

In celebration of storytelling



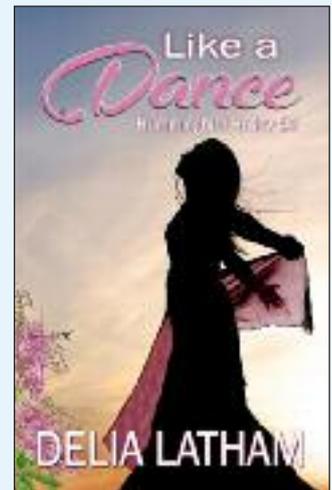
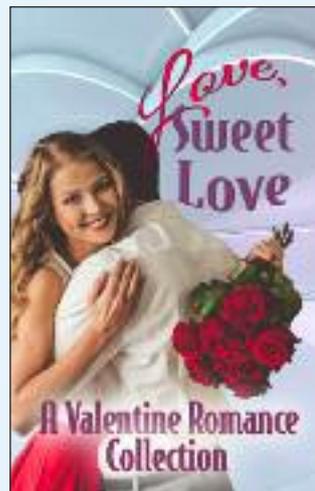
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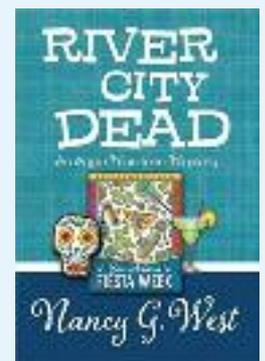
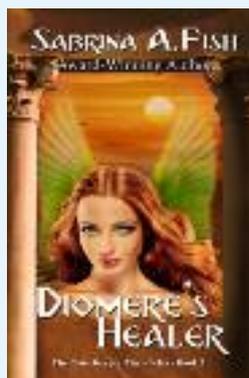
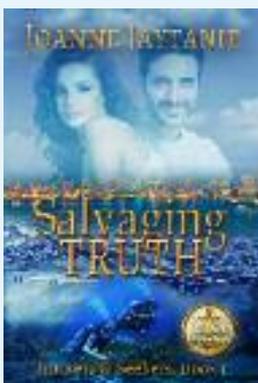
Inspirational Romance Author Delia Latham



*Heaven's touch in
earthly tales*



Other New Releases



turn the page ⇨

On the cover ...

Inspirational Romance Author
Delia Latham

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New Releases

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About The Book Breeze

The Book Breeze started out ten years ago as a print publication distributed to conferences, bookstores, and libraries. But printing and shipping costs rose and logistically the delivery area was limited so the newspaper went to an emag.

When the emag became too much to handle with real life The Book Breeze became a blog. I retired last year so I am able to return The Book Breeze to its most effective format - the emag.

There are other changes as well. The Book Breeze is about storytelling with the focus primarily on books. The doors have been flung open. The emag will exam other methods

such as screenwriting, and graphic novels.

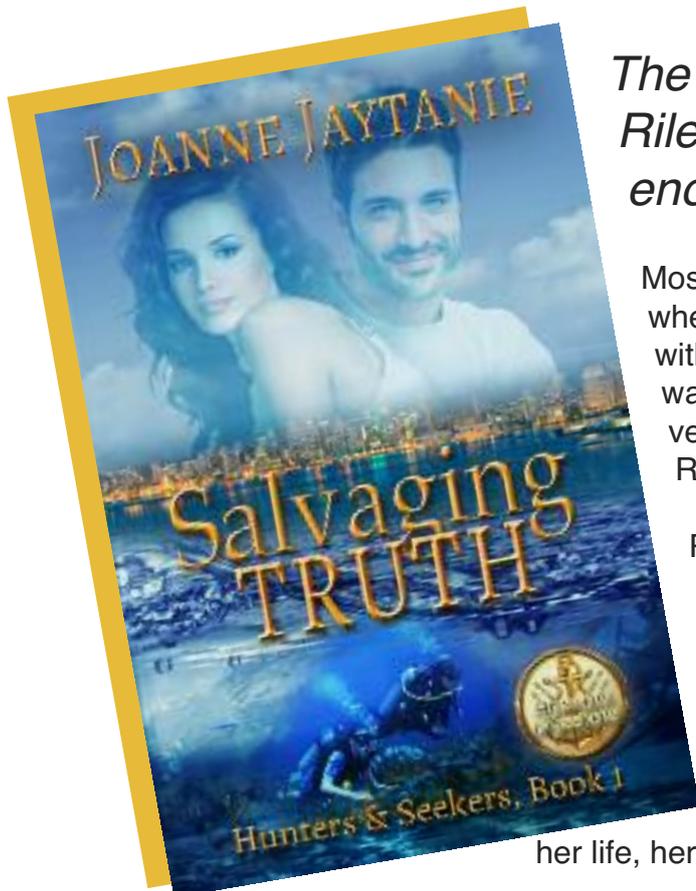
We will also expand our coverage of self-publication, advertising, and how to develop your author persona.

In the end, it is about the stories and how they touch us, thrill us, bring laughter and give respite in a chaotic world. Every issue carries the following encouragement ... Read, Ponder, Repeat.



**READ, PONDER,
REPEAT**

New Adventure from Joanne Jaytanie



The world could be transformed if Riley can only stay alive long enough.

Most parents leave you a house, a car, or money when they die. Riley's mom left her a treasure hunt with a mysterious payoff. Now everyone seems to want a piece of Riley and her inheritance: the university, the military, mega corporations, and Russian spies.

Riley needs help to solve her mother's murder, and Dagger Easton's salvage and investigation company comes to her rescue. Retired SEAL, private eye, and leader of a diving and salvage team, Dagger promises to protect Riley with his life. But as the value of her mother's research becomes clear, Riley begins to believe there's no one she can trust—not with

her life, her heart, or her mother's legacy.

MOUSE TRAIL ENDS by Paty Jager

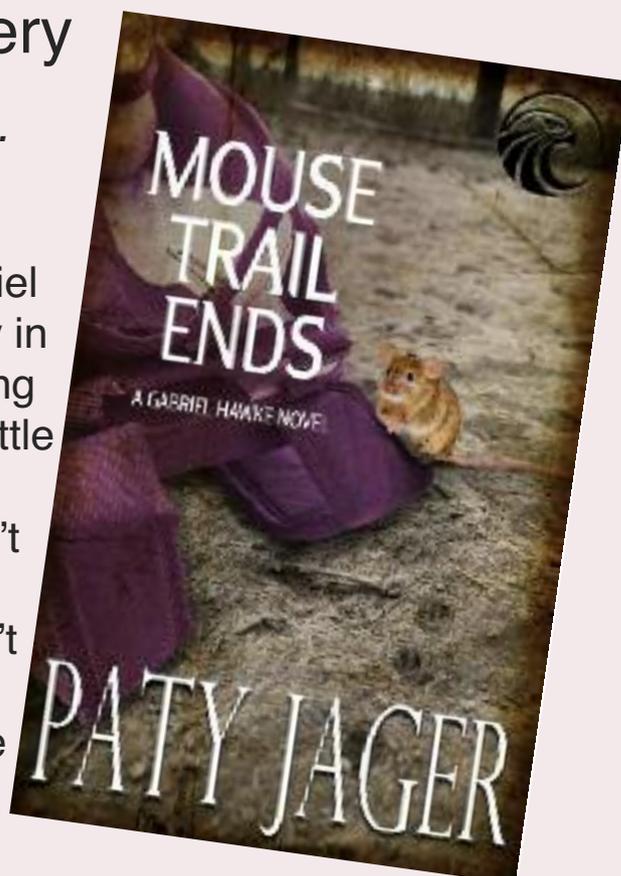
A Native American Mystery

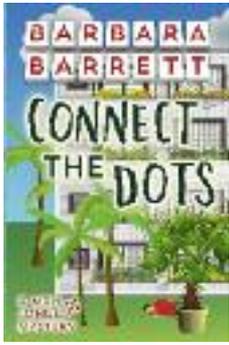
*Dead bodies in the wilderness.
A child gone missing.*

Fish and Wildlife State Trooper Gabriel Hawke's job is to find a missing family in the Eagle Cap Wilderness. After finding the parents murdered, can he track a little girl on the run?

