East, and Europe, where she found a second home in France. A member of Sisters in Crime, International Thriller Writers, and Historical Novel Society, she currently lives near Tucson. Simpson's Gilded Age Mystery series (Kensington Books), is set in the opulent world of late 1880s New York society where her wealthy heroine's quest for independence propels her into an unconventional liaison with a handsome ex-Pinkerton. Together, they establish a private inquiry agency whose clients embroil them in crimes that lure Prudence and Geoffrey into the danger-filled underworld that lies beneath society's glittering veneer.

rosemarysimpsonbooks.com

Joanna Campbell Slan



Best-selling author Joanna Campbell Slan has published more than 70 books in five series, been a finalist for the Agatha, and won the Daphne du Maurier Award of Literary Excellence. But if you really want to see her face light up, ask her about her new grandson, Landon. (Prepare for pictures!) This is Joanna's first Left Coast Crime, and to celebrate, she's giving away a free digital version of her most recent book, *Ship Wrecked*. Just email her assistant, Stacey@JoannaSlan.com and put LCC in the subject line.

www.Linktr.ee/JCSlan

Faye Snowden



Faye Snowden is the author of dark, southern gothic mysteries with strong (and flawed) women characters. She has published short stories and poems in various anthologies and literary journals. *A Killing Rain* (Flame Tree 2022), the second book in her noir mystery Killing series, was named by Crimereads as one of the best southern gothic mysteries of 2022. Her short story, "One Bullet. One Vote," was included in *Best American Mystery & Suspense 2021*. Faye is a member of Sisters in Crime, Crime Writers of Color, and Mystery Writers of America. Aside from her publications, she managed two boys, a husband, five dogs, and three competitive writing fellowships over the years. Today, Faye works and writes from her home in Northern California while enjoying the company of her extremely rowdy and gorgeous grandchildren.

www.fayesnowden.com

Rosalie Spielman



Rosalie Spielman is a mother, veteran, and retired military spouse. She was thrilled to discover that she could make other people laugh with her writing and finds joy in giving people a humorous escape from the real world. She currently lives in Maryland with her husband in a rapidly emptying nest and writes for two series, the Aloha Lagoon mystery series and the Hometown Mysteries series. Join her Facebook page (Rosalie Spielman author) or Facebook group (You Know The Spiel).

www.rosalie-spielman-author.com

Laurie Stevens



Laurie Stevens is the author of the Gabriel McRay thriller series. The books have won twelve awards, among them Kirkus Reviews Best and a Random House Editors' Book of the Month. In regards to writing thrillers, Suspense Magazine says Laurie is "the leader of the pack," while International Thriller Writers claims she's "cracked the code" of writing psychological suspense. Her latest, *In Twilight's Hush*, showcased her love of research and dabbled a little in the paranormal. The book was included in Killer Nashville's Top 6 Books of 2021. An avid camper and lover of nature, Laurie lives in the Santa Monica Mountains of Los Angeles with her husband, two snakes, and a white cat.

www.lauriestevensbooks.com

Lucinda Surber



Lucinda Surber has been reading mystery books and recommending them to anyone who will listen as long as she can remember. She has an unfortunate habit of “adopting” plants while traveling, but the saguaro (*Carnegiea gigantea*) outwitted her by sheer size and spikiness. If you see her coveting an especially attractive desert plant on the hotel grounds, please distract her with a brightly colored object. When they aren’t helping with Left Coast Crime, Lucinda and Stan Ulrich run Stop, You’re Killing Me!, their Anthony award-winning web resource for lovers of mystery, crime, thriller, spy, and suspense books.

[Ed. Note: Picture credit SU Nature Fotos]

www.stopyourekillingme.com

Meredith Taylor



Meredith Taylor retired from clinical psychology to the world of crime – on the page, at least. Reader of everything – books, apps, cereal boxes – favorites are always mysteries. She will talk your ear off about them if given a chance. She published a story in the 2021 Sisters in Crime Los Angeles anthology and edited, with Gay Tolt Kinman and Susan Rowland, the 2023 SinC LA anthology *Entertainment To Die For*. Adventures of Ali Marchant, therapist and psychology professor, are forthcoming. Meredith lives in Los Angeles and recently learned more about glutes than you possibly want to know. It’s all good.

Wendall Thomas



Wendall Thomas writes the Anthony, Macavity, and Lefty-nominated Cyd Redondo screwball travel mysteries, teaches in the Graduate Film School at UCLA, and lectures internationally on screenwriting. Her short fiction appears in anthologies including *Murder-A-Go-Go's* and the upcoming *Crime Under the Sun*. She’s sung in dive bars, been the first single female teacher at an all-male boarding school, worked as a Hollywood entertainment reporter, adapted *The Moonstone* for PBS’s *Wishbone*, sponsored a wildlife trail camera in Tasmania, and wrote the speech for Bonnie Raitt’s induction into The Rock & Roll Hall of Fame.

@ewendallthomas & www.wendallthomas.com

Mark Thompson



“I think I’ve been shadowed by Frank Sinatra my whole life,” says author Mark Thompson. Long before Thompson met Italian clothier Umberto Autore, and decades before he would write about him in his debut novel, *Sinatra’s Tailor*, Thompson was immersed in Frank Sinatra’s mellifluous tones – both through records on the phonograph and the voice of his own professional-singer father. Thompson, a cantor and speech pathologist, met Sinatra in Palm Springs and even sang for the legendary entertainer. *Sinatra’s Tailor* is the remarkable story of a young boy orphaned in Italy during WWII and raised by “nuns and Nazis.” He eventually immigrates to America where he becomes Sinatra’s Tailor.

www.sinatrastailor.com

Kate Thornton



With over 100 short stories in print, Kate Thornton has been writing multi-genre short stories for decades and now writes mystery novels. Retired from the US Army where she worked as a Counterintelligence Agent and Instructor, she has been a contestant on *Jeopardy!*, once kissed French film director Françoise Truffaut, and currently lives in Tucson, AZ, where she is working on the next Toni Carey mystery and the next Kitty & Coco mystery.

www.katethornton.net

Peggy Townsend



Peggy Townsend is a former newspaper journalist who has chased an escaped serial killer through a graveyard at midnight, panhandled with street kids, and once took a flashlight to a knife fight. She has won multiple awards for her writing and is the author of two mystery novels published by Thomas & Mercer, *See Her Run* and *The Thin Edge*, which feature a disgraced journalist (not her). *Kirkus Reviews* called *See Her Run* one of “Thirteen Thrillers to Keep You Up at Night.” Her new domestic thriller, *The Beautiful and the Wild*, will be released by Berkley Books, a division of Penguin Random House, on Nov. 7.

Alice Volpe



Alice’s work in publishing began in New York City, continued in Tokyo, and took firm root in Seattle. She has been a publicist, writer, editor, publisher, and finally, a literary agent. Having negotiated contracts for well over 100 books, she believes that authors need to understand the industry, while publishers need to recognize the value of writers in making the industry possible. Having been on “both sides of the fence,” she enjoys the “matchmaking” of bringing editor and writer together for mutual enrichment and success. Her current list of mystery writers includes Carola Dunn, author of the Daisy Dalrymple Series, and J.A. Jance, whom she has represented since selling the first Beaumont book, *Until Proven Guilty*.

