

Left Coast Crime 2022

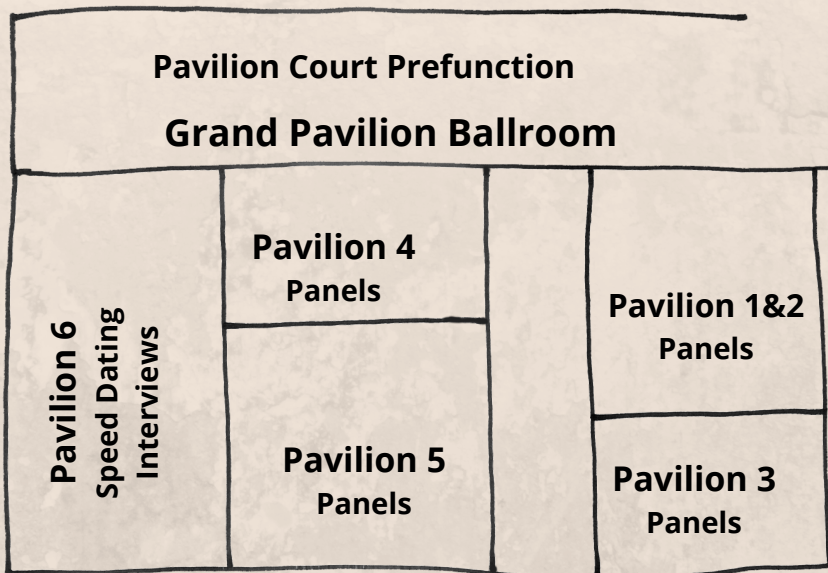
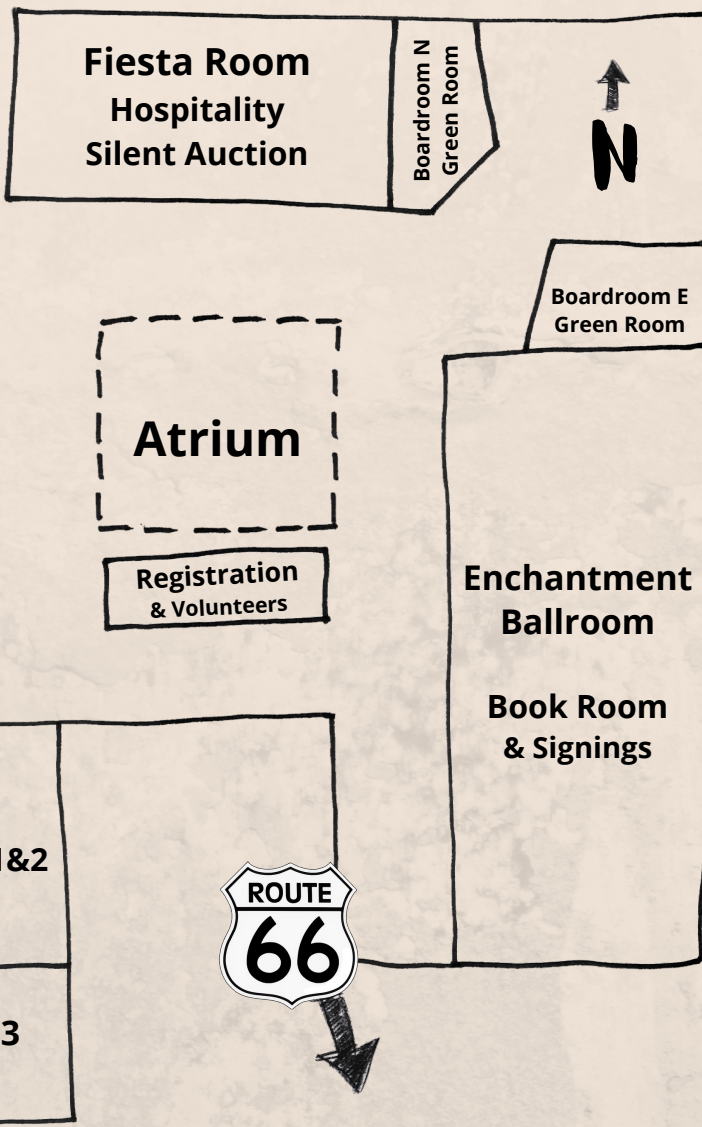
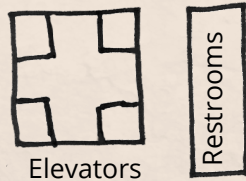


Southwest Sleuths

Albuquerque, New Mexico
April 7–10, 2022

Hyatt Regency Albuquerque

2nd Floor



Please wear your *Southwest Sleuths* 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 *The Future of Conventions: How Should LCC Adapt?* on Sunday morning to share your ideas.

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 hot beverage in the Hospitality Room. Share your passion for the mystery/thriller genre!

Have questions or need help during the convention? Visit the Registration Table or flag down any of the Southwest Sleuths committee members who are wearing red and/or green chile stickers. We want to help!



Welcome to Southwest Sleuths!

Where were we... Oh, right! Thursday, afternoon, March 12, 2020, Left Coast Crime #30 in San Diego was forced to shut down. Next up: Albuquerque in 2021. That turned into an LCC Unconvention, with a Zoom presentation of the Lefty Awards. And now we are finally gathering once again “F2F” for LCC #32 in Albuquerque!

Welcome to New Mexico — We are delighted to be able to see everyone in person! For some of us this is the first venture out into the world of rooms filled with people. Please be sensitive to everyone’s individual need for personal space.

Albuquerque is a high desert city, and the combination of altitude and the dry climate takes some getting used to. Remember to keep hydrated and be aware that alcohol packs a potent punch at 5312 feet. Wearing a hat and sunscreen is advisable when outdoors.

Left Coast Crime is a volunteer-run convention. We are especially grateful to the Southwest Sleuths Committee for taking on leadership roles:

- Silent Auction Co-Chairs: Molly Moeglein and Donnell Ann Bell
- Author Speed-Dating: Les & Leslie Blatt
- Meet-the-New-Authors Breakfast: Mike Befeler, Les & Leslie Blatt
- Registration Captain: Dotty Morefield
- Hospitality Captain: Donnell Ann Bell
- Banquet Table Signups: Laurie Sheenan
- Quilt Raffle: Ann Zeigler
- Banquet Captains: Les & Leslie Blatt
- National Publicity: Janet Rudolph

Our thanks to all the other volunteers generously donating their time and energy to Southwest Sleuths by moving boxes of books, stuffing book bags, helping at the Registration Table and Volunteer Table, serving as Panel Room Monitors, helping with the Signings and Banquet Table Signups, working in the Silent Auction/Hospitality Room, and pitching in wherever needed to keep the convention running. Special thanks to Vallery Feldman & Pam Dehnke who create the beautiful themed quilts each year for Left Coast Crime. And a shout out to all of the wonderful folks who donated Silent Auction items. Left Coast Crime can’t do it without you!

We hope you all have a wonderful time in New Mexico!

Lucinda Surber & Stan Ulrich
LCC 2022 Co-Chairs



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• **Check the Bulletin Board** by the Registration Table in the Atrium Balcony for news, programming changes, etc....

• **Don’t Forget To Vote!** Put your Lefty ballot in the box at the Registration Table 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 lurking so you are encouraged to take personal protective measures. Seating should be sparser than usual in panel and dining rooms. Masks are not required (as of 3/23), but you should use your own judgment.

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MYSTERY WRITERS OF AMERICA

THE WORLD'S OLDEST ORGANIZATION OF PROFESSIONAL WRITERS

CELEBRATING MORE THAN 77 YEARS OF GREAT MYSTERIES

Mystery Writers of America is the premier organization for mystery writers, professionals allied to the crime writing field, aspiring crime writers, and those who are devoted to the genre. MWA is dedicated to promoting a higher regard for crime writing and recognition and respect for those who write within the genre. We provide scholarships for writers, sponsor literary programs and educational programs and conferences, present the Edgar Awards® and conduct other activities to further a better appreciation for crime writing.

MWA also works to educate writers, and those who aspire to write, regarding their rights and interests, and to make writers and readers aware of matters which may affect crime writing through legislation, publishing industry practices, judicial decisions, or in other ways. Our membership includes writers of books, short stories, plays, and screenplays; publishers, editors, agents, librarians, booksellers, and others in allied fields; aspiring writers and others devoted to crime writing.

Membership is open to everyone, and you do not need to reside in the U.S. to join. Please visit our website www.mysterywriters.org for more information or for an application.

*Networking: With over 3,000 members worldwide, MWA represents and celebrates the great spectrum of diversity within our genre: suspense, traditional mystery, thriller, historicals, cozies, PI novels and True Crime. Through our eleven chapters, our members hold meetings, regional conferences, email exchanges and social events.

Some of our benefits include chapter memberships, newsletters devoted to the business end of writing, mentor programs, manuscript critique programs and much more. See our website for details.



Convention Overview

Wednesday, April 6

3:00 PM – 5:00 PM Registration begins in Atrium 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, April 7

9:00 AM – 11:00 AM Author Speed Dating in Pavilion 6
9:00 AM – 6:00 PM Book Room & Author Signings in Enchantment Ballroom
12 noon – 4:00 PM Hospitality & Silent Auction in Fiesta Room
12 noon – 4:30 PM Panels and Interviews begin (see detailed schedule pp. 5-6)
6:30 PM – 7:30 PM Welcome Reception in Pavilion Center: light appetizers, cash bar, Lefty Award Nominees recognized, and more
8:30 PM – 9:30 PM Game Night in Pavilion 6

Friday, April 8

7:15 AM – 8:45 AM Meet the New Authors breakfast buffet in Pavilion Center
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 Enchantment Ballroom
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM Hospitality & Silent Auction in Fiesta Room
7:30 PM – 8:30 PM Tony Hillerman Event

Saturday, April 9

7:15 AM – 8:45 AM Breakfast buffet in Pavilion Center
9:00 AM – 6:00 PM Book Room & Author Signings in Enchantment Ballroom
9:15 AM – 4:45 PM Panels and Interviews continue (see detailed schedule pp. 9-10)
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM Hospitality & Silent Auction in Fiesta Room
5:30 PM – 7:00 PM Silent Auction final bidding in Fiesta Room until 6:00, cash bar in Pavilion Court
7:00 PM – 9:00 PM Lefty Awards Banquet in Grand Pavilion Ballroom • Four Lefty Awards (see p. 83)
• Silent Auction winners posted (redeem winning bids after banquet)

Sunday, April 10

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

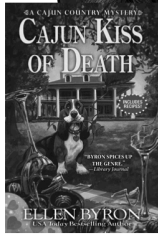
So long... Have a safe trip home and we'll see you at LCC 2023 in Tucson, Arizona!

- **Author Book Signings** are in the Book Room, Enchantment Ballroom, following each Panel. Interview signings follow in Pavilion 6.
- **Silent Auction** is ongoing in the Hospitality room (Fiesta) — 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 Atrium Balcony. There's always something needs doing!
- **Hospitality** in Fiesta 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 the Registration Table by 1:30 PM on Saturday.
- **Shipping Services.** Unknown at press time, check for updates at Registration.
- **Book Exchange** — Please use only the designated exchange table in the Pavilion Court. Other items placed on the exchange table will be removed.
- **Promotions & Swag** — Please use the special table(s) in the Pavilion Court for bookmarks & other promotional wonders, and let's keep it nice and neat!

CROOKED LANE

congratulates

OUR LEFTY AWARD NOMINEES FOR BEST HUMOROUS MYSTERY NOVEL!



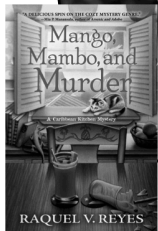
ELLEN BYRON

author of
Cajun Kiss of Death



CYNTHIA KUHN

author of
How to Book a Murder



RAQUEL V. REYES

author of
Mango, Mambo, and Murder

CROOKED LANE

Detailed Schedule

Note: Book signings take place in the Book Room, Enchantment Ballroom, immediately following a panel. Signings after interviews are in the same room, Pavilion 6. Panel appearances are subject to change. See the Pocket Program for the latest printed information. For room locations, see the hotel map on the inside back cover.

Thursday morning, April 7

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 Pavilion 6*

Lunch Break (on your own)

Thursday afternoon, April 7

12:00 PM – 12:45 PM

LCC 101

Lucinda Surber (M), Les Blatt, Leslie Blatt, Janet Rudolph, Stan Ulrich • *Panel in Pavilion 1-2*

Paranormal

Rena Leith (M), Wendy Fallon, Molly MacRae, Kris Neri, Sandy Wright • *Panel in Pavilion 3*

Thrillers & Killers

Kris Calvin (M), Libby Fischer Hellmann, Wayne Johnson, Mike McCrary, A.F. (Addy) Whitehouse
• *Panel in Pavilion 4*

You Do WHAT? Unusual Occupations

J.C. Eaton (Ann Goldfarb) (M), John Billheimer, Susanna Calkins, Julie Holmes, Ilene Schneider
• *Panel in Pavilion 5*

1:15 PM – 2:00 PM

New Mexico: Land of Enchantment or Muerte?

Ann Zeigler (M), Amy M. Bennett, Amanda McCabe AKA Amanda Allen, Lynn C. Miller,
J. Michael Orenduff • *Panel in Pavilion 1-2*

Writing Police Procedurals: Just the Facts or Just the Clichés?

James L'Etoile (M), Dana King, T.K. Thorne, Frank Zafiro • *Panel in Pavilion 3*

20th Century Historicals

Susan McDuffie (M), Janet Dawson, Michael Kurland, Rosemary Lord • *Panel in Pavilion 4*

I Am What I Write: Real Life as Fiction

Alistair Kimble (M), Paula Bernstein, Janet Greger, Ellen Kirschman, D.R. Ransdell • *Panel in Pavilion 5*

*We thank Sisters in
Crime for sponsoring
the Meet the New
Authors Breakfast on
Thursday morning!*

**Sisters
in Crime®**

*


**Mystery Writers
of America**

*Raise your glass on
Saturday evening to
Mystery Writers of
America who are
sponsoring the Lefty
Awards Banquet!*

2:30 PM – 3:15 PM

That's News to Me: Journalism

Mark Stevens (M), Laurie Fagen, Gwen Florio, Rich Zahradnik • *Panel in Pavilion 1-2*

Amateur Hour: When Bad ** Finds Your Protagonist**

Ana Manwaring (M), Glenda Carroll, Connie di Marco, Peggy Rothschild, Linda Sands
• *Panel in Pavilion 3*

True Crime: Researching the Truth & Finding the Story

Mary St. John (M), James T. Bartlett, David Putnam, Charles Salzberg • *Panel in Pavilion 4*

Writing a Series: Keeping It Fresh

Reed Farrel Coleman (M), Matt Goldman, Glen Erik Hamilton, William Kent Krueger, S.J. Rozan
• *Panel in Pavilion 5*

3:45 PM – 4:30 PM

Why We Love Amateur Sleuths

Leslie J. Hall (M), Stina Branson, Rob Osler, Gigi Pandian, Eileen Rendahl • *Panel in Pavilion 1-2*

Jewish Noir

Chantelle Aimée Osman (M), Ellen Kirschman, Jeff Markowitz, Ilene Schneider, Kenneth Wishnia
• *Panel in Pavilion 3*

The Liars Panel

Johnny Shaw (M), Steve Brewer, Ellen Byron AKA Maria DiRico, Susanna Calkins, Wanda M. Morris
• *Panel in Pavilion 4*

Celebrating the Short Story

Conda V Douglas (M), Mysti Berry, Craig Faustus Buck, Amy Drayer, James D.F. Hannah, Robert Lopresti
• *Panel in Pavilion 5*

5:00 PM – 5:45 PM

Lives Well Read: 5 Fans, 6 Decades, 30 Books

Hosted by Fan Guest of Honor Kristopher Zgorski, with Judy Bobalik, Dru Ann Love, Janet Rudolph,
Lucinda Surber • *Panel in Pavilion 6*

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**Thursday evening, April 7**  
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6:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Welcome Reception • Pavilion Ballroom Center

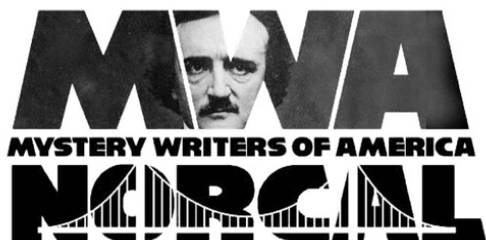
Sponsored by MWA Northern California & MWA Southern California

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

8:30 PM – 9:30 PM

Game Night

Hosted by Toastmaster Kellye Garrett, with Ellen Byron, Marco Carocari, Mia P. Manansala,
Catriona McPherson • *Special Event in Pavilion 6*



Muchas gracias to the MWA chapters in Southern & Northern California who have united to sponsor our Opening Reception on Thursday evening!



Friday morning, April 8

7:15 AM – 8:45 AM

Meet the New Authors Breakfast – Sponsored by Sisters in Crime

Planned by Mike Befeler and Hosted by Les & Leslie Blatt

Breakfast buffet. All convention registrants welcome, seating limited • *Special Event in Pavilion Center*

9:00 AM – 9:45 AM

Guest of Honor Catriona McPherson interviewed by Kristopher Zgorski • Pavilion 6

10:15 AM – 11:00 AM

Lefty Debut Award Nominees

Lucinda Surber (M), Marco Carocari, Mia P. Manansala, Wanda M. Morris • *Panel in Pavilion 1-2*

How Cozy Is Cozy?

Becky Clark (M), Jenny Andersen, Colin Conway, Julia Henry AKA Julie Hennrikus • *Panel in Pavilion 3*

Keeping Things Fresh: Avoiding Clichés & Tropes

Lance Charnes (M), Baer Charlton, Jason Pinter, Linda Sands, Alexandra Sokoloff • *Panel in Pavilion 4*

Weaving Political & Social Themes into Mysteries

Nina Simon (M), Alistair Kimble, Terry Shames, Clea Simon • *Panel in Pavilion 4*

11:30 AM – 12:15 PM

Lefty Best Novel Nominees

Oline Cogdill (M), Tracy Clark, Matt Coyle, William Kent Krueger, • *Panel in Pavilion 1-2*

Multimedia Murder: Escape from the Page

T.E. (Thena) MacArthur (M), Dale Berry, David Boop, Shaun Harris, CJ Verburg • *Panel in Pavilion 3*

Thrillers

Libby Fischer Hellmann (M), Kris Calvin, Joan Golden, Mike Lawson, David Heska Wanbli Weiden

• *Panel in Pavilion 4*

Wonder Women: Strong Female Protagonists

Julie Holmes (M), Tori Eldridge, Margaret Mizushima, Linda L. Richards, Faye Snowden

• *Panel in Pavilion 5*

Lunch Break (on your own)

Friday afternoon, April 8

1:30 PM – 2:15 PM

Lefty Humorous Nominees

Janet Rudolph (M), Ellen Byron AKA Maria DiRico, Jennifer Chow, Cynthia Kuhn, Raquel V. Reyes,

Wendall Thomas • *Panel in Pavilion 1-2*

Where To Start: Plot? Character? Setting? Coffee?

Mark Stevens (M), Jordan Harper, Anne Hillerman, Claire Johnson, Carl Vonderau • *Panel in Pavilion 3*

Murder All Over the Map

Kathy McIntosh (M), Annamaria Alfieri, Dominic Martell, Sujata Massey, Gigi Pandian

• *Panel in Pavilion 4*

Scene-Stealing Secondary Characters

Robert Lopresti (M), Greg Herren, Laurie R. King, Karen Odden, Bonnar Spring • *Panel in Pavilion 5*

2:45 PM – 3:30 PM

Writing Characters Who Aren't Like Me

Kristopher Zgorski (M), John Copenhaver, Craig Robertson, Clea Simon, Matt Witten

• *Panel in Pavilion 1-2*

Let's Keep It Short (Fiction): Cozies to Noir

Lisa Q. Mathews (M), Alicia Gaspar de Alba, Madeleine Harris-Callway, Vera HC Chan, Gay Toltl Kinman

• *Panel in Pavilion 3*

Crime in Rural Settings

Shannon Baker (M), Susan Alice Bickford, Claire Booth, Gwen Florio, Travis Richardson

• *Panel in Pavilion 4*

Spies: Official & Otherwise

Oline Cogdill (M), Rhys Bowen, Lance Charnes, Mick Herron, Erica Ruth Neubauer • *Panel in Pavilion 5*

4:00 PM – 4:45 PM

A Dickens of a Time: Our Best & Worst Moments – In which five writers scale the dizzying heights and plumb the barrel-scraping lows of research, writing, editing, proofing, promoting, volunteering, teaching, networking and more. Our pain relived for your pleasure. Catriona McPherson (M), Tracy Clark, Leslie Karst, Jess Lourey, Wendall Thomas • *Panel in Pavilion 1-2*

Alternate Paths to Publishing

David Schlosser (M), Michelle Cox, Terry Odell, Gregory Randall, M. Rebecca Wildsmith

• *Panel in Pavilion 3*

Small Town Crime

Pam Clark (M), Leslie Budewitz AKA Alicia Beckman, John McMahon, Terry Shames, Heather Young

• *Panel in Pavilion 4*

Writing for the Screen

Rosemary Lord (M), Steve Brewer, Bill Fitzhugh, Lee Goldberg, Lee Matthew Goldberg

• *Panel in Pavilion 5*

5:15 PM – 6:00 PM

Toastmaster Kellye Garrett interviewed by David Heska Wanbli Weiden • *Pavilion 6*

Dinner Break (on your own)

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

Tony Hillerman Event hosted by Anne Hillerman • *Pavilion 6*

The Left Coast Crime 2022 Charity

Each Left Coast Crime Convention raises money to support a local literacy organization with funds raised through a silent and live auction and the annual Quilt Raffle. LCC 2022's recipient is Croak & Dagger's Great (Little) Library Adventure. Croak & Dagger is the New Mexico chapter of Sisters in Crime and a New Mexico non-profit social organization. The Great (Little) Library Adventure is C&D's free community-outreach program to libraries identified by the NM Rural Libraries Initiative — the 50+ smallest public and community libraries in the state.

Croak & Dagger provides participating libraries with information about New Mexico authors and their books, as well as speakers for free public events. Proceeds from the Quilt Raffle and the auctions will go to Croak & Dagger's Great (Little) Library Adventure, shared as equitably as possible among the tiny community libraries of New Mexico. Each library will make its own decisions about use of the funds, whether for materials, other services to support community literacy, or infrastructure challenges that inhibit the library's literacy mission.

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**Saturday morning, April 9**  
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7:15 AM – 8:45 AM

Breakfast Buffet

All convention registrants welcome, seating limited • *Pavilion Center*

9:00 AM – 9:45 AM

Guest of Honor Mick Herron interviewed by Juliet Grames • *Pavilion 6*

10:15 AM – 11:00 AM

Lefty Historical Nominees: The Past Is Another Country

Laurie R. King (M), Susanna Calkins, John Copenhaver, Naomi Hirahara, Sujata Massey, Catriona McPherson • *Panel in Pavilion 1-2*

Cozy Mysteries: Murder, Mayhem & a Cup of Tea

Sarah Fisk (M), J.C. Eaton (Ann Goldfarb), Margaret Callison Morse, Janice Peacock, Jane Stillwater, Margaret Tessler • *Panel in Pavilion 3*

Hardboiled

Justin Bendell (M), Reed Farrel Coleman, Matt Coyle, Michael Wiley, Kenneth Wishnia
• *Panel in Pavilion 4*

Ripped from the Headlines: Real-Life Characters & Stories

Vera HC Chan (M), Kari Bovée, Susan Elia Macneal, David Morrell, Rick Treon • *Panel in Pavilion 5*

11:30 AM – 12:15 PM

Historical Mysteries

Amy S. Peele (M), Clare Broyles, Michael Cooper, Sue Hallgarth, Lorena Hughes • *Panel in Pavilion 1-2*

When Less Is More: Short Stories

P Moss (M), Kim Keeline, G.M. Malliet, Raquel V. Reyes • *Panel in Pavilion 3*

The Contradiction of Humor & Crime: How do you know what's funny?

Susan C. Shea (M), Kris Bock, Becky Clark, Cynthia Kuhn, Rob Osler • *Panel in Pavilion 4*

Gothic & Noir

Jay Shepherd (M), Matt Goldman, John McMahon, Charles Salzberg, Faye Snowden • *Panel in Pavilion 5*

Lunch Break (on your own)

Lefty Ballots due at 1:30

Convention Breakfasts and the Lefty Banquet

Both convention breakfasts 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 Pavilion Center. If you've stayed up too late the night before, feel free to sleep in. On Friday morning, Les & Leslie Blatt will host the famous and long-running *Meet the New Authors Breakfast*, organized by Mike Befeler.

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 badge holder, so don't lose it! You'll need to show your ticket at the door to the Grand Pavilion Ballroom. Please be sure to have your ticket handy so that everyone can get into the ballroom 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, April 9

1:30 PM – 2:15 PM

Importance of Family

S.J. Rozan (M), Kellye Garrett, Mary Keliikoa, David Heska Wanbli Weiden • *Panel in Pavilion 1-2*

Publishing

Lee Goldberg (M), Terri Bischoff, Juliet Grames, J. Michael Orenduff, Jason Pinter • *Panel in Pavilion 3*

Creating Memorable Characters

Claire Booth (M), Lee Matthew Goldberg, Anne Hillerman, Curtis Ippolito, Josh Stallings

• *Panel in Pavilion 4*

What's Noir Got To Do With It?

Madeleine Harris-Callway (M), Andrew Bourelle, Corey Lynn Fayman, Jo Perry • *Panel in Pavilion 5*

2:45 PM – 3:30 PM

Culinary Cozies: What's Cookin'?