Hawke is an expert tracker, but he isn't the only one looking for the child. Even leaving the mountain, the girl isn't safe. The murderers are looking for something. Something they believe the child possesses.

<https://www.patyjager.net>





CONNECT THE DOTS
by Barbara Barrett
Cozy Mystery
Released Feb 2019

How could a thirty-something man fall to his death from a fourth-floor balcony he knows is defective? That's the question freelance writer Micki Demetrius

is asked to answer by the man's grieving mother, Clarissa White, who refuses to believe his death was an unfortunate accident. But when the authorities determine it was homicide, Micki is shut out of her investigative efforts.

Giving up is easier said than done for Micki. She can't resist a mystery, and suspicious characters won't leave Clarissa alone, from the woman claiming a stake in the victim's life to a cagey character who wants his business. As the threat to Clarissa grows, Micki feels compelled to help her in spite of the danger.

Micki's three mah jongg pals—Sydney, Marianne and Kat—are drawn into the mystery, but the retirees have their own challenges. Syd and husband Trip do grandparent duty while their daughter deals with marital issues. Marianne "finds herself" by writing a one-act play. And Kat must decide how public to go with her growing friendship with the sheriff. Together, they must connect the dots in a nefarious web of greed, neglect, secrecy and murder.



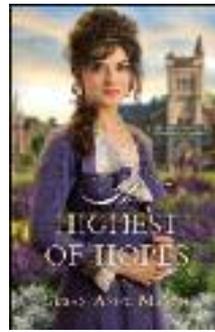
GIRLS WITH SHARP STICKS
Suzanne Young
Released March 19, 2019
by Simon Pulse

Westworld meets The Handmaid's Tale in this start to a thrilling, subversive near future series from New York Times best-selling author Suzanne Young

about a girls-only private high school that is far more than it appears to be.

Some of the prettiest flowers have the sharpest thorns.

But the girls' carefully controlled existence may not be quite as it appears. As Mena and her friends uncover the dark secrets of what's actually happening there—and who they really are—the girls of Innovations Academy will learn to fight back.



THE HIGHEST OF HOPES
by Susan Anne Mason
Historical Romance
Released March 5, 2019
by Bethany House

After her beloved grandfather's death, Emmaline Moore is shocked to discover that her deceased father is actually alive in

Canada. Having no other family, Emma decides she must find him, and so embarks on a journey across the ocean, accompanied by her best friend, Jonathan. Unfortunately, Randall Moore and his family aren't thrilled by her arrival, fearing her sudden appearance will hinder his chance at becoming mayor of Toronto in 1919. Despite everything, Emma remains determined to gain their affection.

Jonathan Rowe has secretly loved Emma for years and hopes that during their trip he can win her heart. Concerned that Randall might reject her, Jonathan is ready to console Emma and bring her home. But when she informs him that she has no intention of returning to England, Jonathan fears he'll lose her forever. Is there any way to convince her that the love she seeks could be right in front of her?



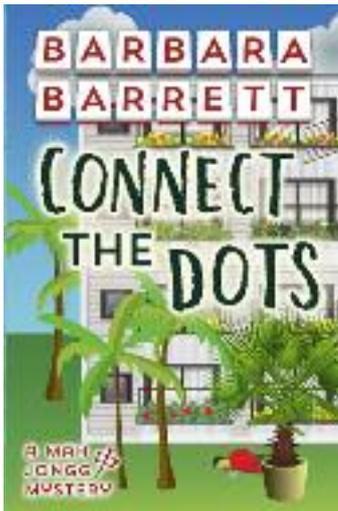
WINDMASTER LEGEND
by Helen Henderson
Fantasy Romance
Released March 17, 2019
by BWL Publishing

Fate conspired to keep lol and Pelra apart. Friendship is allowed between members of competing trading houses, but nothing more. He loves the sea and wants his own ship. She hates the deep blue and has worked too hard to allow her dreams to be sidetracked by the lure of magic.

Despite a beautiful woman on his arm every night, Leod wanted the one he couldn't have—Pelra. His kin on the ruling council did more than put him on the fast track to his own ship. It provided him the power to fulfill his desires, or to ruin those who refused him.

Exiled to distant posts, given impossible challenges, and subject to Leod's machinations, lol and Pelra only have the hope of a future together to sustain them. But can their love survive the accusation of witchcraft?

Book Excerpt from **CONNECTY THE DOTS** by Barbara Barrett



The itching of Micki's palms that had begun back at the hardware store increased at the same time her stomach toppled into the nether regions of her abdomen. Please don't let this be what I think it is. She parked her car as close as she could and got out, her heart thumping wildly.

the one talking to the deputies, is supposedly the one who found him."

"Him? So it's a man? Or a boy?"

"I think it's a man, but they wouldn't let us near enough to see," the runner replied.

"Is he ... "

"Dead? Don't know for sure."

All she could think of was that someone had inadvertently gone out on Clarissa's balcony and it had given way, sending them plunging. Maybe there were other balconies with defects in the building besides Clarissa's. She'd hang around a bit longer to see what else she could learn. All she knew now was that this was serious business. If the balconies were at fault, she might not have to write the article. The public would surely notice now.

"Micki?" The woman's voice that called her sounded like a wisp of a more familiar one.

Clarissa was being led to a sheriff's car by Rick Formero. At least it appeared to be Clarissa, although this woman's face was streaked, make-up running and she could barely put one foot in front of the other. She leaned into the sheriff and said something.

They stopped and Formero gestured for Micki to join them. "Are you a friend of Mrs. White's?"

"We play mah jongg together."

"She's had a terrible shock and could use a friend right now."

"What kind of shock?" Micki asked.

Clarissa turned her tearful eyes at her. "It's Michael. He's dead."

She spotted a deputy about fifty feet away and headed toward him for answers. "What's up?"

"Do you live here, ma'am?"

"Uh, no. But I was coming to see someone who does. Is something wrong in the building?"

"There's been an accident. I can't let you pass right now."