Laura Jensen Walker



After reading 103 books in the first grade, Laura Jensen Walker knew she wanted to be a writer. Award-winning high school newspaper editor Laura took her clips to the local paper seeking a reporting job. The editor said, “you have talent, but need life experience.” Joining the Air Force, Laura flew a typewriter across Europe – skiing in the Alps, Volksmarching in Germany, discoing in Paris, and drinking ouzo in Greece. “Opa!” At forty, Laura’s first book, *Dated Jekyll, Married Hyde*, released. Her debut mystery, *Murder Most Sweet*, her 17th book – dubbed “fearlessly funny” – was nominated for a 2021 Agatha Award.

www.laurajensenwalker.com

Betty Webb



Betty Webb is the author of the contemporary Lena Jones mystery series (*Desert Redemption*, etc.) and the Gunn Zoo mysteries (*The Panda of Death*, etc.). But now she’s stepped into a time machine for her new mystery series with *Lost in Paris*, set in 1922. It debuts April 4, 2023. During her 20 years as a journalist, Betty has interviewed U.S. presidents, astronauts who walked on the moon, Nobel Prize–winners, and polygamy runaways. In between her frequent trips to Paris, she lives in Scottsdale, Arizona, with five cats and one husband.

www.bettywebb-mystery.com

Holly West



Holly West (she/her) is the Anthony Award–nominated author of the Mistress of Fortune historical mystery series and the editor of *Murder-A-Go-Go’s: Crime Fiction Inspired by the Music of the Go-Go’s*. She’s also the editor of the forthcoming Bouchercon 2023 anthology. Her novella, *The Money Block*, is out now from Down & Out Books.

hollywest.com

Iona Wishaw



Awarded mystery author Iona Wishaw grew up in Canada, Arizona, and Mexico. Her Lane Winslow mysteries have won her the 2021 Bony Blythe Light Mystery Award and she has been a finalist for the Duthie book prize and two Lefty Awards. *Framed in Fire* appeared in 2022, and the tenth book, *To Track a Traitor*, will be released April 2023. A passion for history and her family's WW2 intelligence work, and long rambling rainy walks in England inform the spirit of her period novels. She writes in a disreputable pink fluffy bath robe, and under the strong influence of tea.

ionawishaw.ca

Shawn Wilson



Shawn Wilson is the author of the Brick Kavanagh mystery series. Her second novel, *Duplicity* (Oceanview Publishing), received a starred review from *Publishers Weekly* citing it as "Wilson's excellent sequel to *Relentless*." Years of working at Washington, D.C.'s Superior Court convinced her that on any given day, there was likely to be more drama at the courthouse than the Kennedy Center and no ticket was required.

www.shawnwilsonauthor.com

Marty Wingate



Marty Wingate lives in the Pacific Northwest but writes mysteries and historical fiction set in Britain. Her newest series is The London Ladies Murder Club set in 1921. *A Body on the Doorstep* releases January 2024. Marty's other mysteries are the Potting Shed, Birds of a Feather, and First Edition Library series. Her historical fiction titles are *The Orphans of Mersea House* and *Glamour Girls*. Marty prefers on-the-ground research in England tracing the steps of her characters, stopping for tea and a slice of Victoria sponge, or enjoying a swift half in a pub.

martywingate.com

Kenneth Wishnia



Kenneth Wishnia's novels have been nominated for the Edgar, Anthony, and Macavity Awards. His short stories have appeared in *Ellery Queen*, *Alfred Hitchcock*, *Queens Noir*, *Long Island Noir*, *Send My Love*, and a *Molotov Cocktail!*, and elsewhere. His novel, *The Fifth Servant*, won a literary award in Italy. So he's got to get translated into Italian to win an award? Get with it, America! Sheesh! Oh, yeah – he edited the Anthony Award-nominated anthology *Jewish Noir* and recently co-edited *Jewish Noir II* with Chantelle Aimée Osman. So there. He teaches writing, literature and other deviant forms of thought at Suffolk Community College on Long Island.

www.kennethwishnia.com

Matt Witten



Matt Witten is a TV writer, novelist, playwright, and screenwriter, who has written for many TV shows including *House*, *Pretty Little Liars*, and *Law & Order*. His thriller novel *The Necklace* came out last year and is optioned by Leonardo DiCaprio, and his latest thriller *Killer Story*, about a true-crime podcaster, came out in January. Matt wrote four amateur sleuth novels, including the Malice Domestic Award-winning *Breakfast at Madeline's*, and he has been nominated for two Edgars and an Emmy. Currently Matt is writing a drama pilot for NBC as well as a Hallmark Mystery Movie based on the novel *A Dark and Stormy Murder*, by Julia Buckley.

www.mattwittenwriter.com

Robin Yeatman



Robin Yeatman is a shameless bookworm who was born in Calgary and raised in Vancouver, Canada. Educated in British Columbia and England, she studied literature, trained as a broadcast journalist, and worked in radio as a morning show producer. After a dozen years in Montreal, she now lives in Vancouver. *Bookworm* is her first book.

robinyeatman.com

Amy Young



Amy Young is an author, comedian, and actor based in Cleveland. After spending a decade in Los Angeles working in the entertainment industry and writing her debut novel, *The Water Tower*, she decided it was time to return to her hometown of Cleveland so she could live where her books take place! She enjoys the cold, but her husband and kitties miss the LA sunshine. Amy is working on her second book, a thriller, and in her free time she enjoys going to the theatre, performing standup comedy, and teaching at the Young Filmmakers Academy. She has a B.A. in English from Kenyon College.

www.authoramyyoung.com

Anastasia Zadeik



Anastasia Zadeik has been a storyteller since she was five, using every second of her allotted three minutes to “share the most interesting thing that happened today” with her parents and four siblings – a dinner-time ritual that taught her the value of brevity, the importance of plot, and how to deal with critique. It also instilled a love of performing short narrative nonfiction and writing long flowery phrases for her own delight. Other loves include her family, volunteering for several literary nonprofits, hiking, yoga, and walking her empty-nest rescue dog, Charlie. Her debut, *Blurred Fates*, came out in August 2022.

@anastasiazadeik & anastasiazadeik.com

Frank Zafiro



Frank Zafiro writes gritty crime fiction from both sides of the badge. He was a police officer from 1993 to 2013, holding many different positions and ranks. He retired as a captain. Frank is the author of more than forty novels, most of them crime fiction, including his flagship River City series. In addition to writing, Frank hosted the crime fiction podcast Wrong Place, Write Crime from 2017-22. He is an avid hockey fan and a tortured guitarist. He currently lives in Redmond, Oregon.

frankzafiro.com

Kristopher Zgorski



Kristopher Zgorski is the founder and sole reviewer at the crime fiction book blog, BOLO Books. In 2018, he was awarded the Mystery Writers of America Raven Award for “outstanding achievement in the mystery field outside the realm of creative writing.” Kristopher writes a column on digital crime fiction resources for every issue of *Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine* and his blog reviews are syndicated to his column in *Deadly Pleasures Mystery Magazine*. He has served on the board of directors for Malice Domestic, a crime fiction convention celebrating the traditional mystery. Kristopher has been a member of Sisters in Crime since 2017 and was most recently the Fan Guest of Honor at Left Coast Crime in Albuquerque, New Mexico, in 2022.

www.bolobooks.com

Left Coast Crime #33 in Tucson

Welcome to the 33rd annual Left Coast Crime Convention – *Trouble in Tucson!* The LCC Convention is an annual event sponsored by fans of mystery literature for fans of mystery literature, including both readers and authors. Held in the western half of North America around the first quarter of the year, LCC provides an event where mystery fans can gather in convivial surroundings to pursue their mutual interests. Stay in touch with LCC at www.leftcoastcrime.org – browse the archives of past events, including copies of program books from all prior conventions, and watch for upcoming conventions.