Chantelle Aimée Osman (M), Daisy Bateman, Jennifer Chow, Leslie Karst, Mia P. Manansala

• *Panel in Pavilion 1-2*

Graphic But Not Gratuitous: Getting Police Procedurals Right

Michelle Chouinard (M), Shannon Baker, Donnell Ann Bell, Merit Clark, James L'Etoile

• *Panel in Pavilion 3*

When Is It Right To Do Wrong? Characters Pushing the Limit of the Law

Wanda M. Morris (M), Glen Erik Hamilton, Mick Herron, Jamie Mason, Thomas Perry

• *Panel in Pavilion 4*

No Skirting the Issue: Female Protagonists in Historical Mysteries

Anne Louise Bannon (M), Mariah Fredericks, Dianne Freeman, Erica Ruth Neubauer, Ann Parker

• *Panel in Pavilion 5*

4:00 PM – 4:45 PM

Location as Character: The Importance of Setting

Laurie Rockenbeck (M), Katherine Bolger Hyde, Jeff Markowitz, Craig Robertson, Johnny Shaw

• *Panel in Pavilion 1-2*

Legal Themes: Does Fiction Get It Right?

L.F. Robertson (M), Leslie Budewitz AKA Alicia Beckman, Margaret Callison Morse, Jay Shepherd

• *Panel in Pavilion 3*

Fireside Chat: Streaming Crime (a discussion of crime television on streaming platforms)

Kristopher Zgorski (M), Tracy Clark, Jess Lourey, Alexandra Sokoloff, Holly West • *Panel in Pavilion 4*

Passport, Please

Kiffer Brown (M), Ana Manwaring, Susan C. Shea, David P. Wagner, Marty Wingate • *Panel in Pavilion 5*

Saturday evening, April 9

5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Reception — Cash bars in Pavilion Court • Silent Auction final bidding in Fiesta Ballroom ends at 6:00 PM
(Silent auction items may be redeemed after the Lefty Awards Banquet and on Sunday morning.)

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Lefty Awards Banquet sponsored by Mystery Writers of America

Hosted by Toastmaster Kellye Garrett — Be sure to bring your Banquet Ticket • *Grand Pavilion Ballroom*

Sunday morning, April 10

9:00 AM – 9:45 AM

Art Crime: Amateur Sleuths & the World of Art & Artifacts

Nina Wachsman (M), Connie Berry, Margaret Lucke, M.A. Monnin, Lane Stone • *Panel in Pavilion 1-2*

Environmental Mysteries: Challenges & Rewards of Activist Fiction

Alicia Gaspar de Alba (M), Scott Graham, Karen Keskinen, Kathy McIntosh, Greg Zeigler
• *Panel in Pavilion 3*

Critters & Crime

Amy S. Peele (M), Pamela Beason, Janet Finsilver, Margaret Mizushima, Barbara Nickless
• *Panel in Pavilion 4*

This Isn't Cabot Cove: Setting & the Small-Town Series

Shelley Adina (M), Marty Eberhardt, K.P. Gresham, Sarah Osborne, Peggy Rothschild • *Panel in Pavilion 5*

10:15 AM – 11:00 AM

History & Mystery

Sharon E. Cathcart (M), Yves Fey, Robert Kidera, Claudia Hagadus Long, Jeanne Matthews
• *Panel in Pavilion 1-2*

The Future of Conventions: How Should LCC Adapt?

Left Coast Crime Committee • *Discussion in Pavilion 3*

Genre Bending

David Boop (M), Elizabeth Crowens, Sabrina Flynn, Rob Hart, Stacie Murphy • *Panel in Pavilion 4*

The Joys & Perils of Co-Authoring: A Conversation

Rhys Bowen and Clare Broyles • *Panel in Pavilion 5*

11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Guest of Honor Closing Panel (*no signing after*)

Ellen Byron (M), with Kellye Garrett, Mick Herron, Catriona McPherson, Kristopher Zgorski
• *Panel in Pavilion 6*

Left Coast Crime Conduct Policy

Left Coast Crime is a fan convention, dedicated to creating a friendly, welcoming, and inclusive atmosphere in which all members of the community can celebrate their love of books. We are dedicated to the safety, security, and enjoyment of all attendees, and as such, the convention should be free of discrimination or harassment based upon an individual's sex, race, ethnicity, national origin, age, religion, or any other legally protected characteristics. All attendees are expected to abide by this policy.

Harassment is behavior that alarms or threatens, or is unwelcome or offensive to the person it is directed at. Examples of harassing behavior include unwanted physical contact, comments or foul language of an offensive or sexual nature, sexual propositions, sexual jokes or remarks, obscene gestures, and displays of pornographic or sexually explicit pictures, drawings, or caricatures, intimidation, stalking, following, harassing photography or recording, and false accusation of harassment.

Any attendee asked to stop harassing behavior is expected to comply immediately. If you feel that you or another attendee has been harassed or discriminated against on the basis of sex, race, national origin, ethnic background, or any other legally protected characteristic, you should, if you are comfortable doing so, explain the behavior to a member of the Left Coast Crime committee, a member of the hotel staff, or both. All complaints of unlawful harassment will be handled in as discreet and confidential a manner as is possible under the circumstances. If no Left Coast Crime committee member is available, or if you feel it would be dangerous (such as in the case of an immediate physical threat) to inform such person, you should immediately contact the police.

The Andy Veracruz Mysteries

D.R. Ransdell

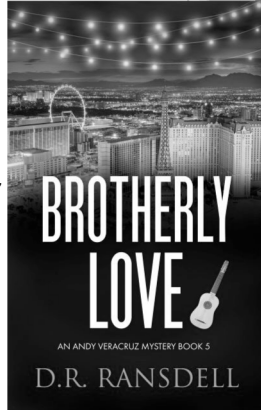


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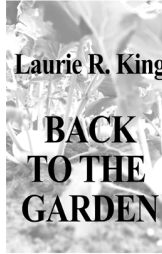
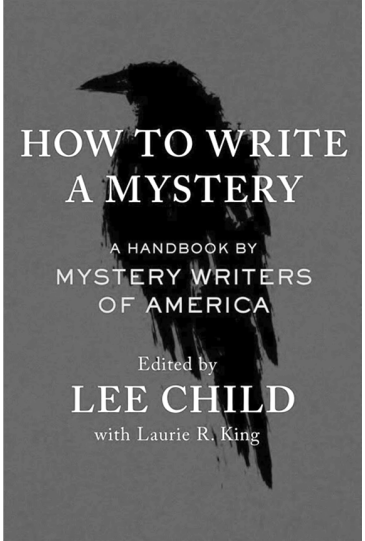
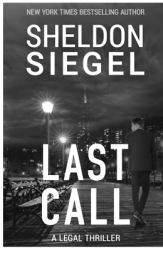
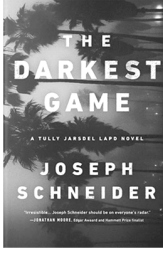
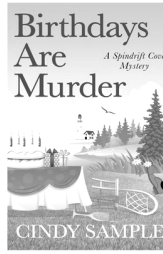
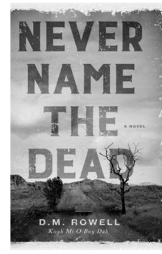
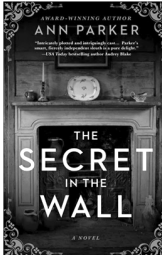
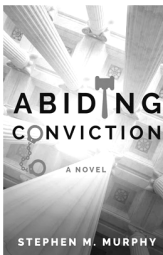
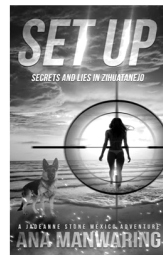
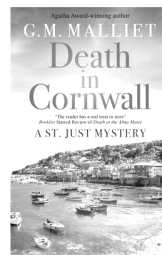
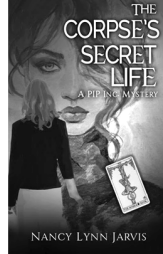
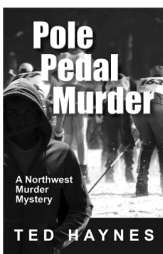
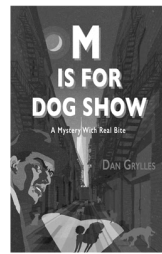
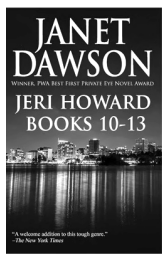
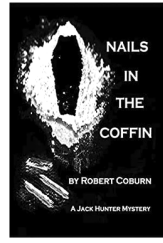
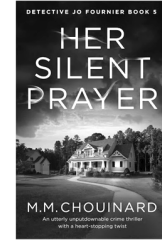
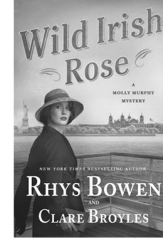
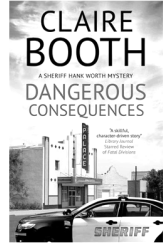
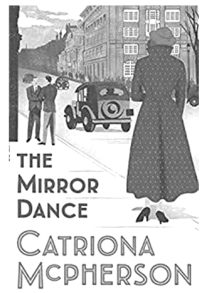
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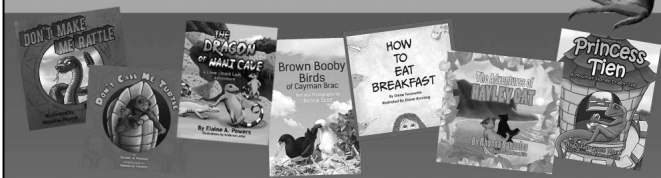
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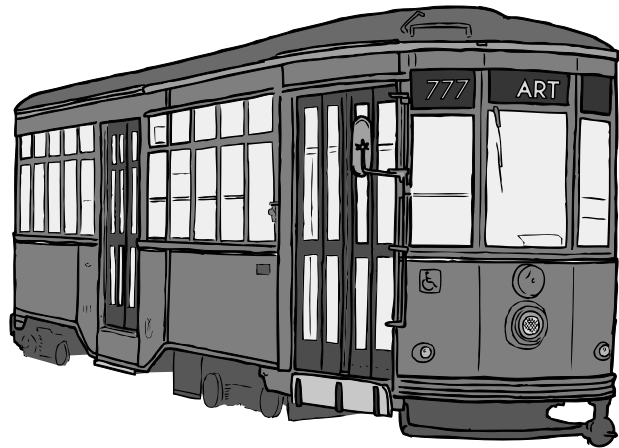
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Remembering Bill Gottfried

by Janet Rudolph



Bill Gottfried passed away last September, leaving a hole in the heart of the mystery community. He was one of our community's most stalwart supporters. Beloved by authors, fans, and readers all over the world, he made significant contributions by promoting mystery and crime fiction through his active involvement in mystery conventions, book groups, book buying, book reading, and fan and author friending.

You probably met Bill at conventions, especially Left Coast Crime where he served on the Standing Committee. He and his wife Toby always sat in the first row at panels, where Bill asked multiple Talmudic questions. Bill will be remembered at Left Coast Crime for his warm smile, for his welcome hug, and for his sincere interest in making everyone's experience at the convention the very best that it could be.

Bill attended just about every Left Coast Crime since its inception. He chaired two LCC conventions and served on many other convention committees. He participated on panels and events at Bouchercon, CrimeFest, and LCC. He was Fan Guest of Honor at LCC in Bristol, England. Bill and Toby planned vacations and travel around mystery conventions, and at each convention, he made authors and attendees feel welcome, breaking bread with them, and including them in his vast world of friendship and knowledge. In short Bill was so intertwined with the mystery genre that when you arrived at a convention, you were already part of his community, you always wanted to know what he had been doing and reading, and if you were new to

the convention, he would soon make you one of the family with lots of recommendations on how to get more involved. His involvement in the mystery community went far beyond attending conferences and buying books. He dedicated days, weeks, and months of his time and energy.

Bill was well known for his mystery library. Because he was so passionate about mystery and crime literature, he amassed and catalogued over 18,000 mysteries. His reading tastes were eclectic — from Golden Age to Noir to Historical to Thriller to Cozy. And he was deeply well read in non-fiction as well as the novels and short stories in the field, not to mention the “other” books that augmented his collection — art, history, philosophy, religion, travel, birds, plants, and more.

I first met Bill at the 1985 San Francisco Bouchercon. He and Toby were what I called “the cute couple” — always together, holding hands, enjoying a loving and harmonious marriage of shared interests. Bill and Toby joined my weekly mystery book group just after that Bouchercon, and he was a member ever since, even participating in our zoom meeting the night before he passed away. Over the years, we worked on numerous mystery conventions together. We often spent time together at conventions, too, visiting art museums and historic sites in the many different cities in which the conventions took place.

A pediatrician by profession, Bill was a terrific resource for all things mystery and medical. That was a great combination for me, as it was always good to have a “doctor in the house.” And, in case you did not know, Bill personally saved the lives of several of our mystery friends through his medical knowledge.

Bill was a world traveler, a collector of masks and ethnic artifacts, a gardener, a traveler, a bird watcher, and a scholar. Religion played an important part in his life, and during the pandemic he continued to expand his personal education in a number of fields. He always wanted to learn more, taking classes online and before that in person during his retirement. He shared information about those courses to make sure others got the opportunity to attend. Bill loved to share his knowledge and his love of many different subjects. I do not have space to list all of his accomplishments. His mixture of intelligence and kindness showed both in his work and his personal life, as well as in the mystery community and beyond.

For Bill, family was always first. His devotion and love for Toby was unparalleled. His time with and love for his children and grandchildren was paramount. He was proud of his family and spoke of them often. He even roped his son Louis into being the IT guy at several conventions.

Summing up a life well lived is difficult. Bill was a reader, a fan, a doctor, a friend. But most of all, he was family. We both grew up in Philadelphia, we both went to the University of Pennsylvania, albeit not at the same time.

We both moved to California. We had so many things we shared: collecting, mystery, history, maps, religion, art, reference books. If you knew Bill you knew he bought books, often several copies of the same one, much to Toby's chagrin. But instead of returning the extra copy or two, he gave them to others who would appreciate them.

Bill was special — brilliant and loving, kind and wonderful. May his memory be a blessing. I know I am blessed by having had him in my life for so many years.



A Note from Toby

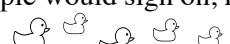
In 1985, Bill was looking at the local newspaper and said, "Hey, this looks like it would be fun — a convention of mystery readers and authors called Bouchercon held in San Francisco" — and that was the beginning of what became his 35-year association with the mystery world, along with me, his wife Toby. We met Janet Rudolph at the convention and learned of her weekly Tuesday evening mystery book readers group. We attended the group and have been members ever since 1985. Bill became a founding member of the Left Coast Crime Convention in 1991 held in San Francisco. We attended CrimeFest held in Bristol England in 2006 as the Fan Guests of Honor, and this began our association with Adrian Muller and family. Bill was Co-Chair of Left Coast Crime 2004 in Monterey, CA, and attended all the Left Coast Crime Conventions until 2020. In addition, Bill led the Mystery Readers Tuesday evening book group for 10 weeks in their home during the summer. The theme was always Historical Mysteries, and the same participants have been attending for many years. Sadly, we had not anticipated Bill's death, and he was looking forward to Left Coast Crime in Albuquerque this year.



At Bouchercon in Raleigh, Bill and Toby Gottfried were awarded the 2015 David Thompson Award — an annual award presented by the National Bouchercon Board to recognize "extraordinary efforts to develop and promote the mystery and crime fiction community." Nominees include writers, publishers, readers, editors, and fans. It's not a surprise, then, that the award was given to this extraordinary couple, who have promoted mysteries and crime fiction throughout their involvement in mystery conventions, books groups, book buying, discussions, and so much more. Bill and Toby exemplify what's best about the Mystery Community — their involvement in our community has been driven by a love of people, intellect, mystery, history, and fun.

Rededication of the Lefty Award for Historical Mysteries —

A brilliant idea popped up naturally in chats among the LCC Standing Committee members following Bill's passing: renaming the Bruce Alexander Memorial Historical Lefty Award in honor of Bill. This is especially appropriate because Bill was the moving force behind creating and naming the historical award in Bruce's honor in 2004 when he and Toby co-chaired Left Coast Crime #14 in Monterey. As noted above, Bill loved historicals, and he was frequently tasked with moderating historical panels at conventions.

This year's co-chairs, Lucinda and Stan, were thinking along the lines of a rubber duck in Bill's honor. We first met Bill in 2008 at the Baltimore Bouchercon, sitting at a table with Janet near the book room, when he handed us several ducks. For several years after that, we also gifted people with rubber ducks, as we worked future LCC tables with Bill at various Bouchercons. Be warned: it can be addictive! We long ago forgave Bill for enticing us into convention co-chairing. LCC needed a 2014 convention, so when Bill said if another couple would sign on, he and Toby would be happy to co-chair another convention in Monterey. And so we did... 

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

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Thomas Perry: "Hits hard...smart...racing." *PopSugar.com*: "Must read new thriller."

Yrsa Sigurðardóttir: "Characters, plot & style: it's got it all."

Lucinda Surber: "I LOVED it! An odd couple partnership for the ages."

Crooked Lane Books

Guest of Honor: Mick Herron

by David Craggs

When a cover endorsement signals the arrival of “The Successor to John Le Carre” it normally heralds the arrival of a pale imitation. Equally ominous are fatuous comparisons with Len Deighton or Ian Fleming.

As a sexagenarian spy addict, brought up on the greats, I’ve long learnt that any book carrying the aforementioned claims should be avoided like Ondine’s curse. Often the comparisons turn out to be the literary equivalent of comparing Justin Bieber to Miles Davis. Some people claim they both make music, but those of us with unimpaired hearing know that this just isn’t true.

Don’t get me wrong, there are some great writers working in the spy genre, but they are thin on the ground and many of the good ones tend to write within a historical context.

I was starting to hypothesise that since the real spy world had become a team game and secret services were conducting wars more with technology than field agents, it had rendered some of the traditional tropes of the contemporary spy thriller redundant.

That was my thinking until a few years ago I picked up a copy of *Slow Horses* by an unknown new author, Mick Herron. I was reading the cover when a hip young bookseller floated by and whispered, “I’ve read that and it’s simply amazing. It’s just so cool.”

Cool for me is an adjective that should be reserved for describing Ramsey Lewis or Steve McQueen, but anything that would grant a man of my advancing years associate membership of this glamorous seller’s literary circle had to be purchased.

I started to read it on the train home and by the time it came to disembark I’d become a hard-core Herron addict and had found myself recommending him to strangers sat opposite. I hadn’t been so intoxicated since I’d first picked up Len Deighton’s *Ipcress File*. Here at last was the real deal for our times.

Slow Horses was new, different and better. It had me simultaneously gripping my arm rests with tension whilst laughing aloud at Mick’s biting acerbic wit. My new bookseller friend was correct. It was achingly cool and, for once, comparisons with the greats were richly deserved.

“Thank God for Mick Herron,” I thought, he’s single handedly revitalised the modern spy thriller with a genius premise that answers a simple question: what happens to

MI5’s failed spooks?

In Herron’s world they are banished to “Slough House” where they are obliged to serve out their time as “Slow Horses” doing mind numbing tasks. MI5 can’t afford the publicity associated with industrial tribunals and this is their way of disposing of their problem children.

Ironically, “Slough House” is not in Slough, it’s actually near the Barbican. Slough town has a “certain” reputation in the UK and the building’s name is designed to further insult its residents. Those who have been exiled from Regents Park and who dream of returning to MI5’s prestigious HQ.

Herron’s “Slow Horses” are a dysfunctional bunch of miscreants who have been consigned to their fate for various crimes of drugs and drunkenness, lechery and failure, politics and betrayal. Some crimes real. Some crimes imagined or trumped up. But, behind all of their misdeeds they remain highly trained “Joes” with individual specialties.

Once designated “Slow Horses” they are obliged to work under the guidance of one Jackson Lamb — thoroughly despicable spy boss with a range of disgusting personal habits that would make Chaucer blanch.

Lamb views Slough House as his personal fiefdom and rules with a rod of iron. He mentally tortures his subordinates at whim, but woe betide any outsiders who try to take the same liberties. These are his Joes and they do his bidding. At least that’s the theory.

Thus far, Herron has written seven Slough House thrillers with an eighth, *Bad Actors*, due to be released this year. All have plots that are quite literally ripped from tomorrow’s headlines. These are ensemble pieces populated with characters we can relate to. We’ve all worked with people like them, albeit in less deadly professions.

That said, be careful who you get attached to. They don’t all make it. There’s nothing remotely formulaic here!

The standard of his works is uniformly high. It is almost impossible to pick a favourite. What’s more, Herron has avoided completely the trap of the high brow thriller. That is to say the more literary a story is, the less thrilling it can be. He writes literary thrillers that rock. These are spy thrillers for the Breaking Bad generation



and with a lavish TV adaptation of *Slow Horses* about to hit our screens, his miscreants are set to become household names.

Of course, there is much more to Mick Herron than the *Slough House* books. He cut his teeth on poetry and turned to fiction when the poetry dried up. His *Zoe Boehm* thrillers were his first works and they are now enjoying the attention they so richly deserve. In addition, he has written three strong stand alone thrillers and a collection of novellas that have shown his mastery of the short form.

He has won multiple awards for his work including

the Crime Writers' Association Gold Dagger and the Ian Fleming Silver Dagger, and critical acclaim has been loud and unanimous. Probably the UK's *Daily Telegraph* put it best: "Herron's casual observations are beautifully phrased.... With his poet's eye for detail, his comic timing and relish for violence, Herron fills a gap that has been yawning ever since Len Deighton retired."

That said, your guest of honour is nobody's new anything. He is Mick Herron, a true original. An enormous talent who also happens to be a hell of a nice guy. Have a great convention.

Zoë Boehm series:

- Down Cemetery Road (2003)
- The Last Voice You Hear (2004)
- Why We Die (2006)
- Smoke & Whispers (2009)

Slough House series:

- Slow Horses (2010)
- Dead Lions (2013)
- Real Tigers (2016)
- Spook Street (2017)
- London Rules (2018)
- Joe Country (2019)
- Slough House (2021)
- Bad Actors (due 5/10/22)

Non-series:

- Reconstruction (2008)
- All the Livelong Day and Other Stories (2013) [SS]
- Nobody Walks (2015)
- This Is What Happened (2018)
- Dolphin Junction (2021) [SS]

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A MYSTERY

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



2022 Winner of MWA's Robert L. Fish Award

Guest of Honor: Catriona McPherson

by Kris Calvin



I first met Catriona McPherson at a drinks gathering of writers and artists. I was a newbie author and Catriona was (and is) a multi-award-winning, best-selling author of 30 published books. She was extraordinarily kind and welcoming. Since

then I've witnessed Catriona lift up many new and unknown writers, not only with social media posts, but also with personal encouragement.

Perhaps I should clarify.... Catriona typically produces two or even three full-length stellar novels for publication a year. That's in addition to her short stories in anthologies (often to benefit good causes) and her long list of prestigious speaking and teaching engagements. So I am definitely not suggesting anyone cold call Catriona for help—she has to “say no” even when it pains her to do so. But I am in awe of the fact that despite being established and accomplished and fully booked, Catriona McPherson somehow finds a way to help an astonishing number of other authors!

Catriona's remarkable catalogue of work includes masterful stand-alone suspense and thrillers, a long-running historical mystery series featuring Dandy Gilver, PI, and the modern (and laugh-out loud funny!) Last Ditch mystery series starring the irrepressible Lexy Campbell, a therapist/ counselor turned amateur sleuth.

Here are just a few of my favorites:

Quiet Neighbors is amazing; if you're looking for a stand alone, you might start there. It received a star-red review from Publisher's Weekly, and the New York Times says McPherson writes “mystery stories that are both cozy and creepy, which accounts for the quirky charm” of *Quiet Neighbors*.

In *The Mirror Dance* a puppeteer is found murdered behind his striped Punch and Judy stand — leave it to Catriona to

masterfully juxtapose the comic and the macabre. It is #15 in her Dandy Gilver detective series set in 1930s Scotland, which has garnered two Agathas, two Macavitys, and four Leftys.

Catriona's latest suspense thriller *A Gingerbread House* “shows four women's lives colliding in a life-or-death struggle in Scotland.” It might keep you up at night reading to the end! Kirkus says *A Gingerbread House* is “a disturbing story of madness and fortitude that grabs your attention from Page 1.”

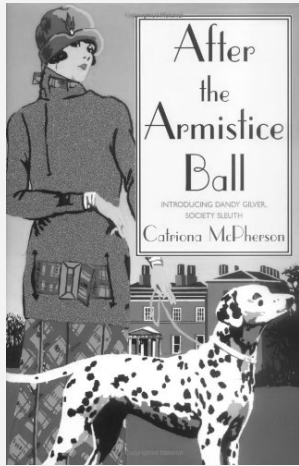
An introduction to Catriona would be incomplete if I failed to mention that she is one of the best public speakers I've ever heard in any field. Even as audience members struggle to suppress hearty laughter in response to Catriona's surprisingly unedited humor, the main takeaways of time spent listening to Catriona McPherson in any event setting are her insightful lessons on the author's craft.

A few fun facts about Catriona: She was born near Edinburgh in Scotland and has a PhD in linguistics from Edinburgh University. She makes a killer pumpkin pie — not literally, but it is delicious! Some say Catriona was feted by the Queen of England or maybe “just” that she met her? Though perhaps that's only legend, in keeping with Catriona's place among the royalty of mystery and suspense writers!