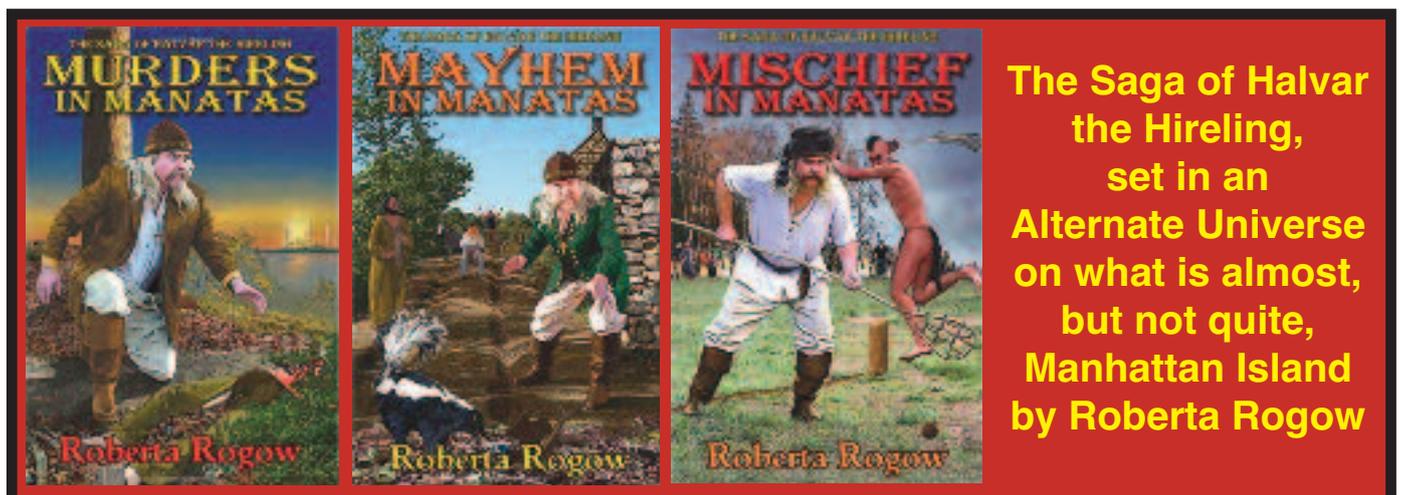
About then, the EMS vehicle came through, although it couldn't go very fast due to all the onlookers and other cars parked willy-nilly around the area.

Unable to get any specific information from the officer, she did the next best thing: she went over to a group of spectators. "Anyone know what's going on?"

A young woman in running clothes stuck her water bottle in an oversized pocket. "Someone fell from the building."

Micki's heart lurched. "Do you know who? Someone who lives here?"

"They won't say. That woman over there,



The Saga of Halvar the Hireling, set in an Alternate Universe on what is almost, but not quite, Manhattan Island by Roberta Rogow



Interview with Inspirational Romance Author Delia Latham

Writing Heaven’s touch into earthly tales, Delia Latham puts her characters through the fire of earthly trials to bring them out victorious by the tales of sweet romance.

Delia and her husband Johnny live in East Texas, where their pampered Pomeranian, Kona, kindly allows them to share her home. The author enjoys multiple life roles as wife, mother, grandmother, sister and friend, but above all, she loves being a princess daughter to the King of kings. She admits to a lifelong, mostly unbattled Dr. Pepper addiction, and loves hearing from her readers.

Tell us about your new release.



Love, Sweet Love: A Valentine Romance Collection released in January. It includes five sweet/Christian romance novellas, written by five award-winning authors. They all include a Valentine’s Day scene, and a heartwarming, soul-touching, romantic story line

that can be enjoyed and appreciated any time of year.

My story in this collection is *Like a Dance*, #3 in the Hummingbird Hollow series. I loved writing this series, which is set in the Eureka Springs, Arkansas area. The first time I saw this charming town, I was enthralled. So much history...so quaint...so beautiful! Of course I had to use the location in a book, which grew to become a three-novella series. I hope readers enjoy the series as much as I enjoyed writing it.

Here’s the back-cover text from *Like a Dance*:

A former celebrity dancer with a child she adores. A successful but burnt-out therapist to Hollywood’s rich and famous. When they show up in Hummingbird Hollow at the same time, sparks fly...but they can’t fan the flames. She’s vowed to dedicate herself solely to her daughter. He has a long bloodline of reasons not to be a dad. They’re burning stars on a collision course. Will the result be a delight...or a disaster?



Do you have a favorite fictional character by another author you’d like to meet?

I love, love, loved Cathy Marie Hake’s historical romance novel, *Forevermore*. The illiterate heroine loves God with her whole heart and loves to “quote” scripture and spout clichés. Thing is, she often twists the two together in what often becomes surprising and interesting words of wisdom. I’d gladly spend a few days with her, watching her size up various situations in her uniquely upside-down and sideways manner. Learning from a lady like Hope Ladley would be pure joy...and so much fun!

Do you have an interesting quirk about your personality that you’d like to share?

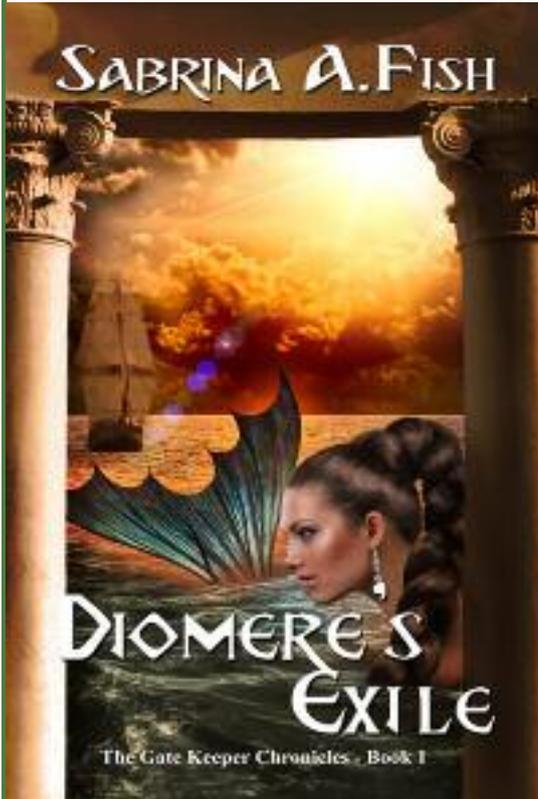
Hmmm...I’m about as ordinary as folks come—certainly not the quirkiest of people. But I am absolutely captivated by babies and toddlers. My adult daughters watch me like a couple of mean ol’ hawks when we’re out and about together. They try to steer me clear of any nearby little ones because they’re afraid I’ll tell the mother what an adorable little angel she has. Now I ask you...what would be wrong with that? □ They claim to be afraid I’ll actually try to kiss a little cheek and get hauled off to jail or something, but I can promise you, I have never tried to do such a thing. (I didn’t say I haven’t been tempted. Come on, y’all—some chubby little pink cheeks make your lips pucker up for a kiss just from looking at them. You know it’s true!)

Which book impacted you as a teenager?

Continued on page 9

Book 1 in The Gate Keepers Chronicles

Five Gates. Five Sisters. Five Very Different Men.



Once there were two worlds connected by five magical gates. Then the Gate Keepers closed the gates and disappeared. The Gate Keepers have returned. Nadia de Quinones was exiled when her nephew, the crown-prince was abducted on her watch. She'll let nothing stand in the way of her redemption, not even discovering her heartbonded and a connection to an ancient magical gate.