Left Coast Crime Honorees Through the Years					
Year	Place	Guests of Honor	Fan Guests of Honor	Toastmaster	Lifetime Achievement
1991	San Francisco, CA	Marcia Muller Bill Pronzini			
1992	San Francisco, CA	J.A. Jance Earl Emerson		James Lee Burke	
1993	Anaheim, CA	Susan Dunlap		Ann & Evan Maxwell	
1994	Anaheim, CA	Aaron Elkins		Carolyn Hart	
1995	Scottsdale, AZ	Tony Hillerman		Judith Van Gieson	
1996	Boulder, CO	Kinky Friedman	Maggie Mason	Nevada Barr	
1997	Seattle, WA	Faye & Jonathan Kellerman		Lia Matera	
1998	San Diego, CA	Elizabeth George	Willis Herr	Alan Russell	Bob Wade
1999	Albuquerque, NM	John Dunning	Tasha Mackler	Deborah Crombie	
2000	Tucson, AZ	Sue Grafton	George Easter	Harlan Coben	
2001	Anchorage, AL	Michael Connelly Lindsay Davis	Andi Shechter		
2002	Portland, OR	Steven Saylor Laurie King	Don Herron	G.M. Ford	
2003	Pasadena, CA	Robert Crais	Sue Feder	Jerrilyn Farmer	
2004	Monterey, CA	Sharan Newman Walter Mosley	Bryan Barrett Thom Walls	Gillian Roberts	Richard Lupoff
2005	El Paso, TX	Paco Ignacio Taibo S.J. Rozan	Ernie Bulow	Rick Riordan	
2006	Bristol, UK	Boris Akunin Jeffrey Deaver Anne Perry	Bill & Toby Gottfried Donna Moore	Lee Child	
2007	Seattle, WA	Dennis & Gayle Lynds	Kara Robinson Diane Kovacs	Gary Phillips	
2008	Denver, CO	Stephen White	Michael Masliah	Elaine Viets	
2009	Kona, HI	Rhys Bowen Barry Eisler	Pam Dehnke Vallery Feldman	Lee Goldberg	
2010	Los Angeles, CA	Jan Burke Lee Child	Janet Rudolph	Bill Fitzhugh	
2011	Santa Fe, NM	Margaret Coel Steven F. Havill	Marvin Lachman	Steve Brewer	Martin Cruz Smith

Year	Place	Guests of Honor	Fan Guests of Honor	Toastmaster	Lifetime Achievement
2012	Sacramento, CA	John Lescroart Jacqueline Winspear James Rollins [SG]	Noemi Levine	Harley Jane Kozak	
2013	Colorado Springs, CO	Craig Johnson Laura Lippman Lou Diamond Phillips [SG]	Tom & Enid Schantz	David Corbett	
2014	Monterey, CA	Cara Black Louise Penny Sue Grafton [SG]	Sue Trowbridge	Brad Parks	Marcia Muller Bill Pronzini
2015	Portland, OR	Chelsea Cain Timothy Hallinan Philip Margolin [SG]	Friends of Mystery, Portland, OR	Gar Anthony Haywood	
2016	Phoenix, AZ	Ann Cleaves Gregg Hurwitz	Chantelle Aimée Osman	Catriona McPherson	
2017	Honolulu, HI	Colin Cotterill Dana Stabenow		Laurie R. King	Faye & Jonathan Kellerman
2018	Reno, NV	Naomi Hirahara William Kent Krueger		Todd Borg	
2019	Vancouver, BC	C.J. Box Maureen Jennings William Deverell [SG]	Don & Jenn Longmuir	Cathy Ace	Sue Grafton <i>post.</i>
2020	San Diego, CA	Rachel Howzell Hall T. Jefferson Parker		Matt Coyle	
2021	<i>Nowhere/Everywhere</i>	<i>Covid-19</i>			
2022	Albuquerque, NM	Mick Herron Catriona McPherson	Kristopher Zgorski	Kellye Garrett	
2023	Tucson, AZ	Glen Erik Hamilton Sujata Massey	Dru Ann Love	Ellen Byron	J.A. Jance
2024	Bellevue, WA	<i>[coming soon...]</i>	<i>[coming soon...]</i>	<i>[coming soon...]</i>	

The 2023 Left Award Creator

Lee Blackwell was born in Denver, Colorado. He learned welding at Emily Griffith Opportunity School. After his graduation from high school and a semester of art school at Colorado Mountain College, he eventually settled in Las Cruces, New Mexico. He made his living as a welder, using his time off to teach himself how to create beautiful metal sculptures.

He discovered he could use a copper alloy welding rod to join copper sculptural elements in ways no one else was doing then. His work was good enough to sell at arts and crafts fairs all over the West, including the 1979 Tubac Festival of the Arts.

Dale Nichols, founder of the first art school in Tubac, Arizona, invited Lee to



share the school's low-cost living and work spaces, so Lee moved to Tubac in 1980. His copper fountains were a viable business from the beginning – copper was at historically low prices in the early 1980s, and Lee was able to earn a living.

He purchased his present location in 1986 from Mortimer Wilson (1906-1995), the well-known Impressionist painter and illustrator for *The Saturday Evening Post* and *Woman's Home Companion*, among others. Lee was 20-plus, Mortimer was 80-plus, "a friend and storyteller" who helped Lee mature as a man and artist. In addition to the Lefty Awards, you can see his work at 18 Plaza Road, Tubac, AZ, just off the main plaza, or at his website, leeblackwellstudio.com.

Left Coast Crime Awards — The Lefty

Since 2016, all Left Coast Crime Awards are designated as “Lefty” Awards. Once upon a time, the “Lefty” – first awarded in 1996 – described only the award given for the best humorous mystery. LCC Bylaws now provide that each annual convention will give Lefty Awards for best novel in four categories: Humorous, Historical (the Bruce Alexander Memorial, first given in 2004, renamed in 2022 as the Bill Gottfried Memorial), Debut, and Best (not in the other categories). Annual conventions no longer pick optional award categories.

Over the years, optional awards have been given in a variety of categories, such as for the best mystery set in the LCC geographical region (Mountain & Pacific time zones in North America and west to Hawaii), and variously named depending on the convention location: e.g., *Otter* (Monterey 2004), *Calavera* (El Paso 2005), *Rocky* (Denver 2008 & Colorado Springs 2013), and *Rose* (Portland 2015). Other varieties of geographically-based award include the *Hillerman Sky* for Southwest settings (Santa Fe 2011), *Golden Nugget* for California (Sacramento 2012), and the *Squid* (US) and *Calamari* (non-US) (Monterey 2014).