One thing about Catriona McPherson that is undeniably true: She is both a world-class talent as an author and speaker and an extraordinary example of a giving person unspoiled by their outsized success.

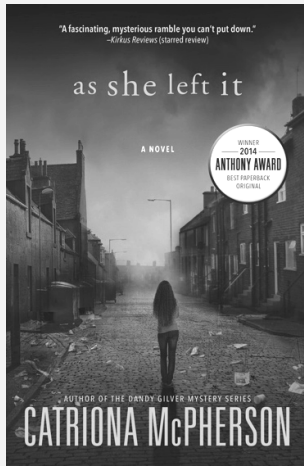
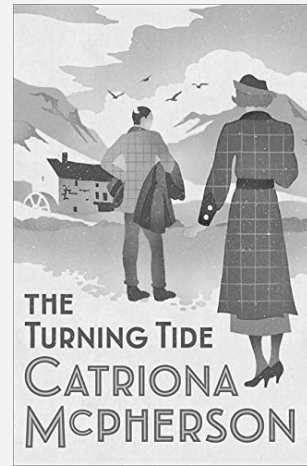


Trivia Quiz: Can you identify any of the plaques behind The Masked Catriona?



Dandy Gilver series:

- After the Armistice Ball (2005)
- The Burry Man's Day (2006)
- Bury Her Deep (2007)
- The Winter Ground (2008)
- The Proper Treatment of Bloodstains (2009)
- An Unsuitable Day for a Murder (2010)
- A Bothersome Number of Corpses (2012)
- A Deadly Measure of Brimstone (2014)
- The Reek of Red Herrings (2014)
- The Unpleasantness in the Ballroom (2015)
- The Most Misleading Habit (2016)
- A Spot of Toil and Trouble (2017)
- A Step So Grave (2018)
- The Turning Tide (2019)
- The Mirror Dance (2021)

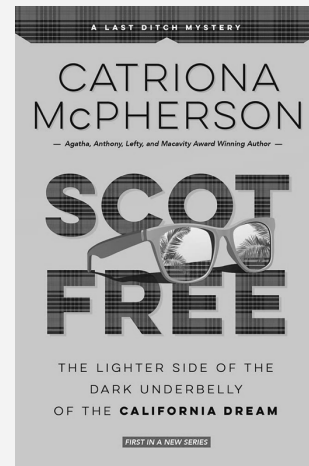


Lexy Campbell series:

- Scot Free (2018)
- Scot & Soda (2019)
- Scot on the Rocks (2020)
- Scot Mist (2021)

Non-series:

- As She Left It (2013)
- The Day She Died (2014)
- Come to Harm (2015)
- The Child Garden (2015)
- Quiet Neighbors (2016)
- The Weight of Angels (2017)
- House. Tree. Person. (2017)
- Go to My Grave (2018)
- Strangers at the Gate (2019)
- A Gingerbread House (2021)
- In Place of Fear (due 6/28/22)



The Montgolfier brothers would just die to be able to go to the Anderson Abruzzo Albuquerque International Balloon Museum — that is if they hadn't already departed over 200 years ago.



In the grand tradition of the Springfield team in The Simpsons TV show, Burque's AAA baseball team home opener is April 12

Toastmaster: Kellye Garrett

by Elizabeth Little

Kellye Garrett is a woman of many talents, and she wears just as many hats: She is an accomplished writer, a fierce advocate, an indefatigable organizer. She is a co-founder of Crime Writers of Color; a board member of Sisters in Crime; a former mentor, board member, and managing director of Pitch Wars; and an unofficial cheerleader, advisor, and beta reader for countless members of the literary community, her wisdom and expertise valued by emerging writers and celebrated veterans alike. So wide-ranging is Kellye's influence, in fact, that it's hard to believe it's been just five years since she published her first mystery novel.

Hollywood Homicide, the first Detective by Day mystery, was published by Midnight Ink in 2017. Drawing on her time in Los Angeles, where she earned a degree from USC's prestigious film school and wrote for the long-running CBS procedural *Cold Case*, Kellye crafted a fizzy, irresistible Hollywood whodunit featuring out-of-work actress turned amateur sleuth Dayna Anderson, a heroine that Best American Mystery and Suspense series editor Steph Cha credits with "bringing brightness to the dark streets of LA crime fiction."

Her sharp pacing and intoxicating voice won over readers and critics alike: *Hollywood Homicide* received starred reviews from Publishers Weekly and Library Journal, won the Agatha, Anthony, and Lefty awards for best first novel, and was named in the Guardian as one of the top ten cozies of all time. Her 2018 follow-up, *Hollywood Ending*, was nominated for the Anthony and Lefty awards for best novel and was selected as one of 2019's best summer reads by TODAY.

These days, the Detective by Day books are so beloved—and referenced so frequently by agents, editors, and writers—that it's almost easy (or perhaps I mean tempting) for some of us to forget what an uphill battle Kellye faced as a debut author at a time when light-hearted mysteries by and featuring Black women were even more roundly excluded from traditional publishing channels than they are today. Given the obstacles she had to clear,

given the extra degree of difficulty built into to every single move she made as a woman of color in publishing, I imagine that most of us would have understood if, at this point in her career, Kellye had taken a minute or twenty to bask in her own accomplishments—to rest awhile atop all those trophies, amidst all that acclaim.

But then again, most of us also feel lucky if we manage to knock out a single bird with a stone.



Meanwhile Kellye's out here eying a whole damn flock as she weighs a pebble, carefully, in her hand.

If you're ever having a gray day—feeling, perhaps, cynical about publishing and the people in it, worrying about the direction things are going, wondering if we're all doomed to apathy and increasingly atomized despair—might I suggest as an antidote asking prominent members of the crime fiction community to say a few words about Kellye Garrett? I promise you, even the heaviest of hearts (i.e., mine) cannot help but be lifted by the respect, admiration, and devotion that Kellye inspires in those around her.

From Kellye's literary agent, Michelle Richter: "I knew from the first paragraph of Kellye's debut novel that her voice was powerful and incredibly special. It's a privilege to be on her team as she uses that voice not only to craft gorgeous fiction, but to effect change in the crime fiction community."

From editor Terri Bischoff, who acquired *Hollywood Homicide* while at Midnight Ink: "I loved the voice immediately, and I knew I wanted it. It was amazing. And Kellye totally rocked it: Tirelessly promoting her work and other writers of color. Starting conversations most people in publishing didn't want to have. Giving the best award speeches ever."

From Lefty and Agatha Award nominee Mia Manansala, who was Kellye's Pitch Wars mentee and, later, co-mentor: "I was always amazed at how she could push me and our mentees as hard as she did, but know how/when to check in to make sure the pressure wasn't getting to us and that our mental health was doing OK—her knowledge of craft is fantastic, but her empathy is

truly astounding. I'll always be grateful for the tools and confidence she gave me, and that I have someone like her in my corner."

From Crime Writers of Color co-founder Gigi Pandian: "Kellye isn't only generous on an individual level when she mentors others, but she brings people together. Because of that quality, she's truly the heart and soul of Crime Writers of Color. There are lots of wonderful people in the community who step up to help others, but Kellye makes things happen. I was about to write that she magically makes things happen, because that's what it feels like when I see her do it, but I know how hard she works to make a difference."

And from Edgar Award-winning author Laura Lippman: "I don't remember when I met Kellye and started reading her books, but I remember when she changed my life — Bouchercon, St. Petersburg. Kellye won the Anthony and she used her victory lap moment to talk about diversity in our field and, to quote an Internet meme, *She Had The Receipts*. I remember listening to the excruciating stats in our field, which has always prided itself on niceness and inclusivity, and thinking: This cannot possibly be correct. Spoiler alert: It was correct. And that's Kellye in a nutshell, right? She took her moment and made it something so much bigger."

This past March, Mulholland Books published *Like a Sister*, Kellye's first standalone mystery. With advance press including starred reviews from Publishers Weekly and Library Journal and glowing endorsements from some of the most well-respected names in crime fiction, *Like a Sister* is poised to be one of the biggest books of the season. Editor Helen O'Hare, who acquired the book for Mulholland in a competitive situation, writes, "When *Like*

A Sister hit my desk, I raced through it in one big gulp, thinking with every page: what more could you want in a book? Kellye writes fiction that is so sharply plotted, so socially astute, and so deliciously entertaining, I couldn't stop reading. Her portrait of two unlikely sisters remains one of the most page-turning novels I've read in years."

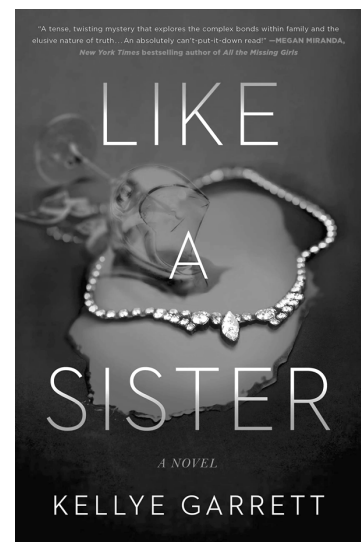
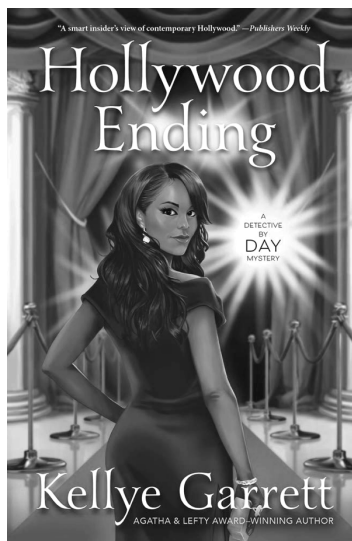
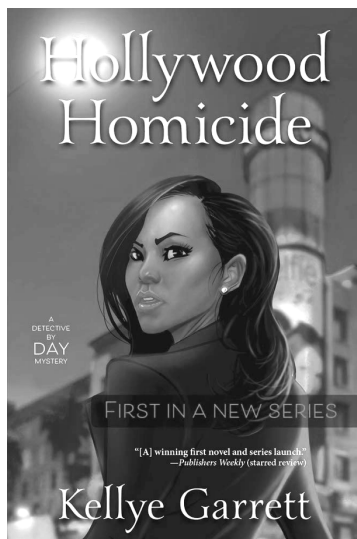
When I read *Like a Sister*, it was with the shimmering awareness that I was watching a major talent level up in real time. This utterly engrossing novel retains all the qualities that Kellye's readers most treasure in her writing: her trademark wit, clear-eyed social commentary, and a heroine for the ages — this time in the form of Lena Scott, a smart, sharp, and extremely well-defended graduate student investigating the mysterious death of her glamorous half sister. But *Like a Sister* is also undeniably more psychologically complex than the lighter-hearted Detective by Day mysteries, digging into questions about family responsibility and cultural expectations, themes whose effective illumination demands a certain level of emotional vulnerability. From the characters, from the reader, from the author.

And of all the thrills to be had in this book — and believe me, there are many — for me this was perhaps the most potent of all: the realization that Kellye was allowing us to venture forth with her into such a personal, deeply felt place. It felt like an achievement; it also felt like a gift.

Sometimes I wonder if Kellye even knows how to grasp onto the former without reaching for the latter.

But I am certain we'd all be better off — as writers, as peers, as people — if we followed her lead.

Elizabeth Little, the bestselling author of Dear Daughter and Pretty as a Picture, lives in Los Angeles.





Fan Guest of Honor: Kristopher Zgorski

by *Tara Laskowski & Art Taylor*

There's something infectious about being in the presence of Kristopher Zgorski. Maybe it's his unabashedly warm and welcoming grin, or the way he earnestly pushes past small talk to get to know people. Maybe it's the bright-colored style (love the orange!) that make him stand out in a crowd. Or maybe, maybe, it's just that his true, deep love for books and authors and literature shines through in everything he does.

For nearly 10 years, Kris has been the “eyeball” behind BOLO Books (Be On the Look Out Books), one of the best blogs out there for crime fiction. His reviews are always eagerly anticipated by readers and writers alike, and beyond reviews, he's offered a wide range of features: hosting cover reveals (going “underCOVER”!), previewing forthcoming books that are building buzz (his regular APB (All Points Bulletin) posts), and spotlighting authors throughout the community either through the popular “Composite Sketch” series he ran for so long or by hosting guest posts from the leading names in our genre.

Tara's Testimony: For me, Tara, I remember first starting to read BOLO Books right around the time that I decided to switch from writing primarily literary fiction to writing crime fiction. Through his online reviews, Kris has introduced me to so many new and now-among-my-favorites authors. Chief among them, I think, is Carol Goodman, whose work I hadn't been aware of until I read Kris's winning endorsement of *The Widow's House*. That review pointed me to many joyous hours of reading Carol's other novels.

Art's Eyewitness Report: If memory serves, I first met Kris at an event with Sophie Hannah at George Mason University, and I was struck then by his

enthusiasm for her work and the friendship that had developed between them. I've been a follower and fan of Kris's work since then, but another visit to Mason stands out even more — an evening when Kristopher talked with students in one of my own Mason classes, a course in “Reviewing,” about the importance of book advocacy as much as book reviewing — spreading the good word about the novels and authors he admires, connecting great writers with eager readers, building those relationships. That message won over my students—the

same as it has won over so many of us throughout the mystery world. I was thrilled when Mystery Writers of America crowned Kris with a Raven Award in recognition of all his achievements — and thrilled to celebrate him again today.

Together, we cannot overstate enough how much we appreciate Kris's energy and support. With his vast knowledge of mystery fiction and his generous and attentive reading, Kris has the ability to laser right in on the heart of a book. His reviews are a work of art in and of themselves. He is a careful, thoughtful reader who generously breaks great books and authors to new readers

and fans. We are all lucky for his time, commitment, and enthusiasm to this craft.

It goes without saying, then, that we are so pleased that Left Coast Crime is honoring Kristopher as Fan Guest of Honor for his dedication and service to the mystery-writing community.

We cannot think of a more deserving person.

Tara Laskowski is the award-winning suspense writer of the novels One Night Gone and The Mother Next Door. Art Taylor is an award-winning short story writer whose latest book is The Boy Detective & The Summer of '74 and Other Tales of Suspense. They are married and live in Northern Virginia with their son Dashiell and one cranky cat



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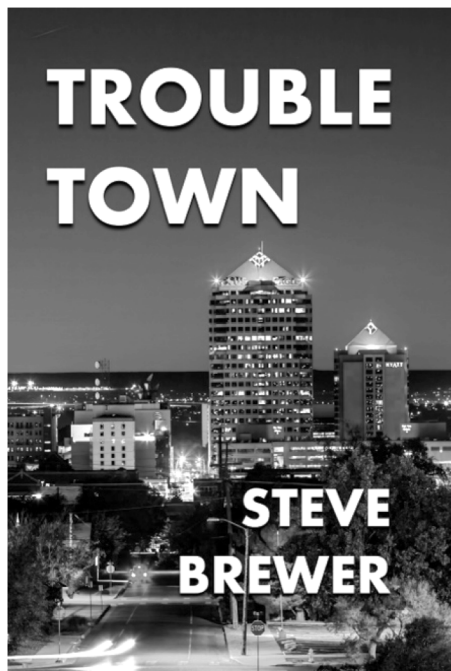
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Trouble Town

by *Steve Brewer*



Steve's latest cover, with the LCC convention hotel on the right

Welcome to Albuquerque! You're in a great location for exploring the heart of the city.

A block south of the Hyatt, you'll find Central Avenue, a still-breathing stretch of old Route 66, famed in story and song and television series. From the 1930s until the coming of the interstate highways in the late 1960s, east-west motorists took Route 66/Central Avenue right through the middle of . Albuquerque played to those travelers, with streamlined service stations, neon-lit motels, and rubber-tomahawk tourist traps springing up along Central from the mountains to the mesa.

Over the years, Central Avenue has seen many changes. Some old motels have vanished, others have been preserved as apartments or shops. Gentrification has turned once-dangerous areas into desirable neighborhoods. Traveling along Central Avenue, you can see much of what Albuquerque has to offer these days, as well as watching its history roll by.

It's never been easier to "cruise Central" like the lowriders do. Albuquerque Rapid Transit (ART) buses run along dedicated lanes on Central Avenue, stopping at platforms marked by white canopies. Other bus lines also run along Central. Thanks to a federal pilot program, all the buses are free in 2022.

I've written about Central Avenue for more than 30 years, first as a reporter for the Albuquerque Journal, then as author of a 10-book series featuring bumbling private eye Bubba Mabry. Allow me to be your tour guide to the most visitor-friendly stretch of Central Avenue, from the Rio Grande to Nob Hill.

Most restaurants and bars within walking distance of the Hyatt cluster along Central from First Street to Seventh Street, a designated "entertainment zone" where you can find booze, billiards, and live music, as well as a variety of eateries. During the day, Downtown is pretty quiet, populated by office workers and tourists checking out the grandly decorated KiMo Theatre, built in 1927. But on weekend nights, the bars flood with revelers who get ever rowdier as closing time approaches. Let's be careful out there.

To go farther afield, take the ART, which runs the entire 17-mile length of Central Avenue. Through Downtown, ART buses veer away from traffic-clogged Central, traveling west on Copper Avenue (right behind the Hyatt) and east on Gold Avenue. Catch the ART at First and Central, or at curbside stops on Copper or Gold within walking distance of the Hyatt. (Directions are easy in Albuquerque. The Sandia Mountains are always to the east.)

Let's go west first. From the hotel, stroll west on Copper a couple of blocks to the ART stop in front of the main public library. As the bus heads west, it angles back onto Central, just in time to see the Dog House Drive-in, a hot dog palace featured in *Breaking Bad* and *Better Call Saul*.

A mile to the west, you'll reach Old Town, the historic core of the city, now a shopping mecca for tourists. Cafes and stores fill the historic buildings surrounding Old Town Plaza and the San Felipe de Neri Church, which dates to 1793. Native Americans sell handmade turquoise jewelry under the portico on the east side of the plaza. Of special interest to Left Coast Crime attendees will be Treasure House Books & Gifts, where owner John Hoffsis specializes in books (including mysteries) that feature New Mexico.

On the north side of Old Town is the museum district, where you can visit Albuquerque's art/history museum, a natural history museum with dinosaur exhibits, and the Explora museum for kids. Also in that direction is the Sawmill Market, a huge food court in a made-over industrial warehouse.

The next stop west of Old Town is the Albuquerque BioPark, which features an aquarium, a botanical garden, and a connection to the nearby zoo, as well as walking/biking trails through the bosque, the cottonwood forest that lines the Rio Grande.

Across from the BioPark is El Vado Motel, a classic Route 66 motor inn that's been turned into a lively food court and shopping center.

Going east out of Downtown, toward the mountains, Central Avenue ducks under the railroad tracks, then begins a long uphill climb. I recommend ART or an Uber, but if uphill hiking at 5,000 feet above sea level is your thing, go for it. I'll dial 911 for you.

East Downtown, or EDo, the neighborhood just east of the railroad, is a hipster paradise of lofts and high-tech research and bustling restaurants — Farina for pizza, Range Cafe for regional dishes with a twist, The Artichoke Cafe for fine dining.

Central Avenue passes under Interstate 25 and continues uphill past the ever-growing Presbyterian Hospital complex and the neon-bright 66 Diner. Next stop is the University of New Mexico, which features Pueblo Revival architecture and a campus-wide arboretum. A great place to take a walk.

Across Central from UNM is the usual college mix of coffee shops and pizza parlors. A few excellent restaurants — such as El Patio and Annapurna's World Vegetarian Café — are tucked away on the leafy side streets.

Past UNM, we come to Albuquerque's best walking neighborhood, historic Nob Hill, where my family opened a used-and-new bookstore called Organic Books in late 2018.

Nob Hill is bouncing back from the one-two punch of ART construction and COVID, and cannabis shops are taking over some of the boarded-up storefronts. Recreational cannabis was recently legalized in New Mexico, so pot shops are popping up all over.

Favorite restaurants like Scalo, Yanni's, Monte Vista Fire Station, Il Vicino, and the Flying Star survived the tough times, and there are lots of new cafes as well.

Shopping is anchored by the Nob Hill Business Center, built in 1947 at Central and Carlisle. The Art Deco shopping center now houses Organic Books and a half-dozen other stores, four restaurants, a co-op grocery, an art gallery, and the headquarters of Albuquerque's professional soccer team, New Mexico United.

East of Carlisle are shops specializing in beads and bicycles and tattoos and antiques. No matter your interests, there's something on Central Avenue that'll appeal to you. And you can say you got your kicks on Route 66!



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SEVERN  HOUSE

On the Road with My Father's Ghost

by Anne Hillerman

In addition to nearsightedness, big feet, and a deep sense of curiosity, my Dad and I shared a love of good stories. After his death, I had the opportunity to travel in his tire tracks. My road trip became a lesson in discovery, geographically and emotionally, showing me aspects of my father I had never considered and beautiful places I'd never visited. Ghosts have a creepy reputation, but my father's ghost made the perfect traveling companion.



My Dad was Tony Hillerman. During his 35 years of writing best-selling mysteries, millions of fans treasured his novels about Navajo detectives solving crimes on the panoramic Navajo Nation. As a father, he inspired me to not only become a journalist but also to write non-fiction books. When I started The Tony Hillerman Writers' Conference, he served as our most popular faculty member for several years.

Before Dad died in October of 2008, my photographer husband, Don Strel, and I had launched a nonfiction book project, *Tony Hillerman's Landscape: On the Road with Chee and Leaphorn* to show readers who had never been to Indian Country the settings in which the fictional Tribal Officers solved crimes. I gathered quotes from Dad's books that described places where his detectives paused to comment on the scenery in Arizona, New Mexico, Utah and Colorado. Then we hit the road for Baby Rocks, Teec Nos Pos, Toadlena, Church Rock, Kayenta, Tsaile, Tuba City and other breathtaking places Dad loved where we focused on photography and note-taking.

Don and I finished the book with both relief and regret a few months after Dad died. We decided to promote it and honor my father's memory with talks and slideshows. Little did I know that I would be getting an unexpected benefit. I heard priceless stories from people in the audience whom my Dad had touched: loyal readers, distant relatives, Indian consultants, long-lost friends, and former co-workers and students from his days at the University of New Mexico.

At the small Placitas, N.M. library, a woman came up to me after my talk.

"I have to tell you how I stalked your father," she said. I was all ears.

"I was at the Crownpoint rug auction and I didn't know anything about Navajo weaving. I noticed this man, a rather portly gentleman, going from table to table, picking up the rugs, chatting with the weavers. So I just followed along behind him hoping to learn something."

The tiny western New Mexico town of Crownpoint hosts the largest auction of contemporary Navajo weaving in the world, drawing weavers from throughout the reservation and buyers from around the world. Dad used it as a setting in several of his books.

"The auctioneer took the stage and said he had a special guest to introduce, a friend of the Navajo people, Tony Hillerman. I'd read all his books, and here I was stalking him. I don't know when I've been so embarrassed."

I asked if Dad bought anything after all that inspection.

"He bought every small rug from every weaver that came up for sale," she said. "I wonder what he did with them?"

Dad had never told me this story, but I knew about the rugs. He and my mother had given them as gifts to friends, part of their quiet generosity I heard about often on my travels, from donations of buses for the reservation's St. Bonaventure school in Thoreau, N.M., to lights for the high school football stadium at Monument Valley, Utah, and to college tuition paid for Indian students.

After another talk in another town, a woman raised her hand.

"I have to tell you how your Dad paid my mortgage," she said.

She had been out of work for several months. Feeling desperate as her next house payment came due, she glanced up, praying for inspiration, and noticed a hard-back copy of *Fly on the Wall*, Dad's second novel, at the top of her bookshelf.

"I loved that book, and I was so happy when he signed it for me," she said. "It was a first edition. I made enough

when I sold it to pay the mortgage... and buy a little paperback version to replace it.”

In Winslow, Arizona, a dusty Route 66 town near both the Navajo and Hopi reservations, I spoke in a museum that had once been a trading post and now housed the Chamber of Commerce. The audience, a mixed lot of former hippies, retirees, Indian Health Service workers and desert rats, included a middle-aged Navajo man who arrived early and sat near the front.

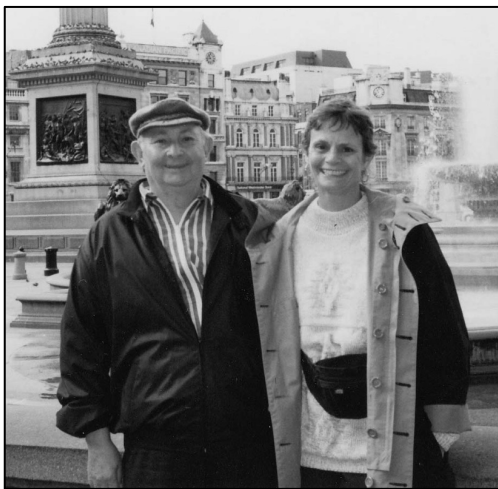
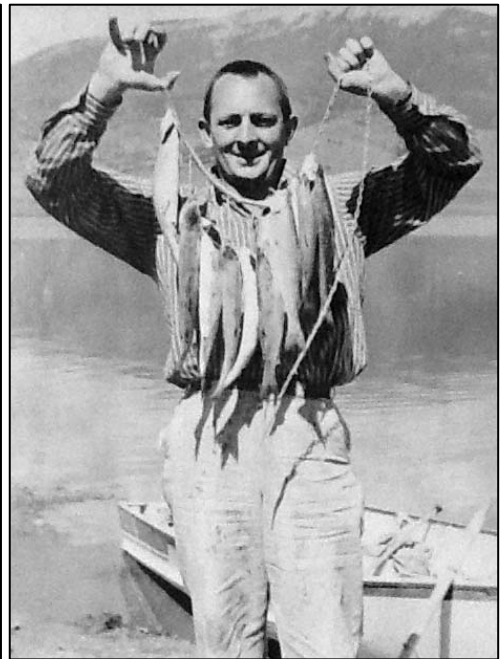
“You did all right,” he said to me afterwards. “I met your Dad once. He did all right, too.”