Lord Gregor Cyrene is sworn to protect his country's royal heirs. After the youngest prince's life is threatened, Gregor sets out to discover who is responsible and suspects the answer lies with Nadia. When fate forces their competing goals to align, neither are prepared for the irresistible attraction between them.

Can they see beyond their pasts and a millennia old hate between their people? Or will they continue to distrust, allowing those plotting against them to win?

On Sale for \$.99 until March 29

Just Released!

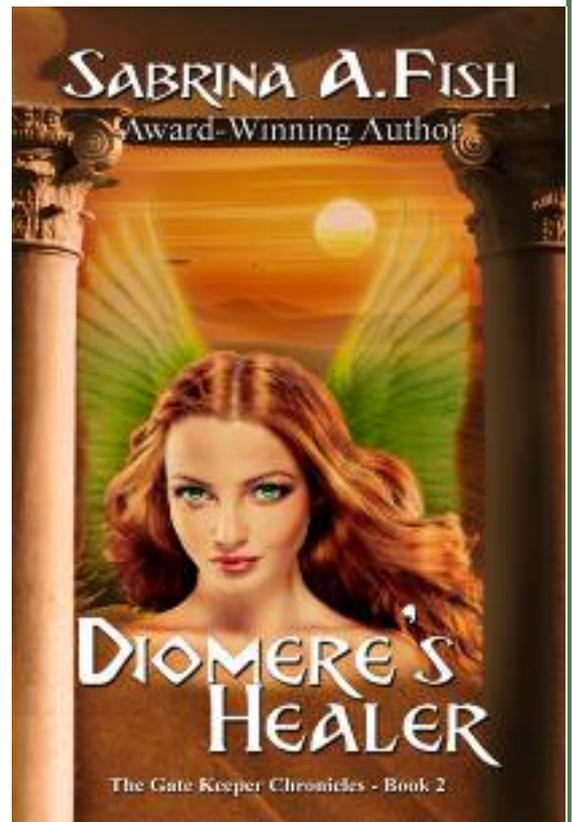
Book 2 in The Gate Keepers Chronicles

Once there were two worlds connected by five gates. Then the Gate Keepers closed the gates and disappeared. The Gate Keepers have returned.

Arriana Quinones failed to save her king from the poison that killed him. Now her nephew is suffering the same malady. When her search for a cure leads her through a gate into a world of magic, she discovers that the gods' plans for her stretch far beyond finding an antidote.

Treves Tourbillon and his people gave up hope of ending their curse. Then Arriana saves his life. While those around him are convinced she is the prophesied key, Treves fears she'll be the curse's next victim.

Can Arriana and Treves find the antidote, end the Manticore curse, and take their place as the Desert Gate's next Keepers, or will the forces working against them prevail in the end?

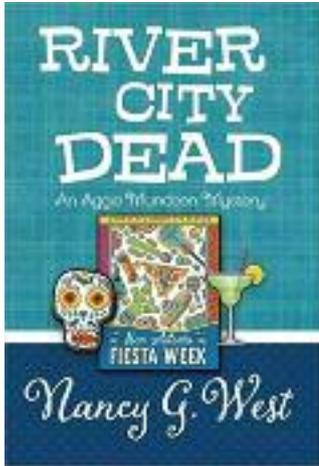


On Sale for \$.99 until April 4

Book Excerpt from RIVER CITY DEAD by Nancy G. West

CHAPTER ONE

April 1998



Not every city has a river running through it. And not many women plan a rendezvous at a San Antonio River Walk hotel during Fiesta Week after years of self-imposed celibacy. I was about to make history. Sam and I were meeting at Casa Prima Hotel. Hopefully our first days and nights together in River City would be more fiesta than fiasco. And we could avoid dealing with crime.

To calm the jumping beans in my stomach, I decided to make a quick detour to Barnes and Noble. If SAPD called Sam away, I'd need something to read. He assured me they wouldn't contact him, but sometimes they had to rely on an experienced homicide detective for a difficult case.

Barnes and Noble was packed. After a lengthy search through half the store, I found aisles brimming with romance novels. I didn't relish being caught scouring this area. In my Flash-News column, "Stay Young with Aggie," I answered readers' questions about everything from fitness to relationships. As an "expert," I wasn't supposed to need help. It wasn't as though I was innocent. I became painfully experienced after Lester the Louse seduced me when I was barely eighteen, impregnated me and vanished like mist. But stories of other people's romances might be enlightening.

Slipping down an unoccupied aisle, I reached for a *A Well-Spent Night*. A bare-chested, muscled Scottish hunk wearing a plaid kilt bulged from the cover. I squinted at the title, which upon closer inspection actually read, *A Well-Spent Knight*. Worked either way. I flipped pages to the middle, found what I was looking for and started reading. There was a lot of heavy breathing and rippling biceps, but it never said why the guy wore a kilt or how he got it off. Historical romance might

not be the thing. I replaced the book and continued down the aisle.

The face-out cover of *Steaming in Hawaii* gleamed with electric blue ocean water and swaying palm trees. A gorgeous half-dressed couple grasped each other beside the cobalt ocean. Sam and I would have a swimming pool at our River Walk hotel. Close enough. I slipped the novel off the shelf and flipped through pages. Contemporary novels offered more details. I felt my body parts tingling.

From the corner of my eye, I saw a young sales girl eyeing me. Was my face flushing? "Can I help you?" About twenty-five with swinging hair and a pouty mouth, she looked sexy, bored, and all-knowing. Whipping the novel under the arm laden with my shoulder purse, I reached blindly toward the shelf for another novel, hoping I didn't look like a waif grasping for crumbs.

"So many choices." I doused her with my superior bank teller expression. "I doubt if any of these books are really that good." Another cover caught my eye: *The Long Hard Ride*. A shirtless muscle-bound cowboy stood spread-legged front and center while a steer romped around behind him. I snatched the book off the shelf. "Imagine that," I said. "You even have westerns."

She smirked. Some urge compelled me to jabber. "I don't think he could ride a steer dressed like that."

The new-fangled phone jangled in my purse. Digging to retrieve it, I dropped the books. The sales girl swiveled over and scooped them up. "I'll keep these at the counter while you search for more." She cocked a corner of her sulky mouth before walking away.

I fumbled to flip open my Motorola StarTrac. "Where are you?" It was Sam, using his professional detective voice.

"I just needed a few things. Have you seen the...our room?"

"You need to get down here, Aggie. We have problems. I'll meet you in the lobby." He hung up.

That was the last thing I wanted to hear. Scouting the quickest route to the exit to avoid

Continued on next page

the sales girl, I skirted through rows of books, sailed out into the sunshine and headed for my Wagoneer, convincing myself that whatever problem Sam encountered couldn't be that bad.

Revived, I cranked up Albatross, my station wagon, headed south on 281 and turned right on McCullough toward Broadway, the main thoroughfare to downtown and the route for Fiesta parades.

How perfect that Sam Vanderhoven and I would begin blending our lives during Fiesta. At least that's what I hoped we were doing. Since he was an SAPD Homicide Detective, I naturally tried to impress him with my investigate skills. Unfortunately, my headstrong (he might say, "irrational") behavior frustrated him. The last time I intervened against his advice, I almost got myself killed. At least the crisis made us realize we loved each other. We'd even pledged to trust one another, which might prove to be the bigger hurdle.