Awards for best first mystery include the *Eureka!* (Sacramento 2012) and *Rosebud* (Portland 2015). And let’s not forget the *Watson*, for the mystery with the best sidekick (Santa Fe 2011 & Colorado Springs 2013), and the *Hawaii Five-O* (2009) for law enforcement and police procedurals. The *Panik* award was given in memory of Paul Anik for best LA noir (Los Angeles 2010). Cover art was recognized with the *Arty* (Denver 2008).

This year’s Lefty nominees are listed below. Be sure to deposit your paper Lefty Ballot in the ballot box near Registration by 1:30 PM on Saturday.

2023 Lefty Award Nominees

Best Humorous Mystery

- Bayou Book Thief* by Ellen Byron
- Death by Bubble Tea* by Jennifer J. Chow
- Five Moves of Doom* by A.J. Devlin
- A Streetcar Named Murder* by T.G. Herren
- Scot in a Trap* by Catriona McPherson

Best Debut Mystery

- Jackal* by Erin E. Adams
- Don’t Know Tough* by Eli Cranor
- Shutter* by Ramona Emerson
- Other People’s Secrets*
by Meredith Hambrock
- The Bangalore Detectives Club*
by Harini Nagendra
- Devil’s Chew Toy* by Rob Osler
- The Verifiers* by Jane Pek

Best Historical Mystery (set prior to 1970)

– The Bill Gottfried Memorial

- A Bride’s Guide to Marriage and Murder*
by Dianne Freeman
- In Place of Fear* by Catriona McPherson
- Anywhere You Run* by Wanda M. Morris
- Under a Veiled Moon* by Karen Odden
- The Secret in the Wall* by Ann Parker
- Framed in Fire* by Iona Whishaw

Best Mystery (not in other categories)

- Like a Sister* by Kellye Garrett
- Back to the Garden* by Laurie R. King
- Dead Drop* by James L’Etoile
- Under Lock & Skeleton Key* by Gigi Pandian
- A World of Curiosities* by Louise Penny
- Secret Identity* by Alex Segura

History of Left Coast Crime Awards

1996 – Boulder, Colorado

Lefty Award [humorous]

- ☑ *The Fat Innkeeper* by Alan Russell
- God Bless John Wayne* by Kinky Friedman
- Who in Hell Is Wanda Fuca?* by G.M. Ford
- Movie by Parnell Hall
- Miracles in Maggody* by Joan Hess
- If I'd Killed Him When I Met Him*
by Sharan McCrumb

1997 – Seattle, Washington

[No Award Given]

1998 – San Diego, California

Lefty Award [humorous]

- ☑ *Three To Get Deadly* by Janet Evanovich
- Dead Men Don't Dance* by Margaret Chittenden
- Scam by Parnell Hall
- I Still Miss My Man But My Aim Is Getting Better*
by Sarah Shankman
- The Death and Life of Bobby Z* by Don Winslow

1999 – Albuquerque, New Mexico

Lefty Award [humorous]

- ☑ *Four To Score* by Janet Evanovich

2000 – Tucson, Arizona

Lefty Award [humorous]

- ☑ *Murder With Peacocks* by Donna Andrews
- Big Trouble* by Dave Barry
- High Five* by Janet Evanovich
- Immaculate Reception* by Jerrilyn Farmer
- Murder Shoots the Bull* by Anne George

2001 – Anchorage, Alaska

[No Award Given]

2002 – Portland, Oregon

Lefty Award [humorous]

- ☑ *Dim Sum Dead* by Jerrilyn Farmer [tie]
- ☑ *Fender Benders* by Bill Fitzhugh [tie]
- Revenge of the Wrought-Iron Flamingos*
by Donna Andrews
- Murder Can Upset Your Mother* by Selma Eichler
- Long Time No See* by Susan Isaacs

2003 – Pasadena, California

Lefty Award [humorous]

- ☑ *The Hearse Case Scenario* by Tim Cockey [tie]
- ☑ *Pipsqueak* by Brian M. Wiprud [tie]
- Hard Eight* by Janet Evanovich
- This Pen for Hire* by Laura Levine
- The Rival Queens* by Fidelis Morgan
- Buck Fever* by Ben Rehder

2004 – Monterey, California

Lefty Award [humorous]

- ☑ *Mumbo Gumbo* by Jerrilyn Farmer
- Crouching Buzzard, Leaping Loon*
by Donna Andrews
- Shop Till You Drop* by Elaine Viets

Bruce Alexander Memorial [historical, pre-1950]

- ☑ *For the Love of Mike* by Rhys Bowen
- Silver Lies* by Ann Parker
- Four for a Boy* by Mary Reed & Eric Mayer

Otter Award [LCC region]

- ☑ *More Than You Know* by Meg Chittenden
- Dragonfly Bones* by David Cole
- Murder Pans Out* by Emily Toll

2005 – El Paso, Texas

Lefty Award [humorous]

- ☑ *We'll Always Have Parrots* by Donna Andrews [tie]
- ☑ *Blue Blood* by Susan McBride [tie]
- Carnage on the Committee*
by Ruth Dudley Edwards
- Holy Guacamole* by Nancy Fairbanks
- Perfect Sax* by Jerrilyn Farmer

Bruce Alexander Memorial [historical, pre-1950]

- ☑ *The Witch in the Well* by Sharan Newman
- Five for Silver* by Mary Reed & Eric Mayer
- Tyrant of the Mind* by Priscilla Royal
- Murder on Marble Row* by Victoria Thompson
- Birds of a Feather* by Jacqueline Winspear

Calavera Award [LCC region]

- ☑ *Grave Endings* by Rochelle Krich
- Snap Shot* by Meg Chittenden
- Shadow Play* by David Cole
- What Others Know* by L.C. Hayden
- Family Claims* by Twist Phelan

2006 – Bristol, UK

Lefty Award [humorous]

- ☑ *Cast Adrift* by Peter Guttridge
- Cue the Easter Bunny* by Liz Evans
- The Big Over Easy* by Jasper Fforde
- Highway 61 Resurfaced* by Bill Fitzhugh
- Fags and Lager* by Charlie Williams

Bruce Alexander Memorial [historical, pre-1950]

- ☑ *Spectres in the Smoke* by Tony Broadbent
- Night's Child* by Maureen Jennings
- Pardonable Lies* by Jacqueline Winspear

2007 – Seattle, Washington

Lefty Award [humorous]

- ☑ *Go to Helena Handbasket* by Donna Moore
- No Nest for the Wicket* by Donna Andrews
- Monkey Man* by Steve Brewer
- 47 Rules of Highly Effective Bank Robbers*
by Troy Cook
- Murder Unleashed* by Elaine Viets

2008 – Denver, Colorado

Lefty Award [humorous]

- ☑ *Murder with Reservations* by Elaine Viets
- The Penguin Who Knew Too Much*
by Donna Andrews
- Stuff To Die For* by Don Bruns
- Some Like It Hot-Buttered* by Jeffrey Cohen
- Knee High by the Fourth of July* by Jess Lourey

Rocky Award [LCC region]

- ☑ *The Girl with the Braided Hair* by Margaret Coel
- Free Fire* by C.J. Box
- Lost Dog* by Bill Cameron
- Stealing the Dragon* by Tim Maleeny
- False Fortune* by Twist Phelan