In California, a woman at another library event told me she met my Dad through her work with a writers’ conference that invited him to speak. She drove Dad from the

airport to the conference hotel. She said that as they passed a homeless man with a sign, “Your Dad asked me to pull over. He got out of the car and walked over to the guy and gave him \$20. I said, ‘Do you know that you just got some help from the author Tony Hillerman?’”

“Tony?” the homeless man said with a grin. “Mr. Hillerman, I’ve read all your books!”

Every time I tell this story, I can see my Dad grinning. He loved nothing more than encounters with his fans. I share that love of meeting readers with him. I was delighted to learn that Tony Hillerman is the Left Coast Crime Ghost of Honor for 2022 and to have an opportunity to talk about his life and work.



Tony & Anne in London



Top Left, Tony & Anne in 1951

Max Evans, Rudolfo Anaya & Tony

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Program Participants

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- The Pocket Program includes an alphabetical index of appearances by each of the participants.
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Shelley Adina



Shelley Adina is the author of 46 novels published by Harlequin, Warner, and Hachette, and by Moonshell Books, Inc., her own independent press. She holds a PhD in Creative Writing from Lancaster University in the UK, and writes steampunk adventure and mystery, the latest of which, *The Professor Wore Prussian Blue*, came out in February 2022. Under the name Charlotte Henry, she writes Regency historicals; and as Adina Senft, she is the USA Today bestselling author of Amish women's fiction. When she's not writing, Shelley is usually quilting, sewing historical costumes, or enjoying the garden with her flock of rescued chickens.

www.shelleyadina.com

Annamaria Alfieri



Annamaria Alfieri developed wanderlust by studying maps as a young child. Her historical mysteries are set in places that have fascinated her as a traveler. Of her debut, *Washington Post* said: "As both history and mystery *City of Silver* glitters." Her British East Africa series includes *Strange Gods*, 1911, *The Idol of Mombasa*, 1912, *The Blasphemers*, 1913. Of the series, *The Richmond Times-Dispatch* said "the flair of Isak Dinesen and Beryl Markham, the cunning of Agatha Christie and Elspeth Huxley." Alfieri, with Michael Stanley, edited the acclaimed anthology *Sunshine Noir* — a trip around the word in crime fiction.

www.annamariaalfieri.com

Jenny Andersen



Scientist, Housewife, Gemologist, Writer! After graduating with degrees in geology, Jenny worked as a materials analyst for semiconductors. When 80-hour workweeks became too much, she switched to fiction, not realizing it was the only other 24/7 career (besides motherhood) available. Besides writing, Jenny loves dogs, cats, horses, carousels, cowboys, guitar music, the western desert, her harp, mountains, beaches, knitting, motorcycles, her Glock, and, especially, her family. Her training as a gemologist is put to good use in *The Emma Goldsmith Cozy Mysteries*, about Emma, who loves gemstones, but keeps finding bodies. A lifelong love of all things western produced the *Second Chance Heroes* mystery/romance series.

www.jennysfiction.com

Shannon Baker



After discovering her husband of fifteen years had been having an affair — in a town of 300 people — and she was the third to the last to know, it took Shannon Baker a while to get her sense of humor back. When she did, the *Kate Fox* mystery series was born. Set in the Nebraska Sandhills, population 0.95 people/square mile, Kate keeps law and order amid a cast of a dozen or so locals. Chosen Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers 2014 and 2018 Writer of the Year and winner of the New Mexico/Arizona Book Award, Shannon makes her home in Tucson, with her good husband and her crazy Weimaraner.

shannon-baker.com

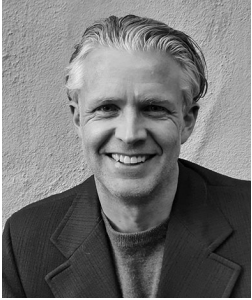
Anne Louise Bannon



Aside from her tendency to think of weird ways to kill people, Anne Louise Bannon is appallingly normal. Okay, there are those who question that statement. But, seriously, her only real quirk is wearing earrings that don't match. She is the author of the Freddie and Kathy series, set in the 1920s, the Operation Quickline series of cozy spy novels, and the Old Los Angeles series, featuring Maddie Wilcox, a doctor and winemaker in the 1870s. Anne and her husband have a dog and three cats. They live in the Los Angeles area, where they make the things most sane people buy. Which would be a quirk, but seems to be increasingly normal these days.

www.annelouisebannon.com

James T. Bartlett



Originally from England, James T. Bartlett wrote the Gourmet Ghosts alternative guides to crime, ghosts, and the history behind Los Angeles bars, restaurants, and hotels. As a travel/lifestyle and history journalist he writes for the LA Times, BBC, Westways, Hemispheres, High Life, ALTA California, Atlas Obscura, Real Crime, American Way, Ripperologist, and others. His upcoming true crime book, *The Alaskan Blonde*, examines a sensational 1953 murder, sex, and race scandal that began in Fairbanks, ended with a suicide in Hollywood, and hit the pages of Life, Newsweek, and the pulp detective magazines.

www.gourmetghosts.com & Social @thealaskanblonde & @gourmetghosts

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, a puppy and a cat, 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.

daisybateman.com & T @daisy

Pamela Beason



If there's an animal involved, the odds are that Pam will want to be there. She can't write a book without adding a creature or two to it. Pam is the author of the Sam Westin Mysteries, which take place in wilderness areas and focus on wildlife; the Neema Mysteries, featuring gorillas who have been taught sign language; the Run for Your Life young adult trilogy, which includes extreme endurance races with exotic wildlife; and the Langston Family Stories, romances with guest appearances by cats, raccoons, and opossums. She's currently completing *Cascade*, the sixth Sam Westin mystery.

PamelaBeason.com

Donnell Ann Bell



Donnell Ann Bell tried to write a conventional romance once. When the body showed up in Chapter Four, she gave up the ruse. She preferred mystery and police procedure, and was determined to learn all about it. As the co-owner of Crimescenewriter, a forum started by a veteran police officer, Donnell has learned from some of the finest LEO professionals in existence. Her first suspense, *Black Pearl, A Cold Case Suspense* (2019) was a 2020 Colorado Book Award finalist. The second book in the series, *Until Dead*, is due out May 2022. The author of four award-winning romantic suspense novels, she's infinitely glad that body showed up.

www.donnellannbell.com

Justin Bendell



Justin Bendell is a former aspiring grassland ecologist who now writes stories about dead people. He co-hosts Point Blank: Hardboiled, Noir & Detective Fiction Podcast and teaches creative writing & rhetoric at UNM-Valencia. His stories have appeared in Mystery Tribune, Thuglit, 3:AM Magazine, Flash Fiction Offensive, and more. Like a thousand other suckers, he is working on a crime novel.

www.justinbendell.com

Amy M. Bennett



Amy M. Bennett is a native of El Paso, TX, and has been a New Mexico resident since 1988. After 22 years of slinging frosting as a cake decorator at Walmart, she retired to sling vino at Noisy Water Winery in Ruidoso, all the while writing mysteries set in the south central region of New Mexico. Her first Black Horse Campground mystery novel, *End of the Road*, was published in 2013. The eighth book in the series, *The Heat of the Moment*, is soon to be published. She lives in Bent, NM, with her husband Paul.

www.amymbennettbooks.com

Paula Bernstein



Paula Bernstein is a New York native, who migrated to California to attend graduate school at Caltech. After several years of post doctoral work, she escaped her laboratory, and went to medical school. Like her series heroine, Hannah Kline, Paula spent her professional life practicing Obstetrics and Gynecology in Los Angeles. She is the author of the eight volume Hannah Kline Mysteries. Her short story, “On Call for Murder,” was included in the Anthology, *LAst Resort*, and her story “The Queen of Mean” was published in *Avenging Angelinos*. She currently serves as President of the Los Angeles Chapter of Sisters in Crime.

HannahKlineMysteries.com

Connie Berry



Connie Berry’s dream of becoming an archaeologist ended when she learned there was more to it than discovering the long-lost tombs of pharaohs. Instead, she created the Kate Hamilton Mystery series, set in the UK and featuring an American antiques dealer with a gift for solving crimes. Her latest, *The Shadow of Memory*, will be released on May 10. Besides reading mysteries and writing them, Connie loves history, foreign travel, cute animals, and all things British. She lives in Ohio with her husband and adorable dog, Emmie.

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 Tales of the Moonlight Cutter series, *The Be-Bop Barbarians* with author Gary Phillips) have been published by mainstream, as well as his own imprint (www.myriadpubs.com), and his work has recently been optioned for animation and film development. His graphic short stories have appeared in Alfred Hitchcock’s Mystery Magazine, and his second (“Dead Air”) was long-listed for Edgar consideration. His life has included stints as a carnival barker, Pinkerton’s guard, concert stagehand, fencing instructor, and rock radio DJ.

Mysti Berry



Mysti works in San Francisco’s best software shop, and lives in a forgotten corner of the City with her husband, graphic novelist Dale Berry, and two black rescue cats. With an MFA in Writing from University of San Francisco and a BA in Linguistics from UC Santa Cruz, Mysti loves to talk with people about story structure, language, film noir, and preserving democracy, not always in that order. Her short stories have been published in EQMM, AHMM, and other anthologies. Mysti publishes the charity anthology series *Low Down Dirty Vote*.

mystiberry.com

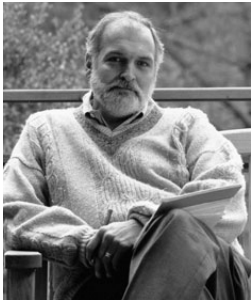
Susan Alice Bickford



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.

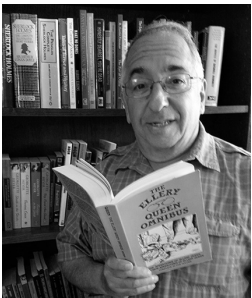
www.johnbillheimer.com

Terri Bischoff



Senior editor Terri Bischoff joined Crooked Lane in 2019. In her twenty-six years working in the book world, she has been a bookseller, bookstore manager, mystery bookstore owner, and finally, an acquiring editor. She is looking for domestic and psychological suspense, thrillers, LGBTQIA2S+, marginalized voices, plots that have an underlying social commentary, commercial crime fiction, and frankly, anything that will keep her up late because she can’t stop reading. Terri is also co-chair of the next (live!) Bouchercon, to be held in Minneapolis in September.

Les Blatt



Les Blatt is a retired (and recovering) journalist. For nearly 15 years, he has written weekly reviews of classic mystery books for his Classic Mysteries blog and podcast, both of which are now on hiatus — he hopes they will return soon to the web. 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 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.

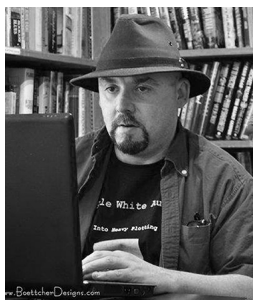
Kris Bock



Kris Bock writes novels of mystery, suspense, and romance, many with Southwestern landscapes. In the Accidental Detective series, a witty journalist solves mysteries in Arizona and tackles the challenges of turning 50. This humorous series starts with *Something Shady at Sunshine Haven*. Her 100+ books for young people (written as Chris Eboch) include five books in The Boxcar Children mystery series. *The Well of Sacrifice* is a middle grade Mayan adventure, used in many schools. *The Eyes of Pharaoh*, a mystery set in ancient Egypt, brings the past to life as three friends investigate a plot against Pharaoh.

chriseboch.com

David Boop



David Boop is an author, editor, screenwriter, and award-winning essayist. His debut novel was the sci-fi/noir, *She Murdered Me with Science*. His follow-up, *The Soul Changers*, is a Victorian Horror based on the RPG, Rippers Resurrected. David edited the bestselling weird western anthology trilogy beginning with *Straight Outta Tombstone*, and recently released the first in a series of space western anthology, *Gunfight on Europa Station*. David writes short fiction, including a flash fiction mystery series, The Trace Walker Temporary Mysteries for Gumshoereview.com. He's worked with characters such as The Green Hornet, Kolchak, the Black Bat, and Veronica Mars.

FB @dboop.updates & T @david_boop
Davidboop.com & www.longshot-productions.net

Claire Booth



Claire Booth used to be a newspaper reporter, where she got to live all sorts of places and cover all sorts of crimes — the unusual, the sordid, the silly. She went from Nevada to Missouri to Washington, DC, South Florida, the Seattle region, and the Bay Area. Needless to say, Washington, DC, was the silliest. Eventually, she decided it was time to leave newspapers. But she missed writing desperately (that sounds better than saying she missed crime), so she decided to start writing books. She is now the author of five Sheriff Hank Worth mysteries, set in Branson, Missouri, including the just-released *Dangerous Consequences*.

www.clairebooth.com

Andrew Bourelle



Andrew Bourelle is the author of the novels *48 Hours To Kill* and *Heavy Metal*. He is also coauthor with James Patterson of the New York Times best sellers *Texas Ranger* and *Texas Outlaw*. He teaches creative writing at the University of New Mexico.

www.andrewbourelle.com

Kari Bovée



When she's not riding her horses along the acequias of Corrales, or basking under the Hawaiian sun, Kari Bovée is escaping into the past — scheming murder and mayhem for her characters in her award-winning Annie Oakley Mystery Series and Grace Michelle Mystery Series.

www.karibovee.com

Rhys Bowen



Rhys Bowen is the New York Times bestselling author of the Molly Murphy mysteries set in early 1900s New York and the lighter Royal Spyness novels featuring a minor Royal in 1930s England. She also writes internationally bestselling historical stand-alone novels which have sold over two million copies in English. Rhys's books have won 20 major awards, been nominated for the Edgar award three times, and are translated into 30 languages. Rhys is a transplanted Brit who now divides her time between California and Arizona.

www.rhysbowen.com

Stina Branson



Stina Branson has had a lifelong interest in all things murderous and macabre. This often resulted in concerned school administrators calling her mother, one time eliciting the exasperated response, "Of course I knew. Who do you think helped her draw the razor blade dripping blood?" Originally from the Midwest, Stina is a past president of Sleuths' Ink in Springfield, Missouri, and she currently lives in Fort Collins, Colorado. Her work has appeared in Brigit's Temple Fiction Magazine, Villains & Vengeance, and other fine collections.

Twitter @chrislpontius

Steve Brewer



Albuquerque's own Steve Brewer has built his life around books, the latest endeavor being his family-owned bookstore, Organic Books, which opened in late 2018. Brewer is the author of 34 books, most recently *Trouble Town*, the 10th outing for bumbling Albuquerque private eye Bubba Mabry. The first Bubba book, *Lonely Street*, was made into a 2009 movie starring Jay Mohr and Joe Mantegna. A former journalist and humor columnist, Brewer teaches writing in the Honors College at the University of New Mexico.

organicbooks.net

Kiffer Brown



Kiffer Brown is a lover of Words, Books, and Stories in all forms! She is a Traveler and a Foodie that is powered by coffee, chocolate, and wine — especially French rosé. Kiffer is also the Founder of Chanticleer Reviews & Media, OnWord Talks podcast, and OnWord Magazine. She has presented at IBPA, BEA, UpubU, RWA, PNWA, SiWC, HNS, Writers Digest NYC, DIYMFA, Women in Publishing, and others. Fangirl of Cats, Cozy Mysteries, Star Trek, Douglas Adams, Cats, LOTR, Dolly Parton, Jim Harrison, Reading, Cooking, Cats....

www.ChanticleerReviews.com

Clare Broyles



I am so excited to be at Left Coast Crime for my first time. My first mystery book, *Wild Irish Rose*, came out this year in March. I am lucky enough to be Rhys Bowen's daughter as well as her co-writer on the novel, so I have heard about how fun mystery writer conventions are for years. I am a music and math teacher so feel free to ask me to tune a guitar or help you add fractions! I am a mother to three amazing kids. I live in Phoenix with my husband, twin high school seniors, and two dogs.

Craig Faustus Buck



Craig Faustus Buck has won numerous awards for his neo-noir novel, *Go Down Hard*, and his short stories, many of which are available free at CraigFaustusBuck.com. He is also a screenwriter, having written and/or produced TV series, pilots, movies, and miniseries for more years than he cares to admit. He also wrote and co-produced the Oscar-nominated short film, *Overnight Sensation* (starring Louise Fletcher and Robert Loggia). But his finest achievement is probably the famous episode where *The Incredible Hulk* drops acid. He is a pitmaster extraordinaire and collects dust in his spare time.

Leslie Budewitz AKA Alicia Beckman



Leslie Budewitz blends her passion for food, great mysteries, and the Northwest in two cozy mystery series, the Spice Shop mysteries set in Seattle's Pike Place Market, and the Food Lovers' Village mysteries, set in NW Montana, where she lives. Watch for *Peppermint Barked*, the 6th Spice Shop mystery, in July 2022. As Alicia Beckman, she writes moody suspense, beginning with *Bitterroot Lake* in April 2021 and continuing with *Blind Faith* in October 2022. A three-time Agatha Award winner, she is a board member of Mystery Writers of America and a past president of Sisters in Crime.

www.LeslieBudewitz.com

Ellen Byron AKA Maria DiRico



Ellen's most impressive achievement is working as a cater-waiter for Martha Stewart and being immortalized in the book, *Entertaining*, where she looks very Downstairs to Martha's Upstairs. Her Cajun Country Mysteries have won the Agatha Award and multiple Best Humorous Mystery Lefty Awards. *Bayou Book Thief* will be the first book in her new Vintage Cookbook Mysteries. She also writes the Catering Hall Mystery series under the name Maria DiRico. TV credits include *Wings*, *Just Shoot Me*, and *Fairly OddParents*, plus many shows that quickly and justifiably disappeared. Sign up for her newsletter at her website, where she often gives stuff away.

www.ellenbyron.com

Susanna 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. *The Cry of the Hangman* was nominated for a Lefty for Best Historical. Born and raised in Philadelphia, she lives in the Chicago area now, with her husband and two sons.

www.susannacalkins.com

Kris Calvin



Award-winning author Kris Calvin is a single mom of three and a former elected official who now writes mysteries and thrillers full-time. Kris's new series from Crooked Lane Books features Emma Lawson, an ethics investigator and Detective Alibi Morning Sun, who together track down corruption and killers in California's capital of Sacramento. No harm comes to children in Kris's stories; she can't handle that. Kris is an avid reader and looks forward to hearing about other authors' books at Southwest Sleuths. A bit of an introvert, introduce yourself if you see Kris standing in the corner, she'll appreciate it.

kriscalvin.com

Marco Carocari



Marco Carocari grew up in Switzerland, where he traveled the globe working for the airlines, and later as an internationally published photographer, and frequently jobbed as a waiter, hotel receptionist, or manager of a professional photo studio. In 2016 he swapped snow-capped mountains, lakes, and lush, green pastures for the charm of the dry California desert, where he lives with his husband. *Blackout* is his first novel, and his short story "All in the Planning" is featured in *Malice Domestic 16: Mystery Most Diabolical*.

www.marcocarocari.com

Glenda Carroll



If you want to find Glenda Carroll, she'll be in, on, or under water —and writing about it. She understands water sports on a personal level, since she swims, surfs, and sails. Glenda was a long time sports columnist for the Marin Independent Journal. She writes the Trisha Carson mysteries, *Dead Code*, *Drop Dead Red* and *Dead in the Water* set in the San Francisco Bay area. Her books have a swimming undercurrent, based on her experience. She's raced in over 150 open water swims in California, as well as Hawaii and Perth, Australia. Glenda tutors first-generation, low-income high schoolers in English. She lives in San Rafael, CA, with doggo, McCovey.

www.glendacarroll.com

Sharon E. Cathcart



Award-winning author Sharon E. Cathcart (she/her) writes historical fiction with a twist! A former journalist and newspaper editor, Sharon has been writing for as long as she can remember and always has at least one work in progress. She is a member of the Archaeological Institute of America, Bay Area Romance Writers, Golden State Romance Writers, Sisters in Crime, and the Historical Novel Society. Sharon's most recent work is *Hard Boiled Blues*, the eighth entry in her Pocketful of Stories series. Sharon lives in the Silicon Valley, California, with her husband and several rescued cats. You can find Sharon at her blog,

sharonecathcart.wordpress.com

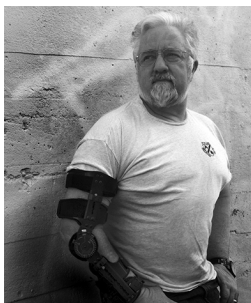
Vera HC Chan



A journalist veteran, Vera Chan has worked as a lifestyle/trends editor for newspapers, regional publications and online at Yahoo. Currently, her day job is at Microsoft Start (formerly Microsoft News) on an exclusive pilot inviting independent creators (including authors!) and local news publishers to reach millions. As HC Chan, Vera made her fiction debut with her corporate noir tale, "Murderer's Feast," in the *Midnight Hour* anthology (Nov. 2021, Crooked Lane). She's represented by the Jennifer de Chiara literary agency shopping two manuscripts. She lives in the Bay Area with her husband Ray and his grumpy, extremely long-lived parrot Hemingway.

www.verahcchan.com

Baer Charlton



Baer Charlton is an Amazon Best-Selling author. His many interests have led him around the world in search of the off-beat and unique. As an internationally recognized photojournalist, he has tracked mountain gorillas, sailed across the Atlantic, driven two to eighteen wheeled vehicles for a combined million-plus miles. He has raced motorcycles to sports cars and hiked mountain passes in sunshine and snow. Baer writes from the philosophy of everyone has a story. But, inside of that story is an even better story. Those stories drive his stories. Doctors have stitched him back together more times than a hockey team, where his long-suffering wife and their cats have nursed him back to the keyboard for the next adventure. Baer writes from a life among animal, peoples of varied backgrounds, and a love for unusual happenstances.

www.baercharlton.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. Lance is the author of the DeWitt Agency Files series of international art-crime novels (*The Collection*, *Stealing Ghosts*, and *Chasing Clay*), the DeWitt Agency Adventures series of action/adventure novels (*Zrada* and *Engaño*), the international thriller *DOHA 12*, and the near-future thriller *South*. All are available in trade paperback and digital editions.

www.wombatgroup.com

Michelle Chouinard



M.M. Chouinard is the USA Today, Publishers Weekly, and Amazon Charts bestselling author behind the Detective Jo Fournier series (*Her Silent Prayer*, the fifth book in the series, releases April 7th) and *The Vacation*, a standalone psychological thriller. She loves animals, coffee, amateur genealogy, and anything to do with Halloween or the zombie apocalypse. If you want to chat about any of these things, even the books, you can find her at:

www.mmchouinard.com

Jennifer 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 Sassy Cat Mysteries; the latest novel, *Mimi Lee Cracks the Code*, was listed as one of 10 New Must-Read Books by Bustle. *Death by Bubble Tea*, the first book in her new L.A. Night Market Mysteries, comes out on July 5. Jennifer currently serves as Vice President on the national board of Sisters in Crime and is an active member of Crime Writers of Color. She's also part of the group blog at www.chicksonthecase.com

jenniferjchow.com

Becky Clark



Award-winning author Becky Clark is the seventh of eight kids, which explains both her insatiable need for attention and her atrocious table manners. She likes to read funny books, so it felt natural to write them too. She surrounds herself with quirky people and pets, who end up as characters in her novels. She writes the Dunne Diehl novels, the Mystery Writer's Mysteries, the Crossword Puzzle Mysteries, and *Eight Weeks to a Complete Novel — Write Faster, Write Better, Be More Organized*. Visit her website to snag a free copy of *Fiction Can Be Murder* (book #1 in the Mystery Writer's series).

BeckyClarkBooks.com

Merit Clark



Merit Clark writes the Jack Fariel detective series set in Denver. *Killing Streak*, the first book in the series, won the Colorado Independent Publishers Association (CIPA) EVVY Book Award and was a Quarterfinalist in both the 2018 ScreenCraft Cinematic Book Competition and the Amazon Breakthrough Novel contest. *Killing Innocence* is book two in the series and delves deep into the world of human trafficking. Her high-velocity story “Rescue” is featured in the anthology *Blood & Gasoline* from Hex Publishers. In the course of research, Merit has been shot at by gang members, worn a bomb suit, and broken into a gangbanger’s girlfriend’s apartment. Not all at the same time.

www.meritclark.com & [Facebook.com/meritclark](https://www.facebook.com/meritclark)

Pam Clark



Pam Clark grew up in a tiny hometown — population 300. Books convinced her that the world was a wide, wide place. And it beckoned. She became an English professor and lover of travel, roaming through the U.S. national parks, as well as Stonehenge, Aztec ruins, Machu Picchu, the oracle at Delphi, the Hermitage, and the Louvre. She is now the author of *Shoot If You Must*, a traditional mystery introducing Lt. Tall, Dark, & Handcuffs. She still conjuring up and solving mysteries, and running off on the occasional adventure — like this Left Coast Crime convention!

www.facebook.com/pamclarkmysteries

Tracy Clark



Tracy Clark, a native Chicagoan, is the author of the Cass Raines Chicago Mystery series, featuring ex-cop turned PI Cassandra Raines. A multi-nominated Anthony, Lefty, and Shamus Award finalist, Tracy is also the 2020 winner of the G.P. Putnam’s Sons Sue Grafton Memorial Award, and a nominee for the 2022 Sue Grafton Memorial Award, and an Edgar Award nominee for Best Short Story. She is a proud member of Crime Writers of Color, Mystery Writers of America, and Sisters in Crime, and serves on the boards of Bouchercon National and the Midwest Mystery Conference. Her latest book, *Runner*, was released in June 2021. Her debut novel, *Broken Places*, has recently been optioned by Sony Pictures Television. Her next book, *Hide*, featuring Det. Harriet Foster, releases in December of 2022.

www.tracyclarkbooks.com

Oline Cogdill



Oline H. Cogdill reviews mystery fiction for the Sun-Sentinel in Fort Lauderdale/Tribune Publishing Wire, Publishers Weekly, Shelf Awareness, and Mystery Scene magazine. She was honored with the 2013 Raven Award from the Mystery Writers of America, the 1999 Ellen Nehr Award by the American Crime Writers League, and the 1997 Sun Sentinel’s Pettijohn Award. Oline has been a judge for the 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 Los Angeles Times Book Prize in the mystery/thriller category.