The towering Casa Prima Hotel loomed in the next block, re-activating my jumping beans. What did Sam's call mean? Had he discovered a crime, considered the burden of my pesky interference and decided to jettison our rendezvous?

Interview with Delia Latham continued from page 6.

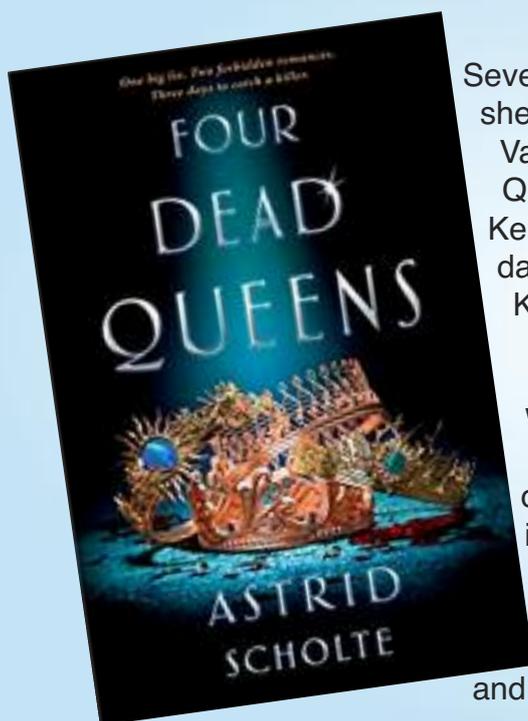
Oh...so many! I was an avid reader...absolutely devoured everything I could get my hands on. The author that most impacted me as a whole was Grace Livingston Hill—I still see "shadows" of her influence in my own writing. But I was really, really impacted by Catherine Marshall's Christy. I read it multiple times. Matter of fact... now that I'm talking about it, I'll probably have to read it again.

What's next for you?

One Harvest Knight releases July 16. It's part of a new multi-author, rolling release series (in which one book releases shortly after another) called Grace Kitchen. Each book will be connected in some way to a wonderful soup kitchen run by aging twin sisters and located just off the town square. I'm excited about this set of books. Having read the story outlines for three of them, besides my own, I can tell you...Grace Kitchen is going to be a fantastic series of sweet/Christian romance novels!

Delia loves hearing from fans. You can contact her at <http://delialatham.net>

Debut YA Author ASTRID SCHOLTE



Seventeen-year-old Keralie Corrington may seem harmless, but she's, in fact, one of Quadara's most skilled thieves and a liar. Varin, on the other hand, is an honest, upstanding citizen of Quadara's most enlightened region, Eonia. He runs afoul of Keralie when she steals a package from him, putting his life in danger. When Varin attempts to retrieve the package, he and Keralie both find themselves entangled in a conspiracy that leaves all four of Quadara's queens dead.

With no other choices and on the run from Keralie's former employer, the two decide to join forces, endeavoring to discover who has killed the queens and save their own lives in the process. When their reluctant partnership blooms into a tenuous romance, they must overcome their own dark secrets in hopes of a future together that seemed impossible just days before. But first they have to stay alive and untangle the secrets behind the nation's four dead queens.

Book Excerpt from LIKE A DANCE by Delia Latham



Teela gasped, and one hand flew up to rest on her heart. “Oh...!” she breathed. “It’s like a dance!”

She thought she’d uttered a mere whisper, and yet a male diner seated across the room looked up in response—and straight into her soul. Gorgeous bone structure.

Deep, velvet brown eyes. Overall quite easy on the eyes. A smile lifted one corner of finely drawn lips, and he offered a slight, gentlemanly nod.

Teela caught her breath. Her cheeks warmed. She returned the nod, then tore her gaze from the stranger’s and back to the window.

But the hummingbird show had ended. The wee performers had disappeared into the gardens.

A sigh escaped. She couldn’t help it.

She’d seen hummingbirds before. She’d watched them flit around feeders, and laughed at their silly, territorial way of chasing off competition for the sweet nectar they so loved. But she’d never witnessed such an amazing display of deliberate performance....such a beautiful, graceful dance. Almost as if it had been expertly choreographed. As a former professional dancer, she appreciated the beauty and perfection of the tiny creatures’ dance routine.

How was such a thing even possible?

“May I sit with you for a moment?”

Caught up in her thoughts, she hadn’t noticed the handsome stranger approaching her table. Now he stood beside her, soft brown eyes fixed on her face, one dark eyebrow lifted in inquiry.

“Yes, of course. Please join me.”

Her visitor took the seat across from her without looking away for even an instant.

“Thank you. I’m Booth Meadows.”

“Booth...I like that. I’m—”

“Wait. Allow me. You are Teela Vincent.”

Taken aback for a moment, she paused before offering a little dip of her chin. “I am.” She probably knew where he got that information, but she asked anyway. “And you know this because...?”

“I watched an entire season of Save A Dance for Me—and not because I’m a fan of the show. I happened on it one night while channel surfing. The first thing I saw was your gorgeous face, and I couldn’t move on to save my life. You fascinated me. I watched every episode for the rest of the season—just so I could see you dance.” He shook his head, his gaze unwavering. “But the next season, you were gone. I tried to find information online...” He chuckled and lowered his head for an instant. “Believe me, I tried. But there was nothing. You’d simply disappeared, and I thought I’d never see you again. But here you are at Hummingbird Hollow, as if you walked right out of my dreams.”

Teela caught her breath. Any other time, from any other man, that little speech would have terrified her. But Booth Meadows was no stalker. She’d always possessed a keen sense of character, or its lack, in others. Besides, her heart simply refused to believe such a thing about this man.

She managed a soft burst of laughter. “I assure you, I’m quite real, and truly flattered. Thank you for making my day in such a sweet manner.”

“Oh, trust me—I’m not a flatterer. I speak the truth or nothing at all. You are incredibly talented, Teela...and I can’t even find words to describe your beauty. I think God must’ve gotten a little mixed up and sent an angel to earth.” He cleared his throat, and his lips curved into a crooked smile. Teela gathered he wasn’t practiced at being charming. “You don’t happen to have a pair of invisible wings, do you?”

Now Teela’s laughter came a little more easily. “I refuse to answer on the grounds that a girl’s gotta have a little mystery about her...don’t you think?”

Interview with Barbara Barrett Author of *Connect The Dots*

A little about Barbara Barrett



Barbara Barrett started reading mysteries when she was pregnant with her first child to keep her mind off things like her changing body and food cravings. When she'd devoured as many Agatha Christies as she could find, she branched out to English village cozies and Ellery Queen.

Later, to avoid a midlife crisis, she began writing fiction at night when she wasn't at her day job as a human resources analyst for Iowa State Government. After releasing eleven full-length romance novels and one novella, she returned to the cozy mystery genre, using one of her retirement pastimes, the game of mah jongg, as her inspiration. Not only has it been a great social outlet, it has also helped keep her mind active when not writing.

Connect the Dots, the third book in her "Mah Jongg Mystery" series, features four friends who play mah jongg together and share otherwise in each other's lives. None of the four is based on an actual person. Each is an amalgamation of several mah jongg friends with a lot of Barbara's imagination thrown in for good measure. The four will continue to appear in future books in the series.

Anticipating the day when she would write her first mystery, she has been a member of the Mystery/Romantic Suspense chapter of Romance Writers of America (Kiss of Death) for over a decade. She credits them with helping her hone her craft. She is also a member of Sisters in Crime and Sinclowa.