Arty Award [cover art]

- ☑ *Her Royal Spyness* by Rhys Bowen
- Queenpin* by Megan Abbott
- Isabella Moon* by Laura Benedict
- Silent Counsel* by Ken Isaacson
- Stealing the Dragon* by Tim Maleeny

2009 – Waikoloa, Hawaii

Lefty Award [humorous]

- ☑ *Greasing the Piñata* by Tim Maleeny
- Six Geese A-Slaying* by Donna Andrews
- It Happened One Knife* by Jeffrey Cohen
- Thugs & Kisses* by Sue Ann Jaffarian
- Murder at the Bad Girl's Bar and Grill*
by N.M. Kelby
- Getting Old Is To Die For* by Rita Lakin

Bruce Alexander Memorial [historical, pre-1950]

- ☑ *Nox Dormienda, A Long Night for Sleeping*
by Kelli Stanley
- A Fatal Waltz* by Tasha Alexander
- A Royal Pain* by Rhys Bowen
- Tell Me, Pretty Maiden* by Rhys Bowen
- Touchstone* by Laurie King

Hawaii Five-O [police procedural]

- ☑ *Mahu Fire* by Neil S. Plakcy
- Angels Fall* by Baron Birtcher
- The Angel of Knowlton Park* by Kate Flora
- The Black Path* by Åsa Larsson
- Death of a Cozy Writer* by G.M. Malliet
- Fractured* by Karin Slaughter

2010 – Los Angeles, California

Lefty Award [humorous]

- ☑ *Getting Old Is a Disaster* by Rita Lakin
- Swan for the Money* by Donna Andrews
- Living with Your Kids Is Murder* by Mike Befeler
- Strangle a Loaf of Italian Bread* by Denise Dietz
- High Crimes on the Magical Plane* by Kris Neri

Bruce Alexander Memorial [historical pre-1950]

- ☑ *A Trace of Smoke* by Rebecca Cantrell
- Tears of Pearl* by Tasha Alexander
- In a Gilded Cage* by Rhys Bowen
- Freedom's Flight* by Gary Phillips
- Serpent in the Thorns* by Jeri Westerson

The Panik [L.A. noir]

- ☑ *Death Was in the Picture* by Linda Richards
- Cemetery Road* by Gar Anthony Haywood
- Trust No One* by Gregg Hurwitz
- Boulevard* by Stephen Jay Schwartz

2011 – Santa Fe, New Mexico

Lefty Award [humorous]

- ☑ *The Pot Thief Who Studied Einstein*
by J. Michael Orenduff
- Stork Raving Mad* by Donna Andrews
- Swift Justice* by Laura DiSilverio
- Old Dogs* by Donna Moore
- Revenge for Old Times' Sake* by Kris Neri

Bruce Alexander Memorial [historical, pre-1950]

- ☑ *The Mapping of Love and Death*
by Jacqueline Winspear
- A Night of Long Knives* by Rebecca Cantrell
- Murder for Greenhorns* by Robert Kresge
- City of Dragons* by Kelli Stanley
- The Demon's Parchment* by Jeri Westerson

Hillerman Sky Award [Southwest]

- ☑ *The Spider's Web* by Margaret Coel
- Wild Penance* by Sandi Ault
- The Bone Fire* by Christine Barber
- Snare* by Deborah J Ledford

Watson Award [sidekick]

- ☑ *Junkyard Dogs* by Craig Johnson
- Wild Penance* by Sandi Ault
- Dead Lift* by Rachel Brady
- Rolling Thunder* by Chris Grabenstein
- To Fetch a Thief* by Spencer Quinn

2012 – Sacramento, California

Lefty Award [humorous]

- ☑ *The Real Macaw* by Donna Andrews
- Getting Old Can Kill You* by Rita Lakin
- October Fest* by Jess Lourey
- Magical Alienation* by Kris Neri
- Dying for a Dance* by Cindy Sample
- The Albuquerque Turkey* by John Vorhaus

Bruce Alexander Memorial [historical, pre-1960]

- ☑ *Mercury's Rise* by Ann Parker
- Naughty in Nice* by Rhys Bowen
- A Game of Lies* by Rebecca Cantrell
- A Killing Season* by Priscilla Royal
- Troubled Bones* by Jeri Westerson
- A Lesson in Secrets* by Jacqueline Winspear

Golden Nugget Award [California]

- ☑ *City of Secrets* by Kelli Stanley
- Disturbance* by Jan Burke
- The Drop* by Michael Connelly
- Bit Player* by Janet Dawson
- V Is for Vengeance* by Sue Grafton

Eureka! Award [debut]

- ☑ *Nazareth Child* by Darrell James
- The Baffled Beatlemaniac Caper*
by Sally Carpenter
- Dead Man's Switch* by Tammy Kaehler
- Who Do, Voodoo?* by Rochelle Staab

2013 – Colorado Springs, Colorado

Lefty Award [humorous]

- ☑ *The Girl Next Door* by Brad Parks
- Cruising in Your Eighties Is Murder*
by Mike Befeler
- Swift Run* by Laura DiSilverio
- December Dread* by Jess Lourey
- Trail of the Spellmans* by Lisa Lutz
- Fit To Be Dead* by Nancy G. West

Bruce Alexander Memorial [historical, pre-1960]

- ☑ *Dandy Gilver and an Unsuitable Day for a Murder*
by Catriona McPherson
- The Twelve Clues of Christmas* by Rhys Bowen
- A City of Broken Glass* by Rebecca Cantrell
- Live by Night* by Dennis Lehane
- Elegy for Eddie* by Jacqueline Winspear

Rocky Award [LCC region]

- ☑ *As the Crow Flies* by Craig Johnson
- Buffalo Bill's Dead Now* by Margaret Coel
- Hush Money* by Chuck Greaves
- Wicked Eddies* by Beth Groundwater
- Sonora Crossing* by Darrell James

Watson Award [sidekick]

- ☑ *Bruja Brouhaha* by Rochelle Staab
- In a Witch's Wardrobe* by Juliet Blackwell
- Taken* by Robert Crais
- Fun House* by Chris Grabenstein
- When the Past Haunts You* by L.C. Hayden

2014 – Monterey, California

Lefty Award [humorous]

- ☑ *The Good Cop* by Brad Parks
- The Hen of the Baskervilles* by Donna Andrews
- The Fame Thief* by Timothy Hallinan
- The Last Word* by Lisa Lutz
- Dying for a Daiquiri* by Cindy Sample

Bruce Alexander Memorial [historical, pre-1960]

- ☑ *Dandy Gilver and a Bothersome Number of Corpses*
by Catriona McPherson
- Heirs and Graces* by Rhys Bowen
- His Majesty's Hope* by Susan Elia MacNeal
- Murder as a Fine Art* by David Morrell
- Covenant with Hell* by Priscilla Royal
- Leaving Everything Most Loved*
by Jacqueline Winspear

Squid Award [U.S.]

- ☑ *Ordinary Grace* by William Kent Krueger
- W Is for Wasted* by Sue Grafton
- Purgatory Key* by Darrell James
- The Wrong Girl* by Hank Phillippi Ryan
- A Killing at Cotton Hill* by Terry Shames

Calamari Award [non-U.S.]