Reed Farrel Coleman



Called a hard-boiled poet by NPR’s Maureen Corrigan, Reed Farrel Coleman is the New York Times bestselling author of thirty-one novels including six in Robert B. Parker’s Jesse Stone series. He is a four-time recipient of the Shamus Award, a four-time Edgar Award nominee in three different categories, and a two-time Thriller Award nominee. He has also received the Scribe, Audie, Macavity, Barry, and Anthony Awards. He is a former Executive Vice President of Mystery Writers of America and was an adjunct instructor at Hofstra University. Reed’s new novel for Blackstone, *Sleepless City*, is scheduled for release in 2022.

Reedcoleman.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 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, he volunteers for medical missions to the West Bank serving children who lack access to care. His historical fiction is set in the Holy Land; *The Rabbi's Knight* in 1290, soon-to-be published *Sins of the Fathers* in 1914, and *Foxes in the Vineyard* in 1948.

michaeljcooper.net

John Copenhaver



John Copenhaver's historical crime novel, *Dodging and Burning* (Pegasus), won the 2019 Macavity Award for Best First Mystery Novel, and garnered Anthony, Strand Critics, Barry, and Lambda Literary Award nominations. Copenhaver writes a crime fiction review column for Lambda Literary called "Blacklight," cohosts on the House of Mystery Radio Show, and is the six-time recipient of Artist Fellowships from the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities. He grew up in the mountains of southwestern Virginia and currently lives in Richmond, VA, with his husband, artist Jeffery Paul. *The Savage Kind* (Pegasus) is his second novel.

www.johncopenhaver.com

Michelle Cox



Michelle Cox is the author of the Henrietta and Inspector Howard series, a mystery/romance saga set in the 1930s Chicago described as "Downton Abbey Meets Miss Fisher's Murder Mysteries." To date, the series has won over 60 international awards and received positive reviews from Library Journal (starred), Booklist (starred), Publishers Weekly, Kirkus, and Popsugar, Buzzfeed, Redbook, Elle, Brit&Co., Bustle, Culturalist, Working Mother, etc. Cox also pens the wildly popular, "Novel Notes of Local Lore," a weekly blog chronicling the lives of Chicago's forgotten residents. She lives in the northern suburbs of Chicago with her husband and three children and is hard at work on her next novel.

michellecoxauthor.com

Matt Coyle



Matt Coyle is the author of the bestselling Rick Cahill crime series. He knew he wanted to write mysteries at fourteen when his father gave him *The Simple Art of Murder* by Raymond Chandler. His books have won the Anthony, Shamus, Lefty, Ben Franklin Silver, Foreword Reviews Book of the Year Silver, and San Diego Book Awards. Matt lives in San Diego with his yellow Lab, Angus. He was named the Mystery Writer of the Year for 2021 by the San Diego Writers Festival. *Last Redemption*, the eighth book in the Rick Cahill series, is a finalist for the Lefty and Barry Awards for Best Mystery.

mattcoylebooks.com

Elizabeth Crowens



Elizabeth Crowens worked in Hollywood for over 20 years. She has two award-winning alternate history novels, *Silent Meridian* and *A Pocketful of Lodestones*. Shortlisted for another award is the third book in that series *A War in Too Many Worlds* featuring Arthur Conan Doyle, H.G. Wells, and Harry Houdini. She has short stories in *Hell's Heart* and the Bram Stoker Award-nominated anthology, *A New York State of Fright*. She received a New York Foundation for the Arts grant and edited *New York: Give Me Your Best or Your Worst*, a photo-illustrated, cross-genre anthology based on her popular Facebook Caption Contest.

www.elizabethcrowens.com

Janet Dawson



Janet Dawson's life of crime began with her long-running series featuring Oakland PI Jeri Howard and continues with the latest, *The Things We Keep*, due out later this year — we hope! Janet stepped back in time to the 1950s and climbed aboard the historic train known as the California Zephyr, where her sleuthing Zephyrette Jill McLeod solves crimes and takes dinner reservations. In her most recent book, *The Sacrificial Daughter*, geriatric care manager Kay Dexter will mess with you if you mess with her elderly clients. Janet lives in Alameda, California, where her life is ruled by four cats.

www.janetdawson.com

Connie di Marco



Connie di Marco is the author of the Zodiac Mysteries featuring Julia Bonatti, a San Francisco astrologer who never thought murder would be part of her practice. *Serpent's Doom*, the latest in the series, will be released on April 26, 2022. Writing as Connie Archer, she's the national bestselling author of the Soup Lovers' Mysteries from Berkeley Prime Crime. Her recipes and excerpts can be found in *The Mystery Writers of America Cookbook* and *The Cozy Cookbook*. Connie is a member of the Crime Writers Association (UK), Mystery Writers of America, International Thriller Writers, and Sisters in Crime.

www.conniedimarco.com

Conda V Douglas



Conda's a short writer who loves writing short. A short story sparked her first humorous mystery novel, *Starke Naked Dead*, now a series, set in her home state of Idaho. Idaho's also the setting for Mild West Mysteries: *13 Idaho Tales of Murder and Mayhem*. Writing short has resulted in sales of well over 100 short stories and articles and her how-to series, *Write Short To Succeed*, four books so far, with short advice written in short bursts. Conda also teaches writing and selling short stories. You'll find her short— and long — work on Amazon.

Amy Drayer



Amy Drayer grew up a free-range kid on a charming island in the Pacific Northwest, then migrated south to California and later moved to Washington, DC, where she worked in politics for far too long. Amy is a graduate of the inimitable Lighthouse Writers Workshop Book Project, an enthusiastic member of Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers and Sisters in Crime, Managing Editor of the museum of americana literary journal, and the Editor of the 2022 Rocky Mountain Fiction Writers anthology. Her most recent mystery and short stories can be found on her website.

MakahIslandMysteries.com

J.C. Eaton (Ann Goldfarb)



New York native Ann I. Goldfarb spent most of her life in education, as a classroom teacher and later as a middle school principal. With enough fodder from her middle school target audience, she wrote a number of YA time travel mysteries before acquiescing to her husband, who wanted to coauthor cozy mysteries. With nothing to lose, other than her marriage, she agreed. Now, three series later, she can relax. Writing as J. C. Eaton, along with spouse, James E. Clapp, she has authored the Sophie Kimball Mysteries, the Wine Trail Mysteries, and the Marcie Rayner Mysteries. In addition, Ann has nine published YA time travel mysteries under her own name. www.jceatonmysteries.com & www.timetravelmysteries.com

Marty Eberhardt



Marty Eberhardt now delights in using the right side of her brain to write fiction and poetry, after excessive left brain work as a botanical garden director, nonprofit staff member, board member, and consultant. *Death in a Desert Garden* is the first novel in the Bea Rivers series; *Bones in the Back Forty* will come out at the end of this year. Marty lives with her husband, Phil, in the small mountain town of Silver City, New Mexico, as well as in Tucson, Arizona. She delights in the flora, fauna, and quirky characters in both locations.

martyeberhardt.com

Tori Eldridge



Tori Eldridge is a national bestselling author who draws from her own ethnic heritage and fifth-degree black belt ninja experience to write the Lily Wong mystery thriller series about a Chinese-Norwegian modern-day ninja in Los Angeles. Tori delves into her native Hawaiian roots in her short story “Missing on Kaua’i” in the upcoming MWA anthology, *Crime Hits Home*. Although an expert in the use of spears, swords, and knives, Tori also enjoys tea, cooking, yoga, hiking, and traveling around the world. Check out her website for recipes, action videos, and Lily Wong’s Hong Kong adventure in *The Ninja Betrayed!*

ToriEldridge.com

Laurie Fagen



Laurie Fagen’s crime fiction novel series, Behind the Mic Mysteries, includes *Fade Out* and *Dead Air*. The audiobook editions include her narration with professional actors, sound effects, and original music. A new manuscript, *Raw Image*, is the first in a new series, the Behind the Lens Mysteries, about a freelance news reporter and videographer who covers major crimes and traumatic accidents. Fagen is a former radio, commercial, cable television and print journalist, and published a community newspaper in Arizona. A “writer by habit,” she has also penned musical stage productions, corporate videos, documentaries, magazines and murder mystery plays.

www.ReadLaurieFagen.com

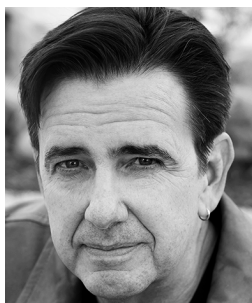
Wendy Fallon



Wendy Fallon is a professional writer and artist. Having spent 20 years living in Phoenix, AZ, as a technical writer, she now resides in Florida with her husband, writing creatively full time. Fallon is the author of two paranormal murder mystery series: Cali May Mysteries and Lisi Pendleton Mysteries. California (Cali) May is a 50-something recent widow, new retiree, and Southwest artist who discovers she can see the spirits of murder victims. Melissa (Lisi) Pendleton is a 30-year-old, newly-graduated architect called upon to restore the decaying family mansion in the Hudson River Valley. Realizing she can communicate with old houses, she fears her new-found paranormal gift is just her imagination.

www.WendyFallon.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 selected for the best-in-show Geisel Award at the 2021 San Diego Book Awards.

sunburnedfedora.com

Yves Fey



Yves Fey is a Libra with Scorpio rising — a blend of darkness and light she brings to her prize-winning novels. Her Paris mysteries are set in the dynamic, decadent world of Fin de Siècle Paris. She has degrees in both painting and creative writing, and is a chocolate connoisseur. Her current fascination is creating perfumes inspired by her characters. She’s traveled to many countries in Europe and spent two years in Indonesia. She lives in the beautiful San Francisco Bay area with her husband and two cats, the Flying Bronte Sisters.

yvesfey.com

Janet Finsilver



USA TODAY best-selling author Janet Finsilver loves animals and has a Rhodesian ridgeback and a boxer/coonhound. Dogs with special abilities romp 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 Fortuneteller’s Table*, *Murder at the Mushroom Festival*, *Murder at the Marina*, and *Murder in the Wine Country*.

janetfinsilver.com

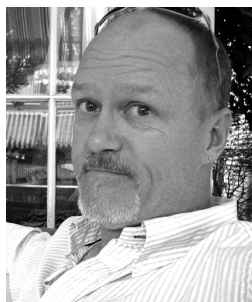
Sarah Fisk



Sarah N. Fisk (they/them) is a former mechanical engineer who made the switch to publishing in 2011. Sarah is a literary agent at the Tobias Literary Agency, representing all genres in Middle Grade and Young Adult, as well as adult science-fiction, fantasy, and romance. They have worked in the publishing industry as an editorial assistant, author’s assistant, publicist, and art director. Sarah is a former Pitch Wars mentor, board member, and Agent Liaison. They host the podcast *Queries, Qualms, & Quirks*, and are one of the founding members of Disability in Publishing.

www.sarahnfisk.com & T @sarah_nicolas

Bill Fitzhugh



Bill Fitzhugh is the award-winning author of eleven satiric crime novels, including *Pest Control* which was adapted into a stage musical in Los Angeles and as a radio drama in Germany. The New York Times put him in a league with Carl Hiaasen and Elmore Leonard, calling him “a strange and deadly amalgam of screenwriter and comic novelist.” His latest, *A Perfect Harvest*, is the last book of the Transplant Tetralogy, following *The Organ Grinders*, *Heart Seizure*, and *Human Resources*. *A Perfect Harvest* is in development as a stage play at The Group Rep theatre in Los Angeles.

www.billfitzhugh.com

Gwen Florio



Recovering journalist Gwen Florio turned to fiction in 2013 with *Montana*, which won the Pinckley Prize and a High Plains Book Award for debut novel, and was a finalist for an International Thriller Award and Shamus Award. Four more books in her Lola Wicks series — termed “gutsy” by the New York Times — followed. She now writes the Nora Best series for Severn House and a series featuring public defender Julia Geary for Crooked Lane. A 2018 standalone, *Silent Hearts*, was set in Afghanistan. Florio lives in Missoula, Montana, with her partner Scott and a very good (mostly) boy named Arlo.

gwenflorio.net

Sabrina Flynn



Sabrina Flynn is the author of the Ravenwood Mysteries set in Victorian San Francisco. When she’s not exploring the seedy alleyways of the Barbary Coast, she dabbles in fantasy and steampunk, and has a habit of throwing herself into wild oceans and gator-infested lakes. She lives in perpetual fog and sunshine with a rock troll and two crazy imps. She spent her youth trailing after insanity, jumping off bridges, climbing towers, and riding down waterfalls in barrels. After spending fifteen years wrestling giant hounds and battling pint-sized tigers, she now travels everywhere via watery portals leading to anywhere.

www.sabrinaflynn.com

Mariah Fredericks



Mariah Fredericks was born, raised, and still lives in New York City. 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 next book, *The Lindbergh Nanny*, will be out in November 2022.

mariahfredericksbooks.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

Kelly Garrett AKA Emmeline Duncan



Emmeline Duncan is the Portland, Oregon-based author of the Ground Rules Mystery series, which includes 2021’s *Fresh Brewed Murder*, and *Double Shot Death*, which comes out from Kensington in April 2022. 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.

mmelineduncan.com & social media @writeremmelineduncan.

Kellye Garrett



Kellye Garrett is the author of the upcoming suspense novel *Like a Sister* (Mulholland Books) about a black woman in New York City looking into the mysterious overdose of her estranged reality star sister. She also wrote the Detective by Day lightweight mysteries, which have won the Anthony, Agatha, Lefty, and IPPY awards and been featured on the TODAY show as a Best Summer Read.

KellyeGarrett.com

[Editor's note: There's a lot more to discover about Kellye, this year's LCC Toastmaster, as you'll see in the tell-all essay herein by Elizabeth Little.]

Alicia Gaspar de Alba



A native of the El Paso/Juárez border, Alicia Gaspar de Alba is a Chicana writer/scholar/activist who uses prose, poetry, and theory for social change. By day, she's a professor of Chicana/o and Central American Studies, Gender Studies, and English at UCLA, where she's taught since 1994. By night, she's a novelist and short story writer. She's been juggling a literary and academic careers for 40 years. Alicia has published 12 books — award winning historical novels, academic texts, poetry, and short story collections. *Desert Blood: The Juárez Murders*, Alicia's first amateur sleuth mystery about the epidemic of murdered young Mexican women and girls on the El Paso/Juárez border, won the Lambda Award for Best Lesbian Mystery in 2005.

aliciagaspardealba.net

Lee Goldberg



Lee Goldberg is a two-time Edgar and two-time Shamus Award nominee, and the #1 New York Times bestselling author of over 30 novels, including *True Fiction*, *Lost Hills*, 15 Monk mysteries, five Fox & O'Hare adventures (co-written with Janet Evanovich), and the new thriller *Movieland* (June 2022). He's written and/or produced many TV shows, including *Diagnosis Murder*, *SeaQuest*, *Monk*, *The Glades*, and co-created the hit Hallmark series *Mystery 101*. He's also the co-founder of Brash Books, which has published over 100 crime novels and thrillers.

www.leegoldberg.com

Lee Matthew Goldberg



Lee Matthew Goldberg is the author of nine novels including *The Ancestor* and *The Mentor*, and the YA series *Runaway Train*. 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. *Vanish Me* was out in February. After graduating with an MFA from the New School, his writing has also appeared as a contributor in Pipeline Artists, LitHub, The Los Angeles Review of Books, The Big Idea, Monkeybicycle, Fiction Writers Review, Cagibi, Necessary Fiction, Hypertext, the anthology *Dirty Boulevard*, Montreal Review, Adirondack Review, New Plains Review, Maudlin House, Underwood Press, and others. He is the co-curator of The Guerrilla Lit Reading Series and lives in New York City.

LeeMatthewGoldberg.com

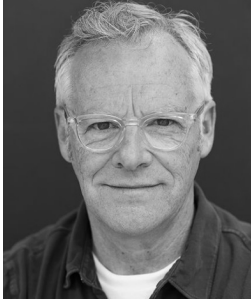
Joan Golden



Joan Golden and her sister Cynthia Drew write as Drew Golden, authoring the Wynn Cabot mystery series for Level Best Books; the third in the series, *Through and Through*, and the prequel, *Day of the Dead*, both will release in 2022. Joan has also written award-winning screenplays, stage plays, and an early reader for children. She is a member of Croak and Dagger, the New Mexico chapter of Sisters in Crime. Joan is thrilled to be on the thriller panel!

joangolden.com

Matt Goldman



Matt Goldman is a New York Times Best Selling Author and Emmy-award winning television writer. He wrote on *Seinfeld*, *The New Adventures of Old Christine*, *Dirk Gently's Holistic Detective Agency*, among other shows. Matt's first novel, *Gone to Dust*, was published by Forge (MacMillan) in the summer of 2017. It was followed by *Broken Ice* in 2018, *The Shallows* in 2019, and *Dead West* in 2020. His first stand alone, *Carolina Moonset*, will be published in May of 2022. Matt lives in Minneapolis with wife, pets, and whatever kids happen to be around.

mattgoldman.com

Scott Graham



Scott Graham is the National Outdoor Book Award-winning author of the National Park Mystery Series, featuring archaeologist Chuck Bender and his wife, paramedic Janelle Ortega. The seven-books-and-counting series is published by Torrey House Press, and includes *Canyonlands Carnage*, released last year, and *Mesa Verde Victim*, released in 2020. Scott is an avid outdoorsman who enjoys backpacking, river rafting, skiing, and mountaineering. He lives with his wife, an emergency physician, in Durango, CO. He has worked as a newspaper reporter, magazine editor, radio disk jockey, city councilor, and coal-shoveling fireman on the steam-powered Durango-Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad.

scottfranklingraham.com

Juliet Grames



Juliet Grames is SVP, Associate Publisher at Soho Press, where she has curated the award-winning Soho Crime imprint since 2010. She is the recipient of the 2022 Ellery Queen Award from Mystery Writers of America for her editorial work. She is also the author of one novel, *The Seven or Eight Deaths of Stella Fortuna* (Ecco/HarperCollins), which is not a mystery, but she hopes everyone forgives her and solemnly promises her second novel, *The Lost Boy of Santa Chionia*, forthcoming from Knopf, is jam-packed with murder.

Sohopress.com

Janet Greger



J.L. Greger writes about what she was — a biologist from the University of Wisconsin-Madison who consulted internationally. The pet therapy dog Bug in her Science Traveler Series is exactly like her own stoical Japanese Chin. Tidbits of real science, such as the biotechnology to make cultured meat in *Games for Couples* and weight control in *Murder... A Way To Lose Weight*, add realism to her ten mysteries/thrillers. Her experiences in the Middle East, Cuba, and India are mysteriously (but not in the ways you expect) amplified in *I Saw You in Beirut*, *Malignancy*, and *Dirty Holy Water*, respectively.

www.jlgreger.com

K.P. Gresham



K.P. Gresham refers to herself as a “professional character assassin” because telling folks she “kills people for a living” just gives the wrong impression. She writes mysteries because that’s her favorite genre to read. Mixing murders and intrigue with familiar characters, humor, and some small-town Texas charm, K.P just released *Four Reasons To Die*, the fourth book in the Pastor Matt Hayden Mystery Series. K.P and her husband live in Austin, Texas, with their narcissistic chihuahua who provides good recipes on her website.

www.kpgrasham.com

Leslie J. Hall



Leslie J. Hall is the author of the Kaitlyn Willis Road Signs Mystery Series. She is a recognized writing instructor around the Pacific Northwest. When not writing mysteries and women's fiction, she teaches fiction writing for beginners, and co-leads Write Night, a weekly writer's critique group. Leslie is a member of Romance Writers of America, Women's Fiction Writing Association, Sisters in Crime, and is on the Northwest board of Mystery Writers of America. Leslie loves words, books, writing, and sharing that passion with others. Find out more about her writing and her classes at her website.

www.lesliejhall.com

Sue Hallgarth



Sue Hallgarth is a novelist and Willa Cather and Edith Lewis scholar. A former faculty member and administrator at Empire State College SUNY and William Woods University, she held a fellowship to work on a biography of Willa Cather, and was a visiting fellow at Princeton University and Rutgers. Since moving to New Mexico in 1997, she lives on an acre in Corrales with her partner of 34 years, one horse, two burros, nine chickens, and four dogs. Sue's Willa Cather and Edith Lewis Mystery series include *On the Rocks* (2013), set on an island where Willa and Edith spent 20 summers, and *Death Comes* (2017), set in Taos where they stayed with Mabel Dodge Luhan in 1926.

suehallgarth.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. Track him down at...

glenerikhamilton.com

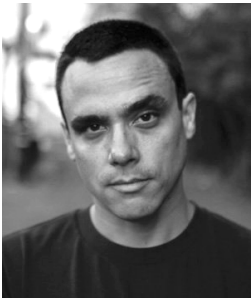
James D.F. Hannah



James D.F. Hannah is the Shamus Award-winning author of the Henry Malone series; his most recent novel, *Behind the Wall of Sleep*, won the 2020 Shamus Award for Best Paperback Original. His short fiction has appeared in *Rock and a Hard Place*, *Crossed Genres*, *Shotgun Honey*, *The Anthology of Appalachian Writers*, *Trouble No More*, *Only the Good Die Young: Crime Fiction Inspired by the Songs of Billy Joel*, *Under the Thumb: Stories of Police Oppression*, and the upcoming *Playing Games*, edited by Lawrence Block.

www.jamesdfhannah.com

Jordan Harper



Jordan Harper is the Edgar-award winning author of *She Rides Shotgun* and *Love and Other Wounds*, as well as a writer and producer for shows such as *Hightown*, *Gotham*, and *The Mentalist*. He writes about writing and storytelling in his free newsletter *Welcome to the Hammer Party*. Born in the Ozarks, he now lives in Los Angeles.

jordanharper.substack.com

Shaun Harris



Shaun Harris grew up in New England and attended the University of Notre Dame where he earned dual degrees in American Studies and Film and Television. His work includes the novel *The Hemingway Thief* and the ongoing comic series *Las Vegas Repo* from IDW Publishing. His stories have appeared in anthologies including *Star Wars Adventures* and the upcoming *Diablo House* by Clover Press. He lives in an undisclosed location in Wisconsin with his wife and children, where he occasionally teaches high school English.

www.shaunharrisauthor.com

Madeleine Harris-Callway



Madeleine studied science, not English. She had a long career in business and IT, met Queen Elizabeth, toured working mines, and helped solve a real-life murder case — though not all at the same time! Eventually she returned to her childhood love of writing. Her novel, *Windigo Fire*, was a finalist for the 2015 Arthur Ellis Best First Novel Award. Her short stories and novellas have won or been short-listed for several awards, including the Arthur Ellis, Bony Pete, and Derringer. In 2013, she co-founded the crime fiction collective, the Mesdames of Mayhem, now a national organization of 25 leading Canadian crime writers and artists, both Mesdames et Messieurs. The Mesdames have published four critically acclaimed anthologies; the fifth, *In the Spirit of 13*, comes out this fall.

mhcallway.com

Rob Hart



Rob Hart is the author of *The Paradox Hotel*. He also wrote *The Warehouse*, which sold in more than 20 languages and was optioned for film by Ron Howard, as well the short story collection *Take-out*, the Ash McKenna series, and *Scott Free* with James Patterson.

www.robwhart.com

Libby Fischer Hellmann



Libby Fischer Hellmann left broadcast news in Washington, DC and moved to Chicago a long time ago, where she, naturally, began to write gritty crime fiction. Historical fiction, too. Seventeen novels and 25 short stories later, she claims they'll take her out of the Windy City feet first. She has been nominated for many awards in the mystery and crime writing community and has even won a few. She has been a finalist twice for the Anthony and four times for Foreword Magazine's Book of the Year, twice winning. She has been nominated for the Agatha, Shamus, and Daphne. Her recent Vietnam novel, *A Bend in the River*, won the Chicago Writers Association Book of the Year in 2021. Her most recent novel is *Doubleblind*, the 6th Georgia Davis PI Thriller.

libbyhellmann.com

Julia Henry AKA Julie Hennrikus



As Julia Henry, Julie Hennrikus writes the Garden Squad series for Kensington. The fifth book in the series, *The Plot Thickets*, will be released in October. As Julianne Holmes she wrote the Agatha nominated Clock Shop Mysteries for Berkley Prime Crime. As J.A. Hennrikus she writes the Theater Cop Mystery Series, and has published several short stories. Julie is the executive director of Sisters in Crime. She blogs with the Wicked Authors (WickedAuthors.com) and is on social media @JHAuthors.

www.jhauthors.com

Greg Herren



Greg Herren is the award-winning author of over thirty novels and fifty published short stories and is he ever tired! (He also has lost MANY more awards than he's won.) His most recent books were published in October 2021 (*Bury Me in Shadows*) and January 2022 (*#shedeservedit*). He is best known for his Scotty Bradley series, featuring a former male stripper turned private eye who lives in the French Quarter and is in a throuple (Greg is not).