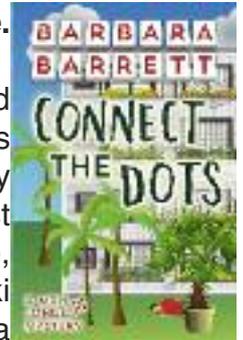
Barbara is married to the man she met her senior year of college. They have two grown children and eight grandchildren.

Now retired, she is a resident of Florida, although she spends her summers in Iowa, her home state. She earned her B.A. degree in History from the University of Iowa and her Master's Degree in History from Drake University.

When not in front of her laptop creating her next story, she plays mah jongg, knits and enjoys lunches with friends.

Tell us about your new release.

Connect the Dots is the third book in the Mah Jongg Mysteries series and the first to follow my intent to switch leads amongst the four protagonists. This time, freelance journalist Micki Demetrius takes over when a mah jongg friend asks her to write an article detailing the numerous construction flaws in her new condo to bring pressure on the developer and builder who've been refusing to make them right. Before Micki gets very far, the friend's son falls to his death from his mother's balcony and soon this becomes a murder investigation. Though Micki strives to avoid getting involved, especially when warned off by the sheriff, circumstances and outside interests keep pulling her in.



What led you to write this book?

Unfortunately, flaws in building construction, especially in multiple residence dwellings, are fairly common where I live. More than one lawsuit has resulted. I thought it would be interesting to explore how one situation like this could result in murder and how different parties could be involved. I was standing on the balcony of our own condo when the murder means occurred to me. The trick was to figure out why someone would fall or be pushed from a fictional balcony.

Did you have an interesting experience in the research of this book?

I wanted to "assist" the illustrator for the book's cover by sending her possible content ideas, so I convinced my husband to play the victim by lying prone on the ground while I shot his photo from a friend's balcony five stories above. The experience was probably more "interesting" to him, if you want to call it that, than me, since while

Continued on page 13

HEALING HANDS
ENTERTAINMENT
PRESENTS...



Award-Winning Filmmakers and Screenwriters
Amy Leigh McCorkle and Melissa Goodman



32 scripts including
Rise, Bounty Hunter,
Letters to Daniel,
The Guardian.

11 documentaries including
All in the Family, Black Gold,
Something to Believe In

5 short films including
Broken, Back On Top,
The Weekend

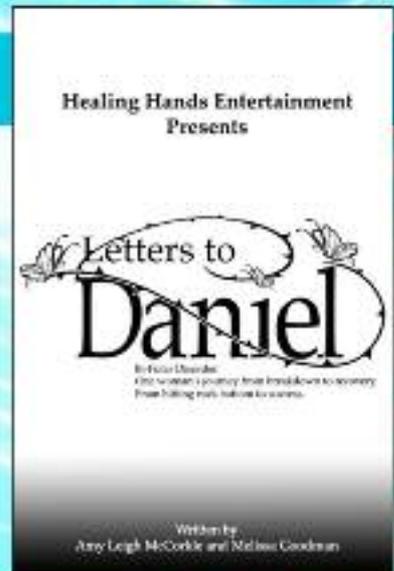


Recovery
or
Unplugged

A new podcast from
Amy Leigh McCorkle

With their feature directorial
debut filming in June 2019...

Letters to Daniel
One woman's journey from
breakdown to recovery. Based
on their best-selling novel.



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Interview with Barbara Barrett continued from page 11

he was down on the ground he encountered more than one concerned look from passersby, although no one stopped to check on him.

What do you do when you are not writing?

I play Mah Jongg twice a week, two different versions of the game. These days I can justify the time spent by calling it “research,” but before I ever started writing this series Mah Jongg was my way to relax and at the same time keep my brain active. It’s also a great social outlet. Unlike other activities, like bridge, tennis or singing in a chorus, you can talk during play. I catch up with friends’ newest trip or grandbaby.

Which book impacted you as a teenager?

It’s a toss-up between *Exodus* by Leon Uris and *Hawaii* by James Michener. Both tell the stories of various groups of people and their struggles to raise their families and build nations let alone survive. Both include a certain amount of historical accuracy. These were the longest books I’d read until then, offering great personal

satisfaction. They may have influenced me to select American History as my course of study in college. Perhaps knowing I could also finish other ambitious undertakings like obtaining my Master’s Degree, which I did.

What’s next for you?

I am currently working on Book 4 in the Mah Jongg Mystery series. I use Mah Jongg terms in the titles and thus far have used all three of the three suits of tiles in the game, Craks, Bams and Dots. Now I am moving on to the Four Winds, but still haven’t settled on a title, which is unusual for me. I typically come up with the title and base the story around that. Then I’ll move on to Book 5. When it’s finished, I’ll have used each of the four protagonists as the lead. At that point, I need to decide whether to continue the series, start a new one or do both. In the meantime, the rights to four of my romance novels should be reverting to me in the next year. So I’ll be re-editing them to self-publish. If you’re a fan of romance, check out my website for the titles.

Historical Romance by Jane Lewis



Pilot Frankie Howard, can do no wrong when he’s flying and showing off his daredevil aerobatic skills. On the ground, trouble follows him wherever he goes, especially with women. Frankie adores Ruth Ann but when he finds she has a new beau, he accepts defeat.

Ruth Ann Douglas lives a charmed life as the spoiled daughter of the town pharmacist. She bewitches and teases all the boys, especially her brother’s best friend, Frankie. Her dream of becoming an actress takes her to an acting school in Atlanta where she meets Ronald Waters, a young actor. Ronald wants to win her heart, but Ruth Ann can’t forget the handsome barnstormer and the small town she tries to leave behind.

Website Address – www.janelewisauthor.com

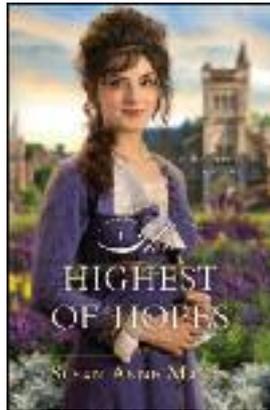
Social Media Sites - <https://www.facebook.com/janelewisauthor/>



Interview with Susan Ann Mason

Romance sprinkled with faith

Susan Anne Mason's debut historical novel, *Irish Meadows*, won the Fiction from the Heartland contest from the Mid-American Romance Authors Chapter of RWA. She is the author of the *Courage to Dream Series* and the *Canadian Crossings series*. Also a member of ACFW, Susan lives outside of Toronto, Ontario, with her husband and two children. Learn more about Susan and her books at www.susanannemason.net.



Tell us about your new release.

“The Highest of Hopes” is the story of Emmaline Moore who learns her late father is really alive and living in Canada. With no other family left, Emma decides she must find him. She leaves everything

behind (except her best friend Jonathan) and crosses the ocean to seek a new life abroad.

What led you to write this book?

In researching my family history, I learned that my grandmother, who had believed herself to be an orphan, really had a father she never knew about, but for some reason her relatives told her he was dead. She lived her whole life and never knew about him. It made me wonder what she would have done if she'd learned about him while she was alive? Would she have felt the need to find him, demand answers from him? That question led me to imagine Emmaline's journey.