- ☑ *How the Light Gets In* by Louise Penny
- Murder Below Montparnasse* by Cara Black
- Hour of the Rat* by Lisa Brackmann
- As She Left It* by Catriona McPherson
- Mykonos After Midnight* by Jeffrey Siger

2015 – Portland, Oregon

Lefty Award [humorous]

- ☑ *Herbie's Game* by Timothy Hallinan
- The Good, the Bad, and the Emus*
by Donna Andrews
- January Thaw* by Jess Lourey
- Dying for a Dude* by Cindy Sample
- Suede to Rest* by Diane Vallere

Bruce Alexander Memorial [historical, pre-1960]

- ☑ *A Deadly Measure of Brimstone*
by Catriona McPherson
- Queen of Hearts* by Rhys Bowen
- From the Charred Remains* by Susanna Calkins
- City of Ghosts* by Kelli Stanley
- Cup of Blood* by Jeri Westerson

Rose Award [LCC region]

- ☑ *Pirate Vishnu* by Gigi Pandian
- One Kick* by Chelsea Cain
- Glass Houses* by Terri Nolan
- Deadly Bonds* by L.J. Sellers
- Plaster City* by Johnny Shaw

Rosebud Award [debut]

- ☑ *The Life We Bury* by Allen Eskens
- Kilmoon* by Lisa Alber
- Ice Shear* by M.P. Cooley
- The Black Hour* by Lori Rader-Day
- Mistress of Fortune* by Holly West

2016 – Phoenix, Arizona

Best Humorous Mystery

- ☑ *Lord of the Wings* by Donna Andrews
- Plantation Shudders* by Ellen Byron
- February Fever* by Jess Lourey
- Dying for a Donut* by Cindy Sample
- Crushed Velvet* by Diane Vallere

Best Historical Mystery (prior to 1960)

- The Bruce Alexander Memorial
- ☑ *Malice at the Palace* by Rhys Bowen
- The Masque of a Murderer* by Susanna Calkins
- The Chocolate Kiss-Off* by Heather Haven
- The Secret Life of Anna Blanc* by Jennifer Kincheloe
- Dreaming Spies* by Laurie R. King
- Mrs. Roosevelt's Confidante* by Susan Elia MacNeal

Best Mystery Set in the Left Coast Crime

Geographic Area

- ☑ *The Accidental Alchemist* by Gigi Pandian
- The Crossing* by Michael Connelly
- Night Tremors* by Matt Coyle
- The Promise* by Robert Crais
- Young Americans* by Josh Stallings

Best Mystery Set Outside the Left Coast Crime

Geographic Area

- ☑ *The Nature of the Beast* by Louise Penny
- The Long and Faraway Gone* by Lou Berney
- Dragon Day* by Lisa Brackmann
- The Killing Kind* by Chris Holm
- Stone Cold Dead* by James W. Ziskin

2017 – Honolulu, Hawaii

Best Humorous Mystery

- ☑ *Body on the Bayou* by Ellen Byron
- Die Like an Eagle* by Donna Andrews
- Fields Where They Lay* by Timothy Hallinan
- The CEO Came DOA* by Heather Haven
- Floodgate* by Johnny Shaw
- A Disguise To Die For* by Diane Vallere

Best Historical Mystery (prior to 1960)

– The Bruce Alexander Memorial

- ☑ *The Reek of Red Herrings* by Catriona McPherson
- Crowned and Dangerous* by Rhys Bowen
- A Death Along the River Fleet* by Susanna Calkins
- The Murder of Mary Russell* by Laurie R. King
- What Gold Buys* by Ann Parker

Best Debut Mystery

- ☑ *Murder in G Major* by Alexia Gordon
- Cleaning Up Finn* by Sarah M. Chen
- Terror in Taffeta* by Marla Cooper
- Decanting a Murder* by Nadine Nettmann
- Design for Dying* by Renee Patrick

Best Mystery (not in other categories)

- ☑ *A Great Reckoning* by Louise Penny
- Dark Fissures* by Matt Coyle
- Michelangelo's Ghost* by Gigi Pandian
- The Necessary Murder of Nonie Blake*
by Terry Shames
- Heart of Stone* by James W. Ziskin

2018 – Reno, Nevada

Best Humorous Mystery

- ☑ *A Cajun Christmas Killing* by Ellen Byron
- Gone Gull* by Donna Andrews
- Dying on the Vine* by Marla Cooper
- The Art of Vanishing* by Cynthia Kuhn
- Dying for a Diamond* by Cindy Sample

Best Historical Mystery (prior to 1960)

– The Bruce Alexander Memorial

- ☑ *In Farleigh Field* by Rhys Bowen
- The Woman in the Camphor Trunk*
by Jennifer Kincheloe
- Dangerous To Know* by Renee Patrick
- The Proud Sinner* by Priscilla Royal
- Season of Blood* by Jeri Westerson

Best Debut Mystery

- ☑ *Hollywood Homicide* by Kellye Garrett
- A Short Time To Die* by Susan Alice Bickford
- Lost Luggage* by Wendall Thomas
- A Head in Cambodia* by Nancy Tingley
- Protocol* by Kathleen Valenti

Best Mystery (not in other categories)

- ☑ *Sulfur Springs* by William Kent Krueger
- Blood Truth* by Matt Coyle
- Glass Houses* by Louise Penny
- An Unsettling Crime for Samuel Craddock*
by Terry Shames
- Cast the First Stone* by James W. Ziskin

2019 – Vancouver, British Columbia

Best Humorous Mystery

- ☑ *Scot Free* by Catriona McPherson
- Mardi Gras Murder* by Ellen Byron
- Hollywood Ending* by Kellye Garrett
- Nighttown* by Timothy Hallinan
- Death al Fresco* by Leslie Karst
- The Spirit in Question* by Cynthia Kuhn

Best Historical Mystery (prior to 1960)

– The Bruce Alexander Memorial

- ☑ *The Widows of Malabar Hill* by Sujata Massey
- Four Funerals and Maybe a Wedding*
by Rhys Bowen
- The Long-Lost Love Letters of Doc Holliday*
by David Corbett
- Island of the Mad* by Laurie R. King
- A Dying Note* by Ann Parker
- It Begins in Betrayal* by Iona Whishaw

Best Debut Mystery

- ☑ *A Lady's Guide to Etiquette and Murder*
by Dianne Freeman
- Broken Places* by Tracy Clark
- Cobra Clutch* by A.J. Devlin
- The Woman in the Window* by A.J. Finn
- What Doesn't Kill You* by Aimee Hix
- Deadly Solution* by Keenan Powell
- Give Out Creek* by J.G. Toews

Best Mystery (not in other categories)

- ☑ *November Road* by Lou Berney
- Wrong Light* by Matt Coyle
- Kingdom of the Blind* by Louise Penny
- Under a Dark Sky* by Lori Rader-Day
- A Reckoning in the Back Country* by Terry Shames
- A Stone's Throw* by James W. Ziskin

2020 – San Diego, California

Best Humorous Mystery

- ☑ *Scot & Soda* by Catriona McPherson
- Fatal Cajun Festival* by Ellen Byron
- Murder from Scratch* by Leslie Karst
- The Subject of Malice* by Cynthia Kuhn
- Drowned Under* by Wendall Thomas

Best Historical Mystery (prior to 1960)