Mick Herron



Mick Herron, a British novelist, is the author of the Slough House thrillers, the first of which, *Slow Horses*, was once described as “not a movie title.” Undeterred, he has recently completed the eighth in the series, *Bad Actors*. A firm believer in the notion that the worse things get, the more there is to write about, he's had a busy few years. He lives in Oxford and writes full time. [You can read more about Mick Herron in the exposé printed in this LCC 2022 Program Book.]

www.mickherron.com/

Anne Hillerman



Anne Hillerman came to New Mexico as a child with her mother, Marie, and her father, Tony Hillerman. She grew up in Santa Fe and Albuquerque, the eldest of six children. Anne received a journalism degree from the University of New Mexico, and worked as a newspaper reporter, editor, columnist, and restaurant critic. She helped organize the acclaimed Tony Hillerman Writers Conference, featuring her father as a presenter, and highlighted the work of authors from the Southwest. In 2013, she published her first mystery, *Spider Woman's Daughter*, continuing the characters created by her father. Her 7th mystery (26th in the series), *The Sacred Bridge*, is set for release in 2022. She is an enthusiastic supporter of literacy programs and public libraries, and enjoys hiking, gardening, reading, and visiting the Navajo Nation.

annehillerman.com

Naomi Hirahara



Naomi Hirahara is the Edgar Award–winning author of traditional mystery series and noir short stories. Her first historical mystery, *Clark and Division*, follows the release of a Japanese American family from a World War II detention center to Chicago. It has been nominated for a Mary Higgins Clark Award, Barry Award, and Lefty Award's Bill Gottfried Memorial Award for Best Historical Mystery. Her second Leilani Santiago mystery, *An Eternal Lei*, was released on March 22, 2022. She makes her home in her birthplace, Pasadena, California, with her husband, Wes, and their new rat terrier chihuahua mix, Mookie.

www.naomihirahara.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 the Sisters in Crime writer organizations, and hails from south-central Minnesota, where she lives on a small hobby farm with her husband and a menagerie of pets.

julieholmesauthor.com

— Lorena Hughes —



Lorena Hughes is the award-winning author of *The Spanish Daughter* and *The Sisters of Alameda Street*. Born and raised in Ecuador, she moved to the US at eighteen to study fine arts and mass communication and journalism. Publishers Weekly has called her work “as addictive as chocolate” and The Washington Post deems it “imaginative historical drama filled with sibling rivalry and betrayals.” *The Spanish Daughter* is an Amazon Editors’ Pick and a Publishers Marketplace Buzz Books Selection. Named one of 9 Rising Latina Authors You Don’t Want to Miss by HipLATINA, Lorena is also the coordinator of the UNM Writers Conference.

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— Katherine Bolger Hyde —



Katherine Bolger Hyde is the author of the Crime with the Classics traditional mystery series, the most recent of which is *Fatality with Forster* (Severn House, 2021). An editor with a small religious press by day, she spends her free time knitting while watching British mysteries. Katherine lives in the mountains near Santa Cruz, CA, where she has two towering redwoods growing in her tiny yard. She shares her home with her husband, youngest son, and two cats, who ensure that she never gets bored.

kbhyde.com

— Curtis Ippolito —



Curtis Ippolito is the author of *Burying the Newspaper Man*, his debut novel. When he’s not writing about murder, theft, and crime of all kind, he’s actually a pretty boring dude. Unless you’re stoked on hiking, gardening, and going to the beach, too.

curtisippolito.com & Tw @curtis9980

— Claire M. Johnson —



Claire M. Johnson worked as a pastry chef in San Francisco Bay Area for a number of years. Ms. Johnson’s first novel, *Beat Until Stiff*, was set in the restaurant world and was nominated for the 2003 Agatha Award for Best First Novel and was a Booksense pick. Her second book in this series, *Roux Morgue*, received a starred review from Publishers Weekly. She has written two Jane Austen pastiches and has recently finished a historical crime fiction novel set in San Francisco in 1930. She is currently President of the MWA Northern California Chapter.

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— Wayne Johnson —



Wayne Johnson is the multiple Pulitzer Prize–nominated author of the acclaimed Paul Two Persons mysteries, *The Devil You Know*, and many other works of fiction and nonfiction. Of mixed Native and European descent, he grew up in southern Minneapolis, and in the north lakes region of Minnesota on the White Earth and Red Lake Reservations. He currently resides in Salt Lake City.

waynejohnsonauthor.com

Leslie Karst



The daughter of a law professor and a potter, Leslie Karst waited tables and sang in a new wave rock band before deciding she was ready for a “real” job and ending up at Stanford Law School. It was during her career as a research and appellate attorney in Santa Cruz, California, that she rediscovered her youthful passion for food and cooking, and once more returned to school — this time to earn a degree in culinary arts. Leslie now pens the Lefty Award–nominated Sally Solari Mysteries, a snarky culinary series set in Santa Cruz.

LeslieKarstAuthor.com & ChicksOnTheCase.com

Kim Keeline



Kim Keeline, when she isn't running a 1907 Steam Locomotive or lecturing on Shakespeare, is active in the mystery community. She is a former co-chair for Left Coast Crime 2020 and former president of San Diego Sisters in Crime. She is currently chair of Bouchercon 2023. Her first published story “The Crossing” (SinC anthology *Crossing Borders*, 2020) was a Derringer finalist. Since then she has published more short stories and continues revising her novel before sending it out to find an agent. She freelances for authors in marketing, editing, web designing, and more.

www.kimkeeline.com

Mary Keliikoa



Mary Keliikoa is the author of the multi–award nominated PI Kelly Pruett mystery series, and *Hidden Pieces*, Book 1 in the upcoming Misty Pines mystery series releasing September 2022. Her short stories have appeared in *Woman's World* and in the anthology *Peace, Love and Crime: Crime Fiction Inspired by Music of the '60s*. A Pacific NW native, she spent many years working around lawyers. 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.

marykeliikoa.com

Karen Keskinen



Karen Keskinen was born in Salinas, CA, and grew up around the block from John Steinbeck's childhood home. She spent many hours exploring the Marina Dunes on Monterey Bay, adjacent to her father's strawberry farm. She has also lived in Wellington, New Zealand, and in the Northern San Joaquin Valley, and now resides in Santa Barbara. She devoured books and would bike downtown to the Steinbeck Library, wander into an aisle, shut her eyes and raise a finger as she spun in a circle. The book she was pointing to when she opened her eyes was the one she read next. A keen curiosity about people and their intertwined lives remains a driving force in her work. She is the author of *Blood Orange*, *Black Current*, and *Dragon Fruit*, in the Santa Barbara-based Jaymie Zarin mystery series.

www.karenkeskinen.com

Robert Kidera



Robert Kidera's debut novel *Red Gold* earned the Tony Hillerman Award as Best Fiction of 2015 at the New Mexico/Arizona Book Awards. Subsequent novels in the Gabe McKenna series won NM/AZ Book Awards: *Get Lost* (Best Mystery 2016) and *Cut.Print.Kill.* (Best Action/Adventure 2018). *Midnight Blues*, the 4th Gabe McKenna, won a national gold medal from the Military Writers of America in 2019. In 2021, Mr. Kidera formed Black Range Publishing and released *A Long Time To Die*, the 5th Gabe McKenna. His first novella, *Chandler Is Dead*, will be available in July of 2022. His podcast, “The Black Range Pub,” celebrates the people, culture, and history of America's Southwest.

www.robertkiderabooks.com

Alistair Kimble



FBI Special Agent Alistair Kimble has almost 20 years of experience investigating Violent Crimes Against Children, Public Corruption, and Espionage. He is a team leader for the Evidence Response Team (the FBI's CSI), where he oversees the recovery of evidence for high-profile crime scenes. He served in the U.S. Navy, where he dangled from helicopters while rescuing pilots and civilians. *Iron Angels*, a detective novel with urban fantasy underpinnings, was chosen by Publishers Weekly as one of its top 10 science fiction, fantasy & horror picks. Alistair's most recent short story can be found in the *Noir Fatale* anthology.

thedashingchap.com

Dana King



Dana King writes the Penns River series of police procedurals, of which the seventh, *White Out*, will drop in July from Down & Out Books. He also writes the Nick Forte private investigator novels, two of which earned Shamus Award nominations from the Private Eye Writers of America. His work has appeared in outlets such as Thuglit and Mystery Tribune and numerous anthologies, most recently *The Eviction of Hope*. You can get to know him better on his website.

danakingauthor.com & danaking.blogspot.com

Laurie R. King



Laurie R. King, a bestselling author of 30 novels and other works, has won the Agatha, Anthony, Edgar, Lambda, Wolfe, Macavity, Creasey Dagger, and Romantic Times Career Achievement awards, has an honorary doctorate in theology, is a Baker Street Irregular, AND she's been named the 2022 Grand Master of Mystery Writers of America. She must know what she's doing, right? Her fiction includes the Mary Russell-Sherlock Holmes stories, from *The Beekeeper's Apprentice* to *Castle Shade*, anthologies such as *In League with Sherlock Holmes* (co-edited with Leslie S. Klinger), and MWA's *How To Write a Mystery* (co-edited with Lee Child.) If you can bear listening to her pontificate, check links to all her social media at her web site.

LaurieRKing.com

Gay Toltl Kinman



Gay Toltl Kinman has nine award nominations for her writing; several short stories in American and English magazines, and 15 anthologies, including Michael Connelly's *Murder in Vegas*; three children's books; a YA gothic novel; eight adult mysteries; and eight collections of short stories. Several of her short plays were produced — now in a collection of 20 plays, *The Play's the Thing*. Also many articles in professional journals, newspapers, and books, including MWA's *How To Write a Mystery*; and has co-edited two non-fiction books. Kinman has library and law degrees.

gaykinman.com

Ellen Kirschman



As a working police psychologist, writing the Dot Meyerhoff mysteries has been therapeutic. I have a lot of fun taking pot shots at nasty cops, incompetent colleagues, and my two ex-husbands. Dot — named after my mother and maternal grandmother — is a police psychologist working for a department that isn't sure it wants her there. Too dedicated for her own good, she takes orders from no one, including her chief, and solves crimes when she should be counseling cops. Drop by my website, sign up for my newsletter, and follow my blog on Psychology Today.

www.ellenkirschman.com

William Kent Krueger



William Kent Krueger (he goes by Kent) writes the New York Times bestselling Cork O'Connor mystery series, set in the great Northwoods of Minnesota. He is a four-time Anthony Award winner, and his 2013 stand-alone novel *Ordinary Grace* received the Edgar Award for Best Novel. *This Tender Land*, the companion novel, was published in 2019 and spent six months among the top ten on the New York Times bestseller list. He does all his writing in wonderfully funky coffee shops in Saint Paul.

www.williamkentkrueger.com

Cynthia Kuhn



Cynthia Kuhn is an English professor and author of the Lila Maclean Academic Mysteries and Starlit Bookshop Mysteries. Her books have been Agatha Award and William F. Deeck-Malice Domestic Grant winners and were shortlisted for the Daphne du Maurier Award and Lefty Awards. She is past president of Sisters in Crime-Colorado and currently serves on the national board. Originally from upstate New York, she lives in Denver with her family.

cynthiakuhn.net

Michael Kurland



Author of over 40 published books, Michael Kurland is a two-time Edgar nominee and an American Book Award finalist. He lives on California's central coast with his partner, novelist L.F. Robertson, a dog, an owl, two raccoons, and many fruit trees. When not writing he has taken occasional forays into publishing, teaching English, directing plays, and working as a private detective. His books have been translated into Chinese, Czech, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Polish, Portuguese, Spanish, Swedish, Thai, and some alphabet with little pothooks and curlicues that he doesn't recognize. His latest novel, *Whatever the Cost*, is a sequel to the espionage thriller *The Bells of Hell*.

michaelkurland.com

Mike Lawson



Mike Lawson is the author of nineteen published novels. He has been nominated once for the Edgar Award, six times for the Barry Award, and has won the Friends of Mystery Award three times. The fifteen books in his Joe DeMarco political thriller series revolve around a character who is a fixer for a corrupt politician. The first of the three books in his Kay Hamilton series, *Rosarito Beach*, was optioned for television. His stand-alone novel, *Redemption*, was released in April 2022. Before becoming a writer, Mike was an engineer and senior manager employed by the Navy for work related to naval nuclear reactors. He and his wife live in the Pacific Northwest.

www.mikelawsonbooks.com

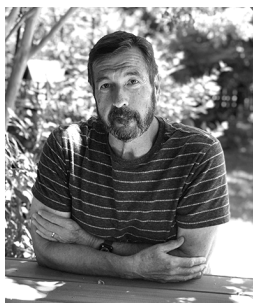
Rena Leith



Writing a funny bio is hard. My ghost is a lot funnier than I am. Let's see. I love mysteries, obviously. Like many, I started with the Mildred Wirts' Nancy Drew books. Love the new Nancy Drew TV series with its paranormal bent. I love cats as well as ghosts and chocolate. Thor, the cat in my books, is based on my cat Klaus, who is now a ghost. My resident ghost is based on my mother. 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

James L'Etoile



James L'Etoile uses his twenty-nine years behind bars as an influence in his novels, short stories, and screenplays. He is a former associate warden in a maximum-security prison, a hostage negotiator, facility captain, and director of California's state parole system. He is a nationally recognized expert witness on prison and jail operations. He has been nominated for the Silver Falchion for Best Procedural Mystery, and The Bill Crider Award for short fiction. His published novels include: *At What Cost*, *Bury the Past*, *Little River – The Other Side of Paradise*, and *Black Label*. Look for *Dead Drop* in the summer of 2022 from Level Best Books.

www.jamesletoile.com

Claudia Hagadus Long



Writing fiction is like writing legal briefs, only for a willing audience: some facts, some twists, some invention. Claudia spends her non-legal fiction-writing time doing deep historical research, mining family histories, drinking coffee, and embroidering truth with meaning. Her writing spans eras and worlds, from 1690 Colonial Mexico, to Roaring 20s San Francisco, to modern-day New York City, World War 2 Germany and beyond. She's a lawyer, a mother, a grandmother, a weaver, and a cook. She has far too much energy. Her most recent book, *Nine Tenths of the Law* has been optioned for a full-length feature film, and the sequel, *Our Lying Kin*, comes out in November 2022 from Kasva Press.

www.claudiahlong.com

Robert Lopresti



Robert Lopresti is a retired librarian who lives in the Pacific Northwest. His most recent novel is *Greenfellas*, a comic caper about the Mafia trying to save the environment. His 80+ short stories have appeared in most of the mystery magazines and been reprinted in *Best American Mystery Stories* and *Year's Best Dark Fantasy and Horror*. He has won the Derringer Award (three times) as well as the Black Orchid Novella Award, and been nominated for the Anthony. He is the current president of the Short Mystery Fiction Society and blogs at *SleuthSayers* and at *Little Big Crimes*.

rob@roblogresti.com

Rosemary Lord



British born Rosemary Lord has lived in Hollywood most of her adult life. She worked as an actress in England, Europe, and America. As a journalist writing about Hollywood's Golden Era for British and American magazines, she interviewed such celebrities as Cary Grant, Deborah Kerr, James Stewart, Glenn Ford, and John Huston, and was a Senior Publicist with Columbia Studios. Rosemary is the author of *Hollywood Then and Now* and *Los Angeles Then and Now*, and the upcoming prohibition-era novel series, the Lottie Topaz Hollywood Mysteries. She is President & Historian of the Woman's Club of Hollywood, and a Member of MWA, SinC-LA, Author's Guild, founding BAFTA-LA member, and is part of the Blog *thewritersinresidence.com*.

Rosemarylord.com

Jess Lourey



Jess Lourey writes about secrets. She's the Amazon Charts bestselling Edgar, Agatha, and Lefty-nominated, Anthony-winning author of crime fiction, nonfiction, children's books, YA, and magical realism. Check out her TEDx Talk for the surprising inspiration behind her first book.

www.jessicalourey.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 her award-winning blog where the “day in the life” segment is prominently featured. She is an avid reader who loves traveling, sci-fi movies, and is happy to be in “her element” within the mystery community. Dru Ann is a 2017 MWA Raven Award winner and was nominated for an Anthony Award (2015 and 2018). Dru Ann will be Fan Guest of Honor at Malice Domestic (2022), Left Coast Crime (2023), and Bouchercon (2023).

drusbookmusing.com

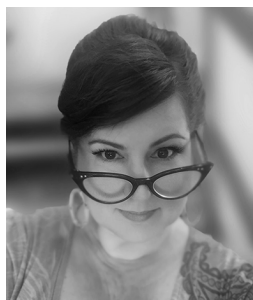
Margaret Lucke



Margaret Lucke flings words around as a writer, editor, and teacher of fiction writing classes. She writes tales of love, ghosts, and, murder, sometimes all three in one book. Her novels *Snow Angel* and *A Relative Stranger* (nominated for an Anthony Award) feature artist and private investigator Jess Randolph, who views both of her careers as ways of searching for the truth. She is also the author of two novels in the Claire Scanlan Haunted House series, *House of Whispers* and *House of Desire*, and is the editor of SinC NorCal’s anthology, *Fault Lines*. She has published two how-to books on writing and more than 60 short stories, feature articles, and scripts for mystery weekends.

www.margaretlucke.com

T.E. (Thena) MacArthur



T.E. MacArthur is an author, artist, and historian. She has written for several local and specialized publications, anthologies, and was an accidental sports reporter for Reuters News. Now, she has a Noir-punk mystery, bringing the alternate history–1930s detective to life with her tough-as-nails, Chandler-witty repartee, in *Lou Tanner, P.I.: A Place of Fog and Murder*. Her work in progress changes direction to the paranormal suspense, in *The Skin Thieves*.

www.volcanolady.com

Susan Elia Macneal



Susan Elia MacNeal is the New York Times bestselling author of the Maggie Hope mysteries. MacNeal won the Barry Award and has been nominated for the Edgar, Macavity, Agatha, Lefty, Dilys, and ITW Thriller awards. She lives in Brooklyn, New York, with her husband and son.

www.susaneliamacneal.com

Molly MacRae



The Boston Globe says Molly MacRae writes “murder with a dose of drollery.” She’s the author of the Highland Bookshop Mysteries. If you see her, ask if she did any experiments in addition to her research on arsenic for the most recent title in the series. Molly also writes the award-winning, national bestselling Haunted Yarn Shop Mysteries, and as Margaret Welch writes books for Annie’s Fiction. Her short stories have appeared in Alfred Hitchcock Mystery Magazine and she’s a winner of the Sherwood Anderson Award for Short Fiction.

mollymacrae.com

G.M. Malliet



G.M. Malliet's first DCI St. Just mystery won the Agatha Award for Best First Novel. Books in the series also were nominated for Anthony, Macavity, and Left Coast Crime awards. The series continued in 2021 with *St. Just in Cornwall*; *St. Just #5* will appear in 2022. She was nominated for a 2020 Macavity Award for best short story for EQMM's "Whiteout," which also placed 3rd in EQMM's Readers Choice Award. Her novella *Murder at Morehead Mews* was nominated in 2021 for a Derringer and shortlisted for EQMM's Readers Choice. She lives with her husband in Alexandria, VA.

GMMalliet.com

Mia P. Manansala



Mia P. Manansala (she/her) is a writer and certified book coach from Chicago who loves books, baking, and bad-ass women. She uses humor (and murder) to explore aspects of the Filipino diaspora, queerness, and her millennial love for pop culture. Her debut novel, *Arsenic and Adobo*, has been nominated for multiple awards, and the sequel, *Homicide and Halo-Halo*, is out now. A lover of all things geeky, Mia spends her days procrastinating, baking, playing dating sims, reading cozy mysteries and diverse romance, and cuddling her dogs Gumiho and Max Power. Find her on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @MPMtheWriter

www.miapmanansala.com

Ana Manwaring



Ana Manwaring is the author of the JadeAnne Stone Mexico Adventures: *Set Up*, *The Hydra Effect*, and *Nothing Comes After Z*. Book 4, *Coyote*, will release on November 15th. Ana edits with JAM Manuscript Consulting and is a veteran Sisters in Crime NorCal board member. When she's not writing suspense thrillers, she produces the North Bay Poetics, a monthly poetry event and teaches creative writing in Wine Country. Read about her experiences in Mexico and find reviews of favorite authors and more at her website.

www.anamanwaring.com

Jeff Markowitz



Jeff Markowitz is the author of five mysteries, including the award-winning dark comedy, *Death and White Diamonds*. In October 2021, a puzzle hunt based on Jeff's novella, *Motive for Murder*, raised more than \$1 million for at-risk children in NYC. Jeff spent more than forty years creating community-based programs and services for children and adults with autism, including twenty-five years as President and Executive Director of the Life Skills Resource Center, before retiring in 2018 to devote more time to writing. Jeff is a past President of the New York Chapter of Mystery Writers of America.

www.jeffmarkowitz.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, but 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 writes the Perveen Mistry series about Bombay's first woman lawyer. She is a two-time winner of the Lefty Award for Best Historical novel, and also the winner of the Agatha, Macavity, and Mary Higgins Clark awards. Her most recent Perveen Mistry novel is *The Bombay Prince*. During the pandemic, Sujata failed at sourdough and daily yoga; however, she mastered houseplants and managed to get *The Bombay Prince* published. These days, Sujata writes, talks about writing on Zoom, and plots a breakout journey back to India.

sujatamassey.com

Lisa Q. Mathews



Lisa Q. Mathews once locked Nancy Drew in a closet (true story!). She later became Executive Editor at Random House and authored *The Lizzie McGuire Mysteries* and other pseudonymous kids' books. Now she writes the quirky, adult double-sleuth series *The Ladies Smythe & Westin* (*Cardiac Arrest*, *Permanently Booked*, and *Fashionably Late*). A founding member of the multi-author blog *Chicks on the Case*, her debut short story "Fly Me to the Morgue" appears in the new *Malice Domestic* anthology, *Mystery Most Diabolical*. Lisa lives in New England, where she's a fan of stone walls, the Sox, and Dunks iced tea.

LisaQMathews.com & ChicksOnTheCase.com

Jeanne Matthews



Jeanne Matthews spent twenty years working for lawyers, during which time she thought a lot about murder and how to get away with it. Upon retirement, she decided that committing fictional murder promised the most fun with the least risk. She is the author of the Dinah Pelerin international series, including *Bones of Contention*, *Bet Your Bones*, *Bonereapers*, *Her Boyfriend's Bones*, and *Where the Bones Are Buried*. Her most recent novel, *Devil by the Tail*, is set in Chicago just after the Civil War. Originally from Georgia, Jeanne currently resides in Washington State.

www.jeanne Matthews.com

Amanda McCabe AKA Amanda Allen



Amanda McCabe wrote her first novel at the age of 16 — a vast historical epic starring all her friends, written secretly during algebra class (and her parents wondered why math was not her strongest subject.) She's never since used algebra, but her books have been nominated for many awards, including the RITA, Romantic Times BOOKReviews Reviewers' Choice, Booksellers Best, National Readers Choice, and Holt Medallion. She lives in Santa Fe with two rescue dogs, a wonderful husband, far too many books, and royal memorabilia collections. When not writing or reading, she loves taking dance classes, collecting cheesy travel souvenirs, and watching the Food Network — even though she doesn't cook.

ammandamccabe.com

Susan McDuffie



As a child Susan McDuffie spent vast amounts of time reading stories set in the past and 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 writes award winning mysteries set in medieval Scotland during the Lordship of the Isles, and recently completed a new mystery set in 1940s New Mexico. She regularly reviews books for the Historical Novel Society. Susan lives in Santa Fe and shares her life with a Native American artist and some cossetted cats.

www.SusanMcDuffie.net

Kathy McIntosh



Kathy McIntosh is excited by words, the environment, travel, and food — not necessarily in that order. So she writes about a chef and guide for an ecotouring company, vicariously indulging all her passions. Writing with a chef’s flair, she infuses her writing with mirth and Cholula. After 30 years in Idaho — eight of them five miles up a dirt road — Kathy traded snow shovels and potatoes for sunscreen and Tucson tamales. She and her husband enjoy exploring the country and the cuisine of the Sonoran desert, as do her amateur sleuths. Her first two novels were set in Idaho, the next two in Arizona. Her latest, *Murder, Cottonwood Style*, is set in scenic, cuisine-rich Cottonwood, Arizona.

www.KathyMcIntosh.com

John McMahon



The New York Times called John McMahon’s debut novel, *The Good Detective* “pretty much perfect” and listed it among their “Top Ten Crime Novels of 2019.” The book was a finalist for the 2020 Edgar Award for Best First Novel. His follow up, *The Evil Men Do*, was also a New York Times “Top Ten Crime Novel” for 2020. The third book in his series, *A Good Kill*, was an Amazon Editor’s Pick for Best Mystery. John lives in Southern California with two rescue animals. As a day job, he’s an advertising creative director and eats lots of chocolate chip cookies.

www.johnmcmahonbooks.com

Catriona McPherson



Catriona McPherson, the author of thirty novels, is getting on for a one-stop-shop in the crime-fiction genre, with historical mysteries, contemporary psychological thrillers, comic capers, and a concept album (AKA the one where nothing happens). There are some laughs in the darkest thrillers (*A Gingerbread House*), some splatter in the lightest comedies (*Scot Mist*), and a bit of psychology in the historicals (*The Mirror Dance*). She has never written about spies, though. (See Mick Herron instead.) Catriona is a member of MWA, CWA, the Society of Authors, and a lifetime member and former national president of Sisters in Crime.