What do you do when you are not writing?

I'm a part-time church secretary which I really enjoy. I started when my children were young because I was able to pick them up from school at 3:00 pm and be with them the rest of the day. Later, it gave me time to write!

What is #1 on your bucket list?

I'd love to travel to England and Ireland to see the countries my ancestors came from. Doing ancestor research led to a great curiosity to see these beautiful places. I'm hoping once my husband and I retire, we can take a wonderful trip overseas.

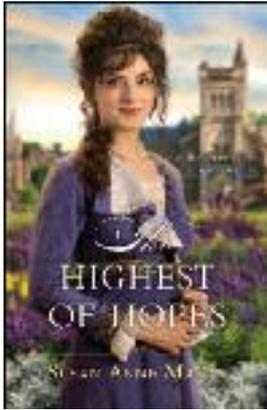
What's next for you?

Book 3 in The Canadian Crossing series is next. It's called “The Brightest of Dreams” and will be out in early 2020. This is Quinten's story about his search for his three younger siblings that were sent to Canada as part of the British Home Children migration. He is determined to bring his family back to England and reunite them with his mother. Of course, falling in love is not something he planned on, and it adds unexpected problems along the way!

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Book Excerpt from *The Highest of Hopes* by Susan Ann Mason



June 1919

There was no turning back now!

The shrill scream of the steam whistle signaled the locomotive's departure from the last stop before they reached their ultimate destination of Toronto. Emma gripped the wooden arm rests until her fingers ached, though it did little to rid her body of the tension building within her. Perhaps it was due to stress and fatigue, but on this final stage of her long journey, a cloud of doubt had crept in to plague her.

Had she made the worst mistake of her life, selling everything she owned to journey halfway across the world? For the first time since leaving England, Emma feared she may have.

Smoke billowed past the passenger car windows, momentarily masking her view of a sparkling blue lake amid the rolling countryside—not quite as scenic as the landscape in Wheatley, but certainly prettier than she'd imagined. Emma smoothed a hand over her stomach, which roiled with a mixture of anticipation and dread. She had no idea what to expect upon her arrival in Toronto, and the very real fear that she'd placed too great an importance on this trip continued to nag at her—as well as the uncomfortable feeling that she hadn't really consulted with God before making her impulsive decision. What if Jonathan was right about giving her father fair warning before simply appearing on his doorstep? What if her father wanted nothing to do with her?

Emma leaned back and took a deep breath. Nothing would be gained by this tiresome worrying. Only time would tell whether her journey would be worth leaving everything behind—or not.

In the seat beside her, Jonathan slept with his head against the window. He still looked somewhat green, a color that seemed to haunt him since their ocean crossing. Who knew he

would make such a poor sailor? Despite the doctor's pronouncement that he was fine, their six-day sojourn in Halifax had done little to restore Jonathan's equilibrium, and the extreme jostling of the train for the past two days had only exacerbated his condition. Because of the constant nausea, he'd barely been able to eat more than a few saltine crackers and tea and had slept most of the time.

A door opened at the far end of the car, and a man in a conductor's uniform entered. He stopped at the first seat and requested to see the occupants' tickets, as he'd done after every new stop.

Several rows ahead, a young girl slipped away from her mother and darted into the aisle. Despite the jerky movement of the train, the girl managed to race toward Emma, a grin of triumph lighting her face.

She came to an abrupt halt at Emma's seat and stared with dancing eyes. "Hello. My name's Sarah. I like your hat."

Before Emma could reply, a bearded man approached. "Sarah, you must stay where your mama and I can see you." He lifted the girl into his arms and dropped a kiss on her cheek. "Come now. You can give the conductor our tickets."

Sarah threw her arms around the man's neck. "Then can I have some candy, Papa?"

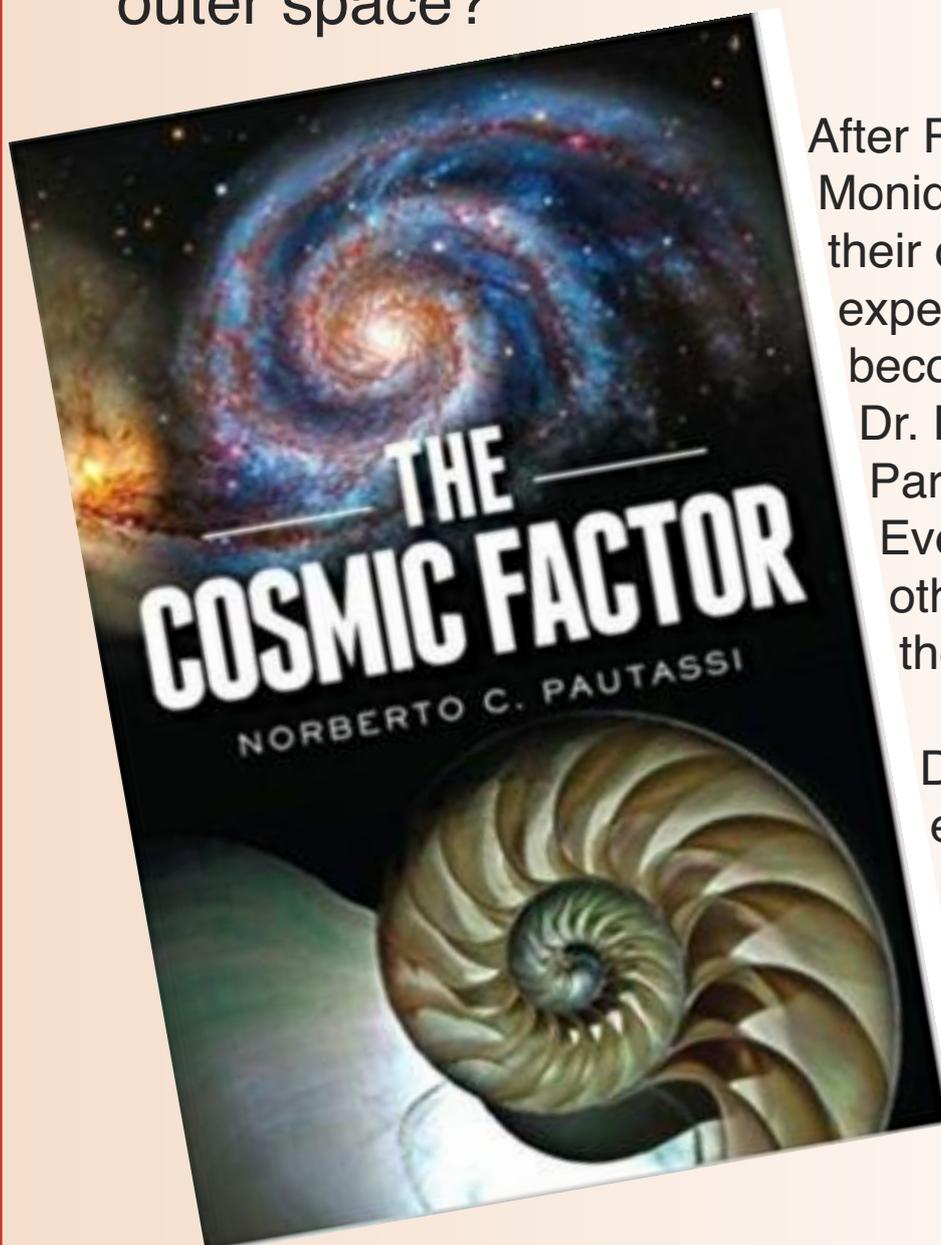
The man chuckled, gazing at the child with such adoration that Emma's throat tightened.