– The Bruce Alexander Memorial

- ☑ *The Satapur Moonstone* by Sujata Massey
- Murder Knocks Twice* by Susanna Calkins
- The Pearl Dagger* by L.A. Chandlar
- A Lady's Guide to Gossip and Murder*
by Dianne Freeman
- The Body in Griffith Park* by Jennifer Kincheloe

Best Debut Mystery

- ☑ *Murderabilia* by Carl Vonderau
- The Ninja Daughter* by Tori Eldridge
- Miracle Creek* by Angie Kim
- One Night Gone* by Tara Laskowski
- Three-Fifths* by John Vercher

Best Mystery (not in other categories)

- ☑ *Lost Tomorrows* by Matt Coyle
- Your House Will Pay* by Steph Cha
- Borrowed Time* by Tracy Clark
- They All Fall Down* by Rachel Howzell Hall
- Heaven, My Home* by Attica Locke

2021 – The Unconvention in Limbo

Best Humorous Mystery

- ☑ *Murder in the Bayou Boneyard* by Ellen Byron
- Mimi Lee Gets a Clue* by Jennifer J. Chow
- Squeeze Me* by Carl Hiaasen
- The Study of Secrets* by Cynthia Kuhn
- The Pot Thief Who Studied the Woman at*
Otowi Crossing by J. Michael Orenduff
- Skin Deep* by Sung J. Woo

Best Historical Mystery (prior to 1970)

– The Bruce Alexander Memorial

- ☑ *The Turning Tide* by Catriona McPherson
- The Fate of a Flapper* by Susanna Calkins
- A Lady's Guide to Mischievous and Murder*
by Dianne Freeman
- Riviera Gold* by Laurie R. King
- Mortal Music* by Ann Parker
- Turn to Stone* by James W. Ziskin

Best Debut Mystery

- ☑ *Winter Counts* by David Heska Wanbli Weiden
- Murder Goes to Market* by Daisy Bateman
- Derailed* by Mary Keliikoa
- Murder at the Mena House*
by Erica Ruth Neubauer
- The Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman
- The Lady Upstairs* by Halley Sutton

Best Mystery (not in other categories)

- ☑ *All the Devils Are Here* by Louise Penny
- What You Don't See* by Tracy Clark
- Blacktop Wasteland* by S.A. Cosby
- Blind Vigil* by Matt Coyle
- And Now She's Gone* by Rachel Howzell Hall

2022 – Albuquerque, New Mexico

Best Humorous Mystery

- ☑ *Mango, Mambo, and Murder* by Raquel V. Reyes
- Cajun Kiss of Death* by Ellen Byron
- Mimi Lee Cracks the Code* by Jennifer Chow
- Finlay Donovan Is Killing It* by Elle Cosimano
- How To Book a Murder* by Cynthia Kuhn
- Fogged Off* by Wendall Thomas

Best Debut Mystery

- ☑ *All Her Little Secrets* by Wanda M. Morris
- Who Is Maud Dixon* by Alexandra Andrews
- Blackout* by Marco Carocari
- The Other Black Girl* by Zakiya Dalila Harris
- Arsenic and Adobo* by Mia P. Manansala

Best Historical Mystery (prior to 1970)

– The Bill Gottfried Memorial

- ☑ *Clark and Division* by Naomi Hirahara
- The Cry of the Hangman* by Susanna Calkins
- The Savage Kind* by John Copenhaver
- The Bombay Prince* by Sujata Massey
- The Mirror Dance* by Catriona McPherson
- Death at Greenway* by Lori Rader-Day

Best Mystery (not in other categories)

- ☑ *Lightning Strike* by William Kent Krueger
- Runner* by Tracy Clark
- Razorblade Tears* by S.A. Cosby
- Last Redemption* by Matt Coyle
- Bath Haus* by P.J. Vernon

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The Left Coast Crime Book Room is located in the Coronado Ballroom. Authors will be signing their books in the Book Room after panels and interviews.

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Amy M. Bennett • NM
Kathryn Bennett • CA
Paul Bennett • NM
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 Kelli Peacock • AZ
 Amy S. Peele • CA
 Joyce Peluso • CO
 Emma Pérez • AZ
 Celeste Connally • TX
 Linnea Perry • BC
 Barbara Peters • AZ
 Cyndy Peters • UT
 Kim Peters • AZ
 Barbara Petty • CA
 Matt Phillips • CA
 Julie Phipps • WA
 Neil Plakey • FL
 Mayanna Pogson • OR
 Celeste Porter • CO
 Matthew Porter • CO
 Keenan Powell • AK
 Elaine A. Powers • AZ
 Charlene Purtee • ID
 David Putnam • CA

 Kwei Quartey • NY

 Lori Rader-Day • IL
 Frank Rankin • CA
 D.R. Ransdell • AZ
 Maggie-beth Rees • AZ
 Eliza Remillong • CA
 Jerry Remillong • CA
 Mary Jackson Rickard • WA
 Karen Ringer • CA
 Peggy S. Ritchey • CO
 John Maddox Roberts • NM
 Merrilee Robson • BC
 Jane Rodda • AZ
 Stephen D. Rogers • MA
 Sue Rosenberg • NM
 Robert Rosenwald • AZ
 John Rosskopf • CA
 Peggy Rothschild • CA
 Kaira Rouda • CA
 Jennifer Rowe • CO
 D.M. Rowell • CA
 Carolyn Rowland • VA
 S.J. Rozan • NY
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 Kathryn Rybka • IL

 Cynthia Sabelhaus • AZ
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 Paula Samarron • CA
 Karen L. Samuels • CA
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 Diane Schaffer • OR
 Linda Schaffer • CO
 David B. Schlosser • WA
 Pamela Schuster • AZ
 Michael Sears • NY
 Sandy Sechrest • WI
 Maryann Seduski • CA
 Alex Segura • NY
 Mary Seifert • MN
 Stella Sexmith • CA
 Terry Shames • CA
 Diana Shea • AZ
 Tom Shea • CA
 Donald Sheagley • AZ
 Laurie Sheehan • CA
 Lisa Sheldon • CO
 Paige Shelton • AZ
 Jay Shepherd • MA
 Jeffrey Siger • Greece
 Mia Siler • WA
 Holly Simason • NC
 Clea Simon • MA
 Nina Simon • CA
 Rosemary Simpson • AZ
 Francesca Sims • OR
 Joanna Campbell Slan • FL
 Mona Smith • CA
 Faye Snowden • CA
 Dennis Sorensen • CA
 Rosalie Spielman • MD
 Nancy Jean St George • ID
 Sam Stephens • IA
 Sheri Steuben • IA
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Barbara Stimson • CA
Wendy Stimson • CA
Nancy Sullivan • CA
Donnetta Summers • CA
Lucinda Surber • NM
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Marnie Sweeney • MT

Dwight Tate • CA
Meredith Taylor • CA
Wendall Thomas • CA
Betsy Thompson • CA
Mark Thompson • CA
Kate Thornton • AZ
Anne Thorpe • FL

Charlie Thorpe • FL
Savannah Thrower • CA
Tik Thurston • CA
Julie Tollefson • KS
Dorothy Tong • UT
Sylvia L Torres • CA
Peggy Townsend • CA
Karen Toyohara • CA
Adrian Trenholme • NZ
Patricia Turnbull • AZ
Evelyn Tuttle • NM