[Editor’s Note: Catriona’s “tell all” essay is herein. Say no more.]

www.catrionamcpherson.com

Lynn C. Miller



Lynn C. Miller’s fourth novel, *The Unmasking*, came out from UNM Press in 2020. Her third novel, *The Day After Death*, was named a 2017 Lambda Literary Award finalist. Other novels are *The Fool’s Journey* and *Death of a Department Chair*. She likes to weave classic women writers she’s performed, like Gertrude Stein, Edith Wharton, Victoria Woodhull, and Virginia Woolf, into her work as she did in *The Unmasking*, where there is a performance event as part of the mystery. Miller taught performance studies and writing at the University of Texas at Austin before moving to Albuquerque. She co-hosts the podcast The Unruly Muse.

www.lynncmiller.com

Margaret Mizushima



Margaret Mizushima writes the award winning and internationally published Timber Creek K-9 Mysteries, which feature Deputy Mattie Cobb, her German shepherd partner Robo, and veterinarian Cole Walker. Together these intrepid heroes fight crime in the fictional mountain community of Timber Creek, Colorado. In real life, Margaret and her veterinarian husband live in northern Colorado on a small ranch where he established his vet clinic and they raised two daughters and a multitude of animals. Social media @margmizu

www.margaretmizushima.com

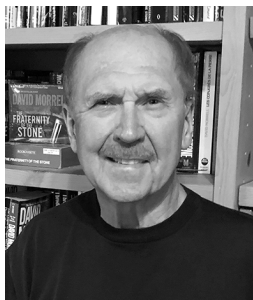
M.A. Monnin



M.A. Monnin's debut mystery novel *Death in the Aegean* comes out in May from Level Best Books. Like her heroine Stefanie Adams, Mary loves the excitement and adventure of foreign travel. If there's the chance to check out an archaeological site, so much the better for this avocational archaeologist. She lives in Kansas City, Missouri, with her husband Bob and Siberian huskies Anubis and Nikita. To hear the latest news about her author events, visit her website.

www.mamonnin.com

David Morrell



David Morrell wrote the novel *First Blood*, in which the character of Rambo originated. His many New York Times bestsellers include the classic espionage novel, *The Brotherhood of the Rose*, the basis for the only television mini-series to air after a Super Bowl. An Anthony, Edgar, Ellis, Left Coast Crime, and Thriller Award finalist, Morrell has Comic-Con, Macavity, Nero, and Stoker awards as well as ITW's Thriller Master award and a Bouchercon Lifetime Achievement award. His writing book, *The Successful Novelist*, discusses what he has learned in his many decades as an author.

davidmorrell.net

Wanda M. Morris



Wanda M. Morris is the acclaimed author of *All Her Little Secrets*, praised by Karin Slaughter as "brilliantly nuanced" and reviewed by The Boston Globe, LA Times, New York Times, Seattle Times, and South Florida Sun Sentinel among others. It was named as one of the Best Books of 2021 by Hudson Booksellers and selected as the #1 Top Pick for Library Reads by librarians across the country. It was selected as a Good Morning America Book Club Buzz Pick, serialized in Entertainment Weekly, and selected as a Marie Claire book club pick. Wanda is a member of Sisters in Crime, Mystery Writers of America, and Crime Writers of Color. She is married, the mother of three, and lives in Atlanta.

www.wandamorriswrites.com

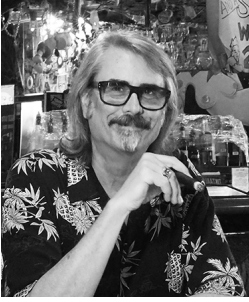
Margaret Callison Morse



Margaret C. Morse uses her twenty-five years as a public defender in her mystery series about a lawyer with magic powers: *Murder Casts Its Spell*, *Murder Lifts the Spirits*, and *Murder Hexes the Reunion*. Margaret enjoys life with her husband Duane and their rescue dogs. She loves to travel, cook spicy food, grow weird succulents, and watch birds with Duane — everything from soaring hawks to chicks squawking for food.

margaretmorseauthor.com

P Moss



P Moss is an author whose novels and short stories offer a twisted view of life away from the spotlight. He is a musician and songwriter whose band, Bloodcocks UK, the only American band never to play in America, has sold out seven wild tours of Japan. A film noir and pulp fiction enthusiast, he owns bars in Las Vegas and New York City, and is an avid supporter of Scunthorpe United F.C.

pMoss.com

Stacie Murphy



Stacie Murphy is the author of the Amelia Matthew Mysteries (*A Deadly Fortune* and *The Unquiet Dead*, both from Pegasus Crime). In early 2017, she realized she was going to have a stroke if she didn't get off Twitter in the evenings, so she decided to write a novel instead. Originally from White House, Tennessee, she now lives in Northern Virginia with her husband (met him on Craigslist, ask her to tell you the story) and daughter.

staciemurphy.com

Kris Neri



Having grown up hearing tales of Celtic legends, Kris Neri always hoped she'd either turn into a goddess or a leprechaun. When neither happened, she wrote the multi-award-honored Samantha Brennan and Annabelle Haggerty magical mysteries, featuring a Celtic goddess hidden within the FBI, a questionable psychic, and yes, even leprechauns. Her latest novel, *Hopscotch Life*, a crime-mainstream crossover and NM-AZ Book Award winner, stars the incredibly quirky Plum Tardy on an offbeat quest. Kris also writes the Tracy Eaton mysteries, featuring the daughter of eccentric Hollywood stars and even more wacky characters.

krisneri.com

Erica Ruth Neubauer



Erica Ruth Neubauer is the Agatha Award-winning author of the Jane Wunderly Mysteries. She spent eleven years in the military, nearly two as a Maryland police officer, and one as a high school English teacher, before becoming a writer. She was a reviewer of mysteries and crime fiction for publications such as Publishers Weekly and Mystery Scene Magazine for several years, and she's a member of Sisters in Crime and Mystery Writers of America. Erica Ruth lives in Milwaukee, WI.

www.ericaruthneubauer.com

Barbara Nickless



Barbara Nickless is the Wall Street Journal and Amazon Charts bestselling author of the award-winning Sydney Parnell novels featuring a former Marine and her K9 partner. About the series, Jeffery Deaver promises "you'll fall in love with one of the best characters in thriller fiction." Her new series introduces a sleuth whose gift for interpreting the words and symbols left behind by killers has led him to consult on some of Chicago's grisliest cases. Barbara lives at the foot of the Rocky Mountains where she loves to hike, cave, snowshoe, and drink single malt Scotch.

www.barbaranickless.com

Karen Odden



USA Today bestselling novelist Karen Odden earned her PhD at NYU, writing her dissertation on Victorian England — and she got stuck in the period. All her novels are set in 1870s London, with seedy Whitechapel, rowdy music halls, dangerous railway accidents, and the fetid Thames River. Her fourth mystery, *Down a Dark River*, features a former thief and bare-knuckles boxer named Michael Coravan, who becomes a Scotland Yard Inspector. NYT bestselling author Charles Todd called it “A must read.” An avid hiker, Karen lives in Arizona with her family and her rescue beagle, Rosy.

www.karenodden.com

Terry Odell



From childhood, Terry Odell wanted to “fix” stories so the characters would behave properly. Once she began writing, she found this wasn’t always possible, as evidenced when the mystery she intended to write turned into a romance, despite the fact that she’d never read one. After writing eight romantic suspense novels, she finally got around to writing a “normal” mystery and her Mapleton Mystery series began. She also writes the Blackthorne, Inc. series, the Pine Hills Police series, and the Triple-D Ranch series. Her writing awards include the HOLT Medallion, the Silver Falchion, the OKRWA International Digital Award, among others. You can find her high (that’s altitude—she lives at 9100 feet!) in the Colorado Rockies—or at her website: terryodell.com

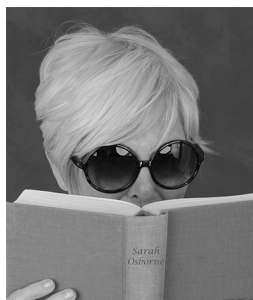
J. Michael Orenduff



Mike Orenduff set his Pot Thief humorous murder mysteries in New Mexico because he was told to “write what you know.” He spent much of his youth on the banks of the Rio Grande and in the Mountains of the Gila Wilderness where his family owned a cabin, and he has lived and taught in Albuquerque, Jemez Springs, Santa Fe, and Las Cruces . He earned a graduate degree at the University of New Mexico and later served as president of New Mexico State University. The many awards won by the nine Pot Thief books include a Lefty Award and four New Mexico Book of the Year Awards. The ARC of book 10 is in your LCC goodie bag.

openroadmedia.com/search/Orenduff

Sarah Osborne



Sarah Osborne is the pen name of a native Californian who lived in Atlanta for many years and now lives on Cape Cod. She is a physician and an author who writes cozy mysteries for the same reason she reads them — to find comfort in a sometimes difficult world. She has two series — the Ditie Brown Mysteries which take place in the South, and the Flo and Maude Christmas Cozies which feature women of a certain age who prevent murders. All her books may be found on Amazon.

Rob Osler



Rob Osler is the author of *Devil’s Chew Toy*, the first book in the Hayden & Friends quozzy mystery (a term Rob coined) series featuring a rainbow of kick-ass characters. Rob’s short story “Analogue,” published in Ellery Queen’s Mystery Magazine, won the 2022 Robert L. Fish Memorial Award for best short story by a debut American author as part of the MWA Annual Edgar Awards. Rob resides in southern California with his long-time partner and a tall, gray cat.

robosler.com/

Chantelle Aimée Osman



Chantelle Aimée Osman (she/her) is the editor of Agora Books, an imprint focusing on socially and culturally unique crime fiction and horror from Polis Books, a professor at the LIU Brooklyn MFA in Writing and Publishing, as well as host of the Words of Prey writing podcast through the Pipeline Artists Network. Chantelle is the author of the non-fiction series on writing *The Quick and Dirty Guides To...*, and has served as the editor of multiple anthologies, including *Jewish Noir, Volume 2* from PM Press, launching at LCC 2022. She was named a Publishers Weekly Rising Star honoree in 2020 and a LCC Fan Guest of Honor in 2016.

chantelleaimee.com & T @SuspenseSiren

Gigi Pandian



Gigi Pandian is a USA Today bestselling and award-winning mystery author, breast cancer survivor, and accidental almost-vegan. The child of cultural anthropologists from New Mexico and the southern tip of India, she spent her childhood being dragged around the world on their research trips and now lives outside San Francisco. She writes the Jaya Jones Treasure Hunt mysteries, Accidental Alchemist mysteries, and Secret Staircase mysteries, kicking off with *Under Lock & Skeleton Key*, out in March 2022. She's been awarded Agatha, Anthony, Lefty, and Derringer awards, is currently an Edgar finalist, and is a co-founder of Crime Writers of Color.

gigipandian.com

Ann Parker



California native Ann Parker is a science writer by day and fiction writer at night. Her award-winning Silver Rush historical mystery series is set in the 1880s U.S. West and features Colorado saloon-owner Inez Stannert. Of the newest in the series, *The Secret In The Wall*, Kirkus Reviews says, "The year 1882 launches Inez Stannert — sleuth, card shark, musician, saloon owner, and helper of ambitious women — on another adventure... a mystery based on true events and replete with rich period detail, that's a delight to read." *Secret* was released in February 2022 and is an Historical Novel Society Editors' Choice.

www.annparker.net

Priscilla Paton



Priscilla Paton grew up on a dairy farm in Maine and now lives near Minneapolis. She escaped from a career as a professor to write the Twin Cities Mystery Series featuring Detectives Erik Jansson and Deb Metzger. *Where Privacy Dies* and *Should Grace Fail* were finalists for Foreword Indies Awards; *When the House Burns* will be out next winter. Priscilla is active in advocacy programs for at-risk women and children. She's a member of Sisters in Crime, ITW, and Mystery Writers of America, Midwest Chapter.

priscillapaton.com

Janice Peacock



Janice Peacock's many years of working as a glass artist inspired her to write *High Strung*, the first of five novels in the Glass Bead Mystery Series. *Aloe and Goodbye*, Book One in the Ruby Shaw Mysteries, is Janice's newest book, which is about a woman and her daughter who enter witness protection and live in a quirky hillside town in Arizona. When Janice isn't writing cozy mysteries, she wields a 2,000-degree torch to melt glass and create one-of-kind beads and jewelry. Janice lives in the San Francisco Bay Area with her husband, two cats, and an enormous Great Pyrenees dog.

www.janicepeacock.com & @JanPeac

Amy S. Peele



Amy S. Peele enjoyed a 35 year career in transplantation and retired from UCSF in 2014. Her medical mystery series includes *Cut*, *Match*, and *Hold* (pub date 10/22). *Cut* and *Match* have received many awards. Her series reflects her knowledge of, and passion for, organ donation and transplant issues in a suspenseful, yet humorous story, set in the Bay Area. They have been referred to as a page turners, and mysteries with a mission and side of humor. Amy loves comedy and improv, and graduated from Chicago's famed Second City Players Workshop in 1985. In addition to killing people she didn't like at work in her mysteries and using their organs for transplant, she enjoys yoga and meditation.

amyspeelee.com

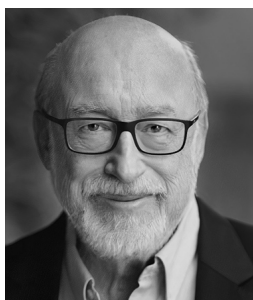
Jo Perry



Los Angeles lifer, late bloomer and Fahrenheit Press author Jo Perry wrote *Dead Is Better*, *Dead Is Best*, *Dead Is Good*, and *Dead Is Beautiful* ("...hardboiled, supernatural deftness" — Gary Philips; "Like 'The Wire' meets the 'Tibetan Book of the Dead,'" — Derek Farrell) a dark, comic series about a murdered man and a dead dog he meets in the afterlife. Her novella, *Everything Happens*, is dog-free Vegas noir ("writing sharp enough to slice bone"— Timothy Hallinan; "Killer," — Steven Cooper) and her latest novel, *Pure*, about a Jewish burial society volunteer who encounters a body she thinks may have been murdered ("...magnificent, haunting and beautiful..." — Dennis Palumbo).

www.authorjoperry.com

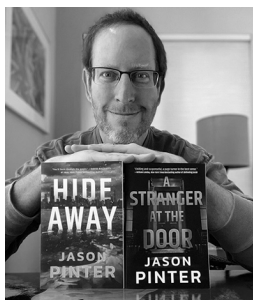
Thomas Perry



Thomas Perry is best known as the Edgar-winning author of The Butcher's Boy series and the Jane Whitefield series. He is now at work on his thirtieth novel.

www.thomasperryauthor.com

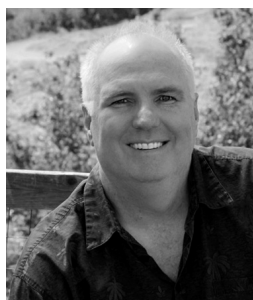
Jason Pinter



Jason Pinter is the Founder and Publisher of Polis Books and Agora, an imprint dedicated to diverse and underrepresented voices in crime fiction. Polis titles have been nominated for the Edgar, Anthony, Thriller, Bram Stoker, Anthony, Lefty, and more. His most recent books are *Hide Away* and *A Stranger at the Door*, which received starred reviews from Publishers Weekly, Library Journal, and Booklist. He has been nominated for numerous awards and was honored by Publishers Weekly's Star Watch, which "recognizes young publishing professionals who have distinguished themselves as future leaders of the industry."

www.PolisBooks.com & social media @JasonPinter

David Putnam



During his law enforcement career, David Putnam worked primarily in California on teams for Patrol, Investigations, SWAT, Narcotics, Violent Crimes, Criminal Intelligence, Internal Affairs, Detective Bureau and as child protective services coordinator. He rounded out his law enforcement career with a few years in the Hawaiian Islands as a Special Agent — part of a real-life "Hawaii-50" team. He's now retired from law enforcement and spends his time growing organic California avocados and writing, with his wife Mary and their dogs.

davidputnambooks.com

Gregory Randall



Gregory C. Randall, Michigan born and Chicago raised, has made the San Francisco Bay Area his home for almost fifty years. Greg is the author five very different thriller/mystery series. These include The Sharon O'Mara Chronicles, The Tony Alfano Mysteries, the Alex Polonia International Thrillers, the Max Adler OSS WWII thrillers, the Gypsy King Science Fiction adventures, and numerous standalones and young adult novels. This June he is publishing the historical mystery *White Rabbit*, and later in the summer, a modern western, *One Yellow Dog*. Mr. Randall and his wife have their own independent publishing company, Windsor Hill Publishing.

www.gregorycrandall.info & www.writing4death.blogspot.com

D.R. Ransdell



Originally from Springfield, Illinois, D.R. Ransdell much prefers the Southwest sun to Midwest winters. She writes from the heart of the mariachi world where men cry over lost love and women exact revenge. The protagonist for her murder mysteries is a violinist, but Andy Veracruz spends his time chasing lost musicians rather than rehearsing for his latest show. In *Brotherly Love*, he confronts a scary new challenge: teaching mariachi to high school students. Will the experience kill him, or will he murder his worst students?

www.dr-ransdell.com

Eileen Rendahl



Eileen Rendahl is a national-bestselling award-winning author and ghostwriter of mystery, thriller, urban fantasy, science fiction, and romance. She has also written as Kristi Abbott, Lillian Bell, and Eileen Carr. If you think you're confused, imagine what it's like inside her head. She has had many jobs and lived in many cities and feels unbelievably lucky to be where she is now and to be doing what she's doing.

www.EileenRendahl.com

Raquel V. Reyes



Raquel V. Reyes writes Latina characters. Her stories are sprinkled with Spanglish and prominently feature her Cuban-American heritage, Miami, and the Caribbean. The New York Times Book Review used "panache" when describing her debut *Mango, Mambo, and Murder*. Raquel's short stories appear in various anthologies, including *Mystery Most Theatrical*, *Midnight Hour*, and *Trouble No More*. She is #TeamCats and #TeamCoffee. Croquetas with a Jupiña chaser are her soul food. Find her across social media platforms as @LatinaSleuths.

www.LatinaSleuths.com

Linda L. Richards



Linda L. Richards is the award-winning author of fifteen books. The founder and publisher of January Magazine and a contributing editor to the crime fiction blog The Rap Sheet, she is best known for her strong female protagonists in the thriller genre. Richards is from Vancouver, Canada, and currently makes her home in Phoenix, Arizona. Her latest book, *Endings*, was published by Oceanview Publishing in 2021. A PW starred review said that this "harrowing tale of love, loss, and the value of life is not to be missed." A sequel, *Exit Strategy*, will be published May 2022. Linda's 2021 novel, *Endings*, was recently optioned by a major studio for series production.

lindalrichards.com

Travis Richardson



Travis Richardson won a Derringer Award for flash fiction and was nominated for the Macavity and Anthony short story awards. He has a collection of short stories, *Bloodshot and Bruised*, as well as two novellas, *Lost in Clover* and *Keeping the Record*. His stories have been published in crime fiction publications such as *Thuglit*, *Shotgun Honey*, *Flash Fiction Offensive*, and numerous anthologies like *Low Down Dirty Vote I & II* and *The Obama Inheritance*. He is currently the president of the Southern California chapter of Mystery Writers of America. A few years back, he reviewed Anton Chekhov short stories at www.chekhovshorts.com. He lives in Los Angeles with his wife and daughter.

www.tsrichardson.com

Craig Robertson



A former journalist, Craig Robertson interviewed three UK Prime Ministers and reported on major stories including 9/11, Dunblane, the Omagh bombing, and the disappearance of Madeleine McCann. He was pilloried on breakfast television, beat Oprah Winfrey to a major scoop, spent time on Death Row in the USA, and dispensed polio drops in the backstreets of India. He's an international bestseller and his tenth novel, *The Undiscovered Deaths of Grace McGill*, is about a trauma cleaner who wants to know the life story of a forgotten man. He has been longlisted and shortlisted seven times for major crime fiction prizes, but hasn't won any yet. He's okay with that. Sort of.

www.craigrobertsonbooks.co.uk

L.F. Robertson



L.F. Robertson (*Two Lost Boys*, *Madman Walking*, *Next of Kin*) is a practicing lawyer. Like her protagonist, Janet Moodie, she works on death penalty appeals and tends a struggling garden and orchard. She lives in San Luis Obispo, a quiet college town in central California. Recently she has lightened a monastic existence by studying Spanish and Mandarin and honing her expertise in Zoom, as she contemplates her next book.

www.lfrobertson.net

Laurie Rockenbeck



Laurie Rockenbeck has a degree in journalism that keeps nagging at her to check the facts and do research. As a licensed private investigator, she takes notes on human behavior and the darker side of humanity to fuel her fiction featuring Seattle's only trans homicide detective and a pro-dominatrix turned Private Investigator. She holds an MFA from UC-Riverside-Palm Desert. When not writing, Laurie knits, cooks, and reads in Redmond, WA.

laurierockenbeck.com

Peggy Rothschild



After losing their home during a California wildfire, Peggy Rothschild and her husband moved to the beach community of Los Osos — where there are enough trails to keep her out of trouble for years. Peggy's YA adventure, *Punishment Summer*, was published by Evernight Teen in 2015, and her short stories have been included in *The Best Laid Plans*, *Heartbreaks and Half-Truths*, and *Avenging Angelenos* anthologies. She also illustrated the children's book *Angie's Great Big Beautiful Life: Tales of a Rescue Cat*. Peggy is a member of Sisters in Crime. Her newly released mystery, *A Deadly Bone To Pick*, is the first book in the Molly Madison Dog Wrangler series.

peggyrothschildauthor.com

S.J. Rozan



SJ Rozan is the author of 18 novels and more than 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 the Private Eye Writers of America Life Achievement Award. She speaks and teaches widely, including a fiction workshop this summer in Assisi, Italy, where she wants you all to come: www.artworkshopintl.com. SJ was born in the Bronx and lives in lower Manhattan.

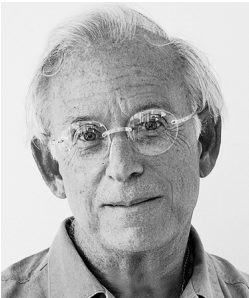
www.sjrozan.net

Janet Rudolph



Janet Rudolph is the Editor of the Mystery Readers Journal and Writer/Director at Murder on the Menu and TeamBuilding Unlimited. She blogs at MysteryFanfare.com, has facilitated a weekly mystery book group for over 40 years, hosts Literary Salons with crime writers, and has been a committee/Board member on numerous mystery conventions, including Bouchercon and Left Coast Crime. She was Fan Guest of Honor at Bouchercon, LCC, and Malice Domestic, and received the Ellery Queen Award, Hercule Poirot Award, Anthony Award, and others. She's been a judge for Edgar Awards (non-fiction) and Ngaio Marsh Awards. She is an International Chocolate Judge (someone has to). She received a PhD in religious mystery fiction. She lives in the Berkeley hills with her husband, two golden retrievers, and two cats. www.mysteryreaders.org

Charles Salzberg



Charles Salzberg is a former magazine journalist and nonfiction book writer (*From Set Shot to Slam Dunk, an Oral History of the NBA* and *Soupy Sez: My Zany Life and Times*). He's twice-nominated for the Shamus Award for *Swann's Last Song*, the first in the series, and *Second Story Man* (also winner of the Beverly Hills Book Award). *Devil in the Hole* was named one of the Best Crime Novels of 2013 by *Suspense* magazine. He lives in New York City and teaches writing for New York Writers Workshop, where he is a Founding Member.

charlessalzberg.com

Linda Sands



Linda Sands is a recovering short story and flash fiction artiste who splits her time between the Blue Ridge Mountains and the beaches of the Florida panhandle. She's the author of five novels in four genres that combined have yet to make enough to pay the Internet bill. She's won awards that you've probably never heard of like the Silver Falchion and the GAYA (Georgia Author of the Year). One came with a sword, the other with an inscribed banana bowl that looks more like a container for trifle — both seem particularly fitting. If you're looking for her at Left Coast Crime, check the bar.

lindasands.com & social @lindasands

David Schlosser



Writing as dbschlosser, David B. Schlosser is an award-winning author and editor and chapter president of Mystery Writers of America – Northwest. His www.PromptInspiration.com delivers daily journaling and writing prompts. He's taught college writing and crime fiction, served on MWA and Editorial Freelancers Association boards, and delighted and offended people in New York Times and Wall Street Journal as well as "Hard Copy" and "Inside Edition." A Kansan 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*.

dbschlosser.com

Ilene Schneider



A retired Jewish educator and hospice chaplain, Rabbi Ilene Schneider, one of the first women rabbis ordained in the US, has decided what she wants to be when she grows up: a writer. Despite spending her retirement (from earning a regular paycheck) birding, gardening, binge-watching movies and TV series online, traveling, and over-sharing on Facebook, she is the author of the award-winning Rabbi Aviva Cohen Mysteries and of short stories. She also wrote the best-selling *Talking Dirty – in Yiddish?*, designed a website of questions and answers about Chanukah, and edited *Recipes by the Book: Oak Tree Authors Cook*.

rabbiauthor.com

Terry Shames



Terry Shames writes the popular Samuel Craddock series, winner of a Macavity and RT Reviews awards. Craddock is Chief of Police of Jarrett Creek, Texas — not a real place, so don't try to find it on a map! Next in the series, *Murder at the Jubilee Rally*, comes out in October from Severn House. Although Terry is neither Jewish, nor writes noir fiction, she has a short story in *Jewish Noir II* coming out in July.

www.Terryshames.com

Johnny Shaw



Johnny Shaw is the author of seven novels including the Anthony Award-winning *Big Maria* and the Jimmy Veeder Fiasco series. His most recent novel, *The Southland*, was published by Agora Books in 2020. It's been five years since he's been able to attend Left Coast Crime and he's happy to be back at his favorite convention.

www.johnnyshawauthor.com

Susan C. Shea



Susan C. Shea is the author of two previous French village mysteries set in a tiny village in Burgundy populated by eccentrics. She is now working on two more, these set in a nearby medieval town where a new resident, an American protagonist who has inherited a decrepit chateau, comes face to face with death before the old wallpaper has even been peeled away. The first comes out January 2023. She also wrote three Dani O'Rourke mysteries set in the cutthroat world of multi-million dollar art auction sales. She's a member of Sisters in Crime and MWA.

www.susancshea.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. 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

Clea Simon



Clea Simon, the Boston Globe–bestselling author of three nonfiction books and 29 mysteries, divides her time between cozies (most recently *A Cat on the Case*) and psychological suspense, including *World Enough*, a 2017 Massachusetts Book Award “must read,” and the recent *Hold Me Down*, of which the Boston Globe said: “In electric prose, Simon conjures the rock-and-roll world, its drink, drugs, and band dynamics, and the twin seductresses of excess and success, as she makes a penetrating portrait of friendship.” In other words, cats and crime and rock and roll....

www.CleaSimon.com

Nina Simon



At each professional crossroad, Nina Simon has made the choice most likely to disappoint her mother. She left an engineering job at NASA to design spy museum exhibits, dumped an art museum directorship to start a global movement for more inclusive cultural organizations, and now has tossed that aside to write mystery novels. Nina lives off the grid in the Santa Cruz mountains with 20 people, 16 chickens, 2 trampolines, and 1 zipline.

www.ninaksimon.com

Faye Snowden



Faye Snowden is the author of poems, short stories, and novels. With a master’s in English she’s a true literature geek who spends her spare time ruining movies for family and friends by explaining what will happen next, and insisting on discussing how most popular entertainment supports dominant society, or as she calls it, the hegemony. *A Killing Rain*, the sequel to *A Killing Fire* (Flame Tree 2019), starring African-American homicide detective and rule-breaker Raven Burns, will be released in June 2022. Aside from publishing, she also managed two boys, a husband, five dogs, and three writing fellowships over the years. Faye writes and works from her home in northern California.

www.fayesnowden.com

Alexandra Sokoloff



Alexandra Sokoloff is the million-selling, Thriller Award–winning author/screenwriter of fifteen novels. Her Huntress Moon series follows an FBI agent on the hunt for a female serial killer, smashing genre clichés, and turning the tables on predators. Her new series is an epic historical starring early San Francisco. Alex’s Screenwriting Tricks for Authors workshops, workbooks, and online class have helped writers all over the world write better books, find agents and publishing deals, and build profitable lifetime careers. She’s here with her husband, Scottish noir writer Craig Robertson. They met in the bar at Left Coast Crime.