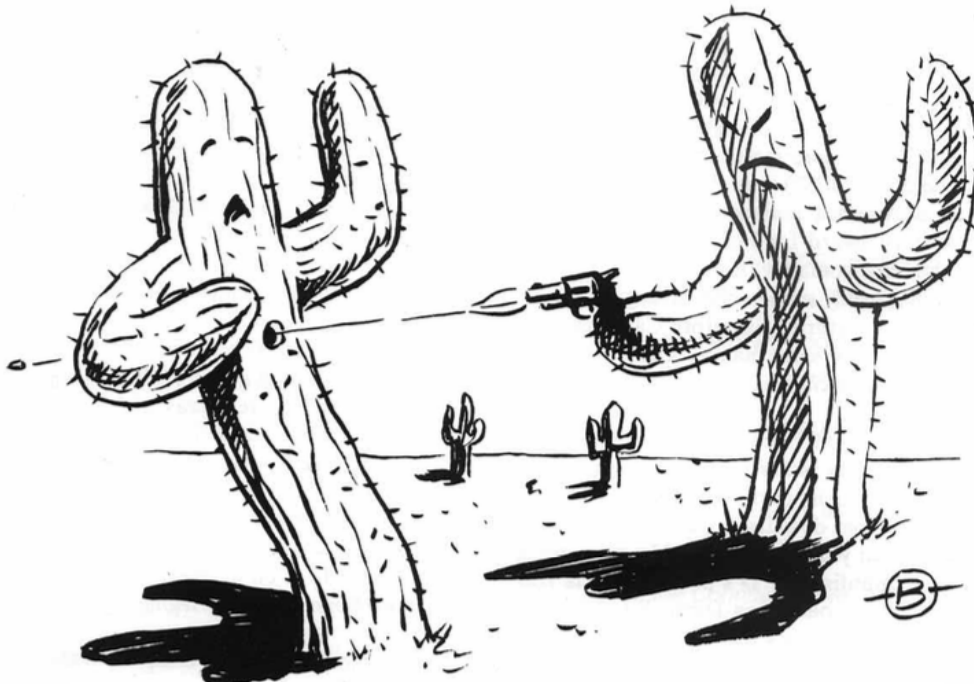
Deborah Ulan • AZ
Stan Ulrich • NM
Taz Urnov • NY

Jean Utley • CA
Alice Volpe • WA
Scott Walker • OR
Tamara Walker • OR
Bobbie Wallinger • CA
Betty Webb • AZ
Holly West • CA
Iona Whishaw • BC
KA Wiley • CA
Jean Williams • UT
Tom Williams • CA
Shawn Wilson • IL
Marty Wingate • WA
Kenneth Wishnia • NY
Matt Witten • CA

Kathy Wright • CA
Sandy Wright • AZ

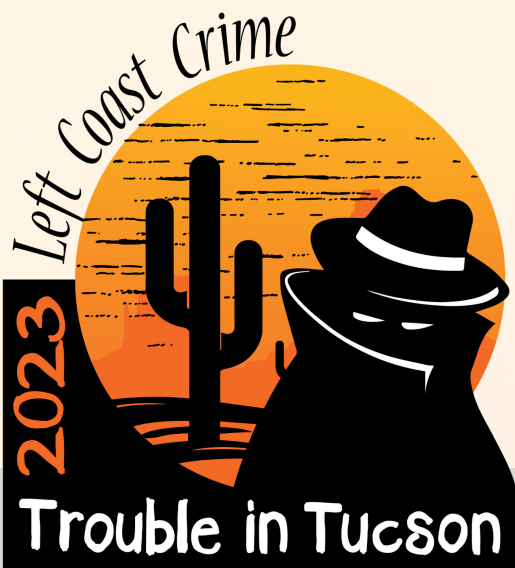
Robin Yeatman • BC
Amy Young • CA
Marisa Young • MD
Merrill/Merlot Young • BC

Anastasia Zadeik • CA
Frank Zafiro • OR
Belinda Zander • CA
Kristopher Zgorski • MD
Barbara Zilly • Greece



Saguaro Shootout – in San Francisco?! – from the first LCC Program Book in 1991

REWARD! Anyone who discovers a typo or schedule error or misspelled word or unreadable text should immediately proceed to the Registration area, find the Program Book Editor, drag his carcass to the Colibri Bar, and reward him with a pint of local IPA.



El Conquistador Tucson Convention Center

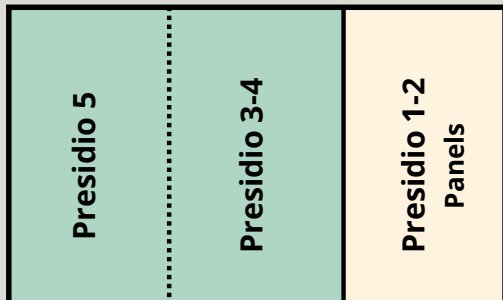
Agave
Hospitality
Silent Auction

Joshua Tree

Registration

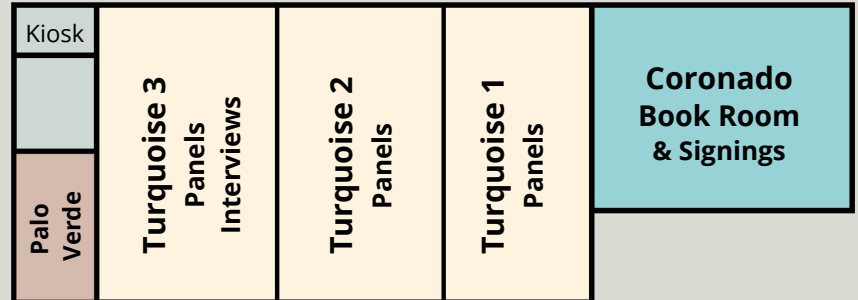
→ Pools & Water Slide

Presidio Foyer



Presidio Ballroom

Turquoise Foyer



Turquoise Ballroom

Please wear your *Trouble in Tucson* Name Tag at all times during the entire convention. It is your ticket into all LCC panels, interviews, and other events such as the Welcome Reception, breakfasts, and the Lefty Awards Banquet. It also helps us all get to know each other.

New to Left Coast Crime? Stop by the Volunteer Table and Volunteer! It's a great way to make new friends while helping our all-volunteer-run convention.

LCC Panels: Come to the *Left Coast Crime 101* panel on Thursday for more tips about enjoying the convention from experienced LCC attendees, and *Talk to Us About LCC* on Sunday morning to share your ideas for the future.

Don't be shy! Introduce yourself to those sitting next to you at a panel, standing in line to get a book signed, browsing in the Book Room, or enjoying a beverage in the Hospitality Room. Share your passion for the crime fiction genre!

Have questions or need help during the convention? Visit the Registration Table or flag down any of the *Trouble in Tucson* committee members who are wearing Sheriff Badges.

THE CRIME WRITERS OF CANADA AND CRIME FICTION LOVER AWARD-WINNING
AND TWO-TIME LEFT COAST CRIME LEFTY AWARD-NOMINATED

"HAMMERHEAD" JED

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is the Canadian
Carl Hiaasen."

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