AlexandraSokoloff.com

Bonnar Spring



Bonnar Spring writes eclectic and stylish international thrillers. A nomad at heart, she hitchhiked across Europe at sixteen, joined the Peace Corps after college, and trekked to Machu Picchu for a recent significant birthday. She’s the author of *Toward the Light* (2020), which won a bronze IPPY for Best Debut novel. *Disappeared*, a thriller set in Morocco, launches in May. Bonnar divides her time between tiny houses on a New Hampshire salt marsh and by the Sea of Abaco in the Bahamas and spends most of her time outdoors.

www.bonnarspring.com

Josh Stallings



Josh Stallings' latest book *Tricky*, was listed by Library Journal as one of the ten best crime books of 2021. *Young Americans*, a disco heist novel was nominated for the Lefty and Anthony awards. Born in Los Angeles, and raised by counter-culture activists in Northern California, he grew up an undiagnosed dyslexic and spent some time as a petty criminal and failed actor before becoming a movie trailer editor. He, his wife, and two wonderful mutts now live in the San Jacinto mountains. *Tricky*, was written in honor of his son Dylan, who is intellectually disabled.

joshstallings.com & @Josh_Stallings

Mark Stevens



Mark Stevens was raised in Lincoln, Massachusetts. His parents were both librarians. By law, he grew up loving to read and write. He has written five books in The Allison Coil Mystery Series including *Trapline*, which won the Colorado Book Award for Best Mystery. In November of 2022, Lake Union will publish *The Fireballer*, a novel set in the world of professional baseball. Today, Mark lives in the southwest Colorado town of Mancos.

www.writermarkstevens.com

Jane Stillwater



Jane Stillwater is an author and journalist. At age 64, she became bored with her simple life in Berkeley, CA, and ran off with the Marines to become an embedded reporter in Iraq. She has written her latest book, a Regency cozy entitled *Lady Pamela's Patroness*, in order to cheer herself up during these past two dreary years. During this time, she also visited and reported from 22 different American cities including New York, Milwaukee, Charlotte, Las Vegas, Minneapolis, San Diego, and Eureka Springs, Arkansas.

Mary St. John



Since ditching her corporate career in 2019, Mary's gone on three cruises, appeared on a gameshow, and done a TEDx talk that involved tossing bananas, all to avoid actually writing. Thanks to her bestselling crime-fighter turned crime-writer husband, David Putnam, Mary has been on more ride-alongs and to more crime scenes than any sane, non-cop should; and one of her best friends is a con woman who turned tricks into big profits (after ditching her pimp) during her many decades in the sex trade. Mary writes mostly non-fiction, including ghostwriting for various colorful characters, including David Putnam.

BitOfMary.com

Lane Stone



Proud baby boomer and dog mom, Lane Stone is the author of the upcoming Big Picture Trilogy, with *The Collector* launching May 2022. As Cordy Abbott she is writing the Old Town Antiques Mysteries, with *Dead Men Don't Decorate* in November 2022. Her other series are the Pet Palace Mysteries and the Tiara Investigation Mystery series. She lives in Alexandria, Virginia, during the week and Lewes, Delaware, on the weekend. She has a post-graduate certificate in Antiquities Theft and Art Crime. She loves to hear from readers. She is a member of SinC, MWA, and ITW.

www.LaneStoneBooks.com & twitter.com/themenopausedog

Lucinda Surber



Lucinda is acrophobic and has never taken a ride during Albuquerque's annual International Balloon Fiesta. Luckily there is a hot air balloon gondola safely anchored to the ground in the Albuquerque International Balloon Museum for the timid to enjoy. She hasn't worn shoes much in the last two years, so if you notice some nifty spotted footwear please pretend they are not slippers, but official hotel shoes. When they aren't helping with Left Coast Crime Conventions, 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.

www.stopyourekillingleme.com

Margaret Tessler



Margaret Tessler lives in Albuquerque with her husband and their cat. The stories in her mystery series often include cats, although — alas — they never solve anything. Instead, solutions are left to protagonists Sharon Salazar or Becca Sandoval. Margaret belongs to Croak and Dagger, the Albuquerque chapter of Sisters in Crime and to New Mexico Book Association.

ABQ-TaleSpinner.com

Wendall Thomas



Wendall Thomas writes the Anthony, Macavity, and Lefty nominated Cyd Redondo travel mystery series, teaches in the Graduate Film School at UCLA, lectures internationally on screenwriting, and has worked as an entertainment reporter, script consultant, and film and television writer. Her most entertaining jobs have been writing Victorian dialogue for a Jack Russell terrier on PBS's *Wishbone* and being the only single female teacher at an all male boarding school. Please find her at her website or writing in a restaurant in Los Angeles.

www.wendallthomas.com

T.K. Thorne



T.K. Thorne wanted to make first contact with aliens. When that didn't work out, she became a police officer. Although most people she met were human, some were quite strange.... Retiring as a precinct captain, she writes full time. Her books include two award-winning historical novels (*Noah's Wife* and *Angels at the Gate*); two nonfiction civil rights era works (*Last Chance for Justice* and *Behind the Magic Curtain: Secrets, Spies, and Unsung White Allies of Birmingham's Civil Rights Days*); a dally with murder and magic in the Magic City Stories trilogy (*House of Rose*, *House of Stone*, and *House of Iron*); and a YA science fiction, *Snowdancers* where she finally got to meet real aliens.

TKThorne.com

Rick Treon



Rick Treon writes about life and death in the Lone Star State. He's also a recovering journalist, an occasional public speaker, and the editorial director for Blue Handle Publishing. His novel *Let the Guilty Pay* was nominated for the 2021 Silver Falchion Award for Best Suspense Novel, and *Divided States* was named a finalist in the 2021 Best Thriller Book Awards. His debut, *Deep Background*, won the PenCraft Award for Literary Excellence in Suspense. Rick wasn't born in Texas, but he got there as quick as he could, and it's where he still hangs his hat.

ricktreon.com

CJ Verburg



An avid reader since age three, CJ (Carol) Verburg has won awards for poetry, plays, and crime fiction in the Golden Age tradition. Her friendship with artist Edward Gorey inspired her Edgar Rowdey Cape Cod mystery series (latest: *Shafted, or The Toastrack Enigma*) and her multimedia memoir *Edward Gorey on Stage*. She's currently curating Gorey's theatrical scripts and drawings. CJ's Cory Goodwin mysteries follow the journalist-sleuth daughter of a Manhattan detective on multimedia investigations in France (*Another Number for the Road*) and Barcelona (*Gaudi Knight, 2022*). Look for CJ's new story "A Terrible Tragedy" in Malice Domestic's *Mystery Most Diabolical*.

cjverburg.net

Carl Vonderau



Carl Vonderau grew up in Cleveland in a religious family that believed that God could heal all illness. Maybe that's why he went to college in California. Somehow, after majoring in economics and dabbling in classical guitar, he ended up with a career in banking. Carl has lived and worked in Latin America, Canada, and North Africa, and is proud to have put his foot in his mouth in several languages. Now a full-time writer, Carl's first thriller, *Murderabilia*, won the Lefty Award for Best Debut Mystery and the San Diego Book Award for Best Mystery. His short story, "A Killing in Bogota" was published in the San Diego Sisters in Crime anthology, *Crossing Borders*.

CarlVonderau.com

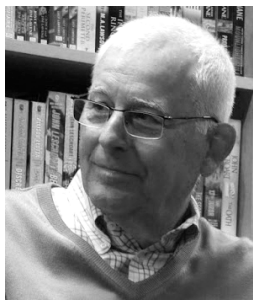
Nina Wachsman



Nina Wachsman is a former creative director and the principal of a digital marketing agency in New York City. Her mystery and horror stories appear in anthologies and magazines, and her debut novel, *The Gallery of Beauties*, will be published in June by Level Best Books. She is a member of the Short Mystery Fiction Society, Mystery Writers of America, and Sisters in Crime.

venicebeauties.com

David P. Wagner



As a Foreign Service Officer, David was forced to spend nine years living in Italy at government expense, a trauma from which he has never recovered. To help him cope he began writing *Cold Tuscan Stone*, the first of seven Rick Montoya Italian mysteries, the latest being *To Die in Tuscany*. His website will tell you everything you want to know about the series, or Rick Montoya, or David. He lives a scenic drive away in downtown Pueblo, CO, with his wife Mary. When not writing or golfing, David serves as staff to their cat, Mitzi.

davidpwagnerauthor.com

David Heska Wanbli Weiden



David Heska Wanbli Weiden, an enrolled citizen of the Sicangu Lakota Nation, is the author of *Winter Counts*, nominated for an Edgar Award, and winner of the Anthony, Thriller, Lefty, Barry, Macavity, Spur, High Plains, Electa Quinney, and Tillie Olsen Awards. The novel was a New York Times Editors' Choice, an Indie Next pick, main selection of the Book of the Month Club, and named a Best Book of 2020 by NPR, Amazon, Publishers Weekly, Library Journal, and other magazines. He has short stories appearing or forthcoming in the crime fiction anthologies *Denver Noir*, *Midnight Hour*, *This Time for Sure*, and *The Perfect Crime*. He lives in Denver, Colorado, with his family.

davidweiden.com

Holly West



Holly West is the author of the *Mistress of Fortune* historical mystery series. Her short fiction has appeared online and in numerous anthologies, and her latest story, “Just to Watch Him Die,” appears in *The Eviction of Hope* anthology. She’s the editor of *Murder-A-Go-Go’s*, an Anthony Award–nominated crime fiction anthology inspired by the music of The Go-Go’s. Her novella, *The Money Block*, out now from Down & Out Books.

hollywest.com

Adelaide (Addy) Whitehouse



Addy Whitehouse has been writing for years and years and years. Too many years. During those years, she submitted her work to agents and publishing houses, and received polite interest that never amounted to actual publication. Then the publishing industry underwent a revolution, otherwise known as Amazon’s Kindle Direct Publishing. Addy sensed an opportunity. She grabbed it. Her first novel, *Signs of Murder: A Dana Demeter Mystery*, launched 11/17/21 on Amazon. With this life-long goal realized, there’s no stopping her now. The second in the series will launch in June 2022

www.afwhitehouse.com

M. Rebecca Wildsmith



M. Rebecca Wildsmith has been writing mysteries ever since she found an old typewriter in a closet in her family’s home at the age of eight. During the pandemic, she finally decided to take the opportunity to finish her first supernatural mystery novel entitled *Hattie Vavasseur*. When Rebecca is not writing novels in the depths of the night, she adores taking in the wild beauty of the outdoors. She tries to never miss a moment playing make-believe with her darling daughter or hotly discussing British television mysteries with her husband.

MRebeccaWildsmith.com

Michael Wiley



Michael’s most recent novel is *Head Case*, the third book in a series featuring the deeply disinhibited Chicago PI Sam Kelson. Michael also is the author of the Shamus Award–nominated *Monument Road*, about an exonerated death-row inmate investigating the crime that sent him to prison, and writes the Daniel Turner Thriller series and the Shamus Award–winning Joe Kozmarski Private Detective series. Michael grew up in Chicago, where he sets his Kelson and Kozmarski mysteries. He teaches creative writing at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville — the setting of *Monument Road* and the Daniel Turner stories.

www.michaelwileyonline.com

Marty Wingate



Marty Wingate writes both mysteries and historical fiction set in Britain: the *First Edition Library* mysteries; the *Potting Shed* mysteries; and standalone WW2 fiction, *Glamour Girls*. Marty prefers on-the-ground research whenever possible, and so she and her husband regularly travel to England and Scotland, where she can be found tracing the steps of her characters, stopping for tea and a slice of Victoria sponge in a café, or enjoying a swift half in a pub. Visit Marty’s website for book and travel news.

martywingate.com

Kenneth Wishnia



Kenneth Wishnia's novels have been nominated for the Edgar, Anthony, and Macavity Awards, and have made "best of the year" lists at Booklist, Library Journal, the Jewish Press, and the Washington Post. 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 recently edited the Anthony Award-nominated anthology, *Jewish Noir* (And look out: *Jewish Noir II* is pre-launching at Left Coast Crime!). His novel, *Blood Lake*, a crime novel set in Ecuador, was recently translated into Spanish as *Lago de Sangre*.

www.kennethwishnia.com

Matt Witten



Matt Witten wrote four mystery novels that were published by Signet, including the Malice Domestic Award-winning *Breakfast at Madeline's*, then moved to LA to write for *Law & Order*, *House*, *Pretty Little Liars*, *CSI: Miami*, *Medium*, *Judging Amy*, and other dramas, getting nominated for an Emmy and two Edgars. Now, twenty years later, like Rip Van Winkle, he has returned to novel writing. His psychological thriller, *The Necklace*, which came out a few months ago from Oceanview Publishing, is an Amazon Editor's Choice, and has been optioned for film by Leonardo DiCaprio's Appian Way. His next thriller, *Killer Story*, comes out in January.

mattwittenwriter.com

Sandy Wright



I live in Arizona with my husband, a super-smart Border Collie/Aussie mix named Teak, and two huge black panther cats, Salem and Shadow Moon. Their daddy, Magick, was even bigger! He's featured in my debut novel, *Song of the Ancients*, in my paranormal suspense series, *Ancient Magic*. They say write what you know, so my debut novel involves witchcraft and Native American medicine magic, set in the energy-laden town of Sedona, AZ. It was interesting to introduce the concept of witchcraft through the eyes of an ordinary, non-magical woman, and go through her reactions and disbelief along with her. While I did a lot of research for this book, most of the magical stuff I drew from my own Wiccan background and practice. Book 2 will take us to ancient standing stones, and a true-life excavation, in Scotland

www.writersandy.com

Heather Young



Heather has written two novels. Her first, *The Lost Girls*, was nominated for an Edgar Award for Best First Novel. Her second, *The Distant Dead*, was nominated for an Edgar Award for Best Novel. Heather is looking forward to meeting other mystery lovers at Left Coast Crime, and can be found roaming the audience at other panels or hanging out at the hotel bar. She lives in Mill Valley, California.

www.heatheryoungwriter.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 over thirty novels, most of them crime fiction. He writes police procedurals (*River City*, *Charlie-316*), private investigator (*Stefan Kopriva Mysteries*, *Jack McCrae Mysteries*), hardboiled (*SpoCompton*, *Bricks & Cam Jobs*), and more. In addition to writing, Frank hosts the crime fiction podcast *Wrong Place, Write Crime*. He is an avid hockey fan and a tortured guitarist. He currently lives in Redmond, Oregon.

frankzafiro.com

Rich Zahradnik



Lights Out Summer, the fourth book in Zahradnik's Coleridge Taylor Mystery series, won the 2018 Shamus Award for Best Paperback Private Eye Novel. The first three books won awards in the three major competitions for books from independent presses. Zahradnik was a journalist for 30-plus years, working as a reporter and editor in all major news media, including newspapers, websites, cable networks, and magazines. Now, he's providing guidance to the staff of the Pelham Examiner, the first community newspaper owned and run by people under 18. It's won awards, too.

www.richzahradnik.com

Ann Zeigler



Ann D. Zeigler has dropped her law license in a drawer, turned in her Houston PD volunteer ID badge, but still drinks beer from her FBI mug. Her (renewed) passport is up to date, and she still celebrates Lunar New Year with distant friends. She has published award-winning books about courtrooms and how to get in and out successfully, and about evidence-tampering (as in, how not to). She has also written the libretto to a professionally performed science-fiction opera. She and her husband of 51 years constitute The Flying Zeigler Circus, whose home base has been dubbed Random House. The Circus's motto is "Why Be Normal?" She loves libraries and indie bookstores (which is, of course, every book hoarder's excuse).

Greg Zeigler



Gregory Zeigler has independently published three environmental mysteries and a travel memoir. He is the co-founder and regular contributor to the environmental mystery blog, Free Range Writers. He wrote and performed in the award-winning short film, "Steinbeck Country." Greg Zeigler has acted professionally on stage and in film, including appearing alongside NFL great Lynn Swann in an Instructional Television production, Arts Alive. Gregory Zeigler, a career educator, served as headmaster at several schools. He is a former trustee for two independent schools and several other non-profits.

gzeiglerbooks.com & FreeRangeWriters.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.

bolobooks.com

[Editor's note: In addition to anchoring the tail end of the author bios in the absence of Jim Ziskin, Kristopher is also this year's Fan Guest of Honor.]

The Unnamed Author



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



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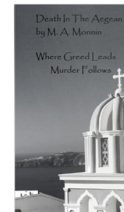
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ART MYSTERIES FROM LEVEL BEST BOOKS

Left Coast Crime #32 in Albuquerque

Welcome to the 32nd annual Left Coast Crime Convention — *Southwest Sleuths!* 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	

Year	Place	Guests of Honor	Fan Guests of Honor	Toastmaster	Lifetime Achievement
2011	Santa Fe, NM	Margaret Coel Steven F. Havill	Marvin Lachman	Steve Brewer	Martin Cruz Smith
2012	Sacramento, CA	John Lescroart Jacqueline Winspear James Rollins <i>[SG]</i>	Noemi Levine	Harley Jane Kozak	
2013	Colorado Springs, CO	Craig Johnson Laura Lippman Lou Diamond Phillips <i>[SG]</i>	Tom & Enid Schantz	David Corbett	
2014	Monterey, CA	Cara Black Louise Penny Sue Grafton <i>[SG]</i>	Sue Trowbridge	Brad Parks	Marcia Muller Bill Pronzini
2015	Portland, OR	Chelsea Cain Timothy Hallinan Philip Margolin <i>[SG]</i>	Friends of Mystery, Portland, OR	Gar Anthony Haywood	
2016	Phoenix, AZ	Ann Cleeves Gregg Hurwitz	Chantelle Aimée Osman	Catrina 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 <i>[SG]</i>	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 Catrina McPherson	Kristopher Zgorski	Kellye Garrett	
2023	Tucson, AZ	Glen Erik Hamilton Sujata Massey	Dru Ann Love	Ellen Byron	J.A. Jance

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 categories and the nominees are listed below. Be sure to deposit your paper Lefty Ballot in the ballot box near the Registration Table by 1:30 PM on Saturday.

2022 Lefty Award Nominees

Best Humorous Mystery

- 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
- Mango, Mambo, and Murder* by Raquel V. Reyes
- Fogged Off* by Wendall Thomas

Best Debut Mystery

- 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
- All Her Little Secrets* by Wanda M. Morris

Best Historical Mystery (prior to 1970)

– The Bill Gottfried Memorial

- The Cry of the Hangman* by Susanna Calkins
- The Savage Kind* by John Copenhaver
- Clark and Division* by Naomi Hirahara
- 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)

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

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



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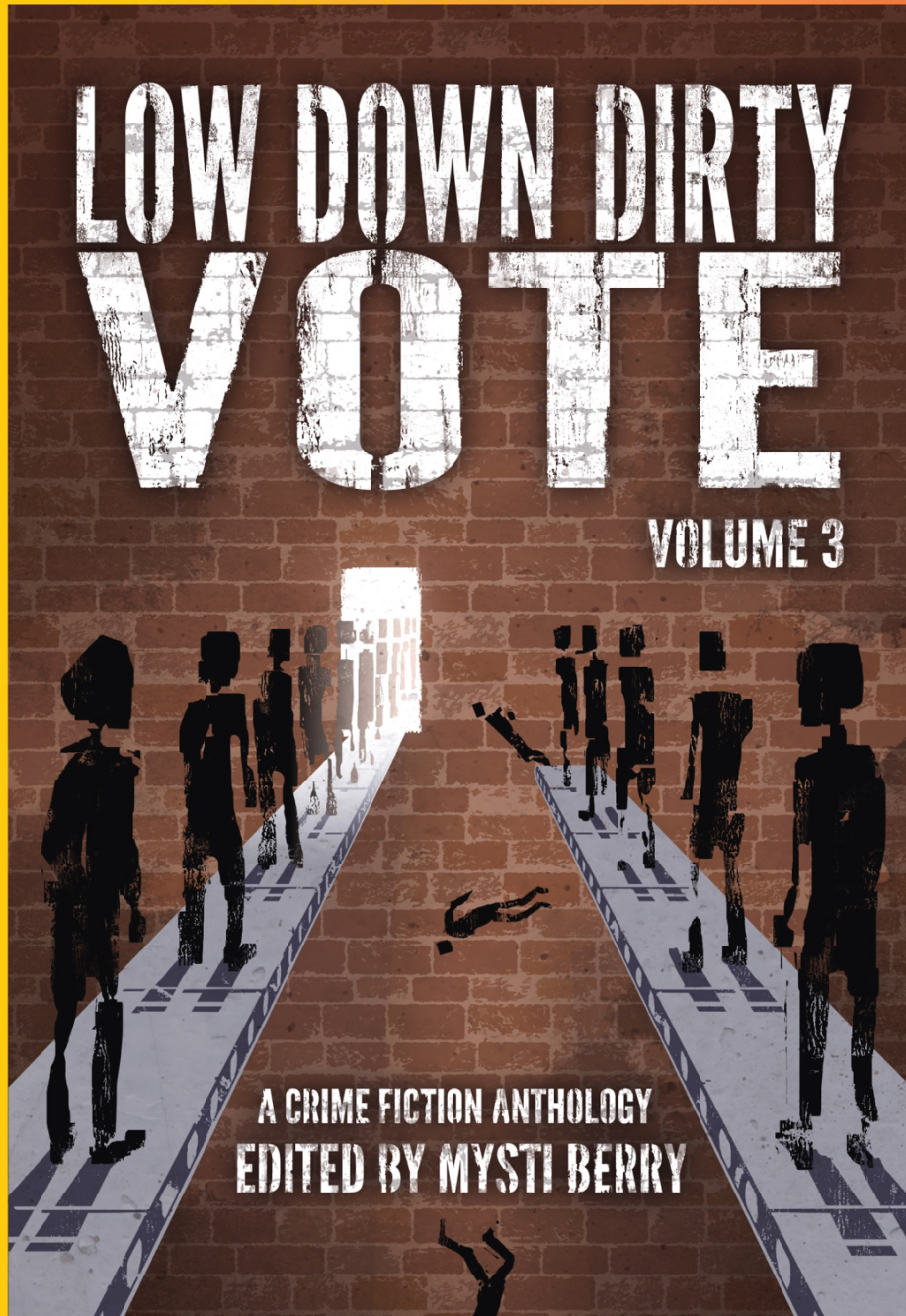
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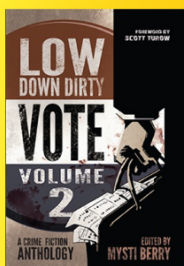
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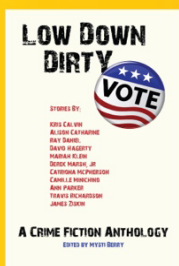
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