"If you promise to stay in your seat, you may have a peppermint," he said.

Emma watched them until they disappeared from view, but the image of the man's expression as he held his daughter remained seared in Emma's mind, igniting a burgeoning seed of hope.

She'd travelled four thousand miles to receive a look such as that.

“How do you know if the crew of some UFO sightings, mentioned occasionally in the news, are not super humans instead of aliens from outer space?”



After Ruben met the lovely Monique, they discovered their common psychic experiences after becoming familiar with Dr. Martin's book on Parapsychology. Eventually, they met other psychics around the world.

Dr. Martin, encouraged by the psychics, did research finding similarities in the Cosmos with nature on Earth.

A SFI novel supported by scientific facts. The History of Human Knowledge tends to mimic the spiral shape of our Galaxy the Milky Way where Nature attempts to elevate some humans to the state of super-humans. The destiny of humanity is to explore the stars of the Cosmos.

Norberto C. Pautassi is an environmental chemist.

Interview with Karen Harper

Author of Romantic Suspense and Historical Fiction



Bookbreeze had the opportunity to chat with long-time author, Karen Harper about her career of writing in two different genres.

the Smithsonian Channel website.

BB: So for the contemporary suspense novels, you just get an idea and dive in?

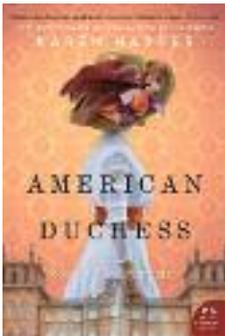
KH: My split personality for writing two different ways usually starts with a place I know or love. For example, in late May, book #6 in my South Shores Series, called *Dark Storm* is set in Naples, Florida where we lived for 30 winters. I then thought, now what interesting career would this heroine have (forensic psychologist.) The man in her life? (Criminal lawyer after having a child and being divorced from her pilot husband.) And then ‘what if’ takes over, and I’m off to the races with a plot.

BB: You have been published for a long time. Are you still writing in two different genres?

KH: Yes, I am a survivor in this crazy publishing business—my first book came out in 1982. I love writing both romantic/suspense and historical fiction, as different as those two genres may seem. Actually, in each of them, I have a female central character who rises above dangers and challenges. My agent has said, “All good writing is suspense writing in a way,” and she is right.

BB: But the preparation to write in two different genres must be different.

KH: Completely different. The rom/sus novels may be inspired by the headlines or a place I love, but the plots are strictly my imagination—perhaps with some research about careers or something unique in the plot. The historicals, on the other hand, must be driven by research because I always choose heroines who were real women: Elizabeth I, an Irish Princess, a governess who reared royal British children—and lately, Consuelo Vanderbilt, who was the original American Duchess, before Meghan Markle.

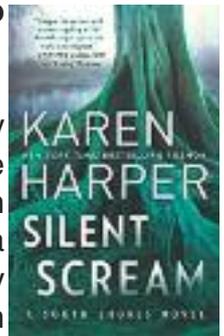


BB: The Vanderbilts are known for their wealth. How did this American woman end up a British duchess?

KH: In 1895 Consuelo married the Duke of Marlborough in what was called ‘The Wedding of the Century.’ But she was a so-called ‘dollar bride’ whose parents traded their cash for class. Consuelo managed to rise above her forced marriage to a man she did not love, and find a way to help others—and have a happy ending too. You can learn more about dollar brides on

BB: So setting is important to you?

KH: I love to set my contemporary novels in unique places: Appalachia, Amish country as well as South Florida and the Caribbean. My historicals are almost always in the late Victorian/Edwardian eras in England now. (Think *Downton Abbey*.) And, we love to travel to the settings I will use.



BB: Can you work on these two different genres at the same time?

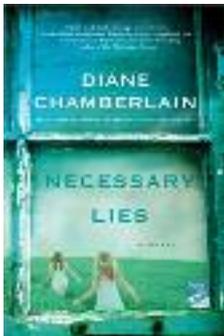
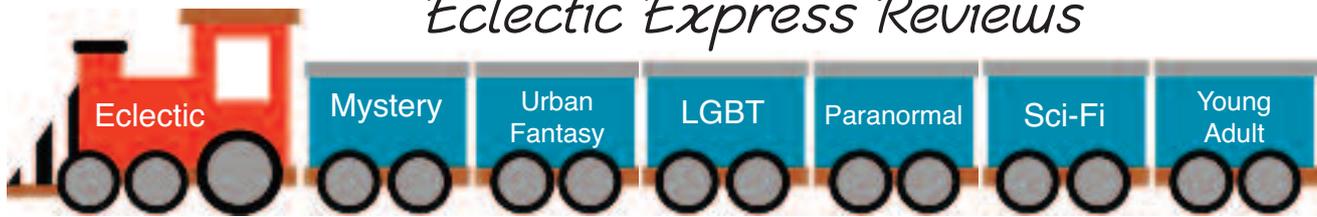
KH: Not writing them because the language, mind set, morals, clothing—everything!—is so different. However, I can research one book while writing in another genre.

BB: Do you have crossover readers between these two genres?

KH: There are some. I can tell that from meeting my readers at events or from my fb page: www.facebook.com/KarenHarperAuthor

However, I would say that more than half of my readers, prefer one genre or the other. Thanks for chatting. And welcome back, Bookbreeze. We missed you!

Eclectic Express Reviews



NECESSARY LIES
by Diane Chamberlain
Women's Fiction
Released in paperback Sept 2018
by St. Martin's Press

This book humanizes the time in the 1960's in North Carolina when the Department of Public Health would select clients to be sterilized without knowledge or consent. Beautifully told from the perspective of caseworker Jane Forrester, it tackles what happens when people are valued less because of circumstances, education and color. A side story brought to light the transition of women choosing work instead of home. A story of strength and courage and of doing what you believe is right even when everyone else is telling you it's wrong.

It has probably been a year since I read this book and it still haunts me. Diane Chamberlain did a wonderful job. I definitely recommend this book.



RUTHLESS MAGIC
by Megan Crewe
YA Fantasy
Released May 2018 by
Another World Press

Enter the world of the Mages, where you must earn the privilege of using magic. An unlikely group of teens face the Exam, a ruthless set of trials designed to push them to their limits, possibly death.

Compared to Harry Potter and The Hunger Games, I found this book an excellent read. Fast paced, well developed and intriguing.



GIVE UP THE GHOST
by Megan Crewe
YA Paranormal
Re-released Dec 2015 by
Crewe Morris Creative

I stumbled upon this little gem after reading Megan Crewe's *Ruthless Magic*. Always a sucker for a good ghost story, I gave this one a go. I liked it. Story is solid and believable and I found every time I tried to put it down I was drawn back into it. I'll let you discover the meaning behind the title.

Speaking of a good ghost story, you might want to give J. R. Rain's *The Body Departed* a try.



BY THE LIGHT OF EMBERS
by Shaylin Gandhi
Historical Fiction
Released May 9, 2019
by Briar Rose Publishing

Lucia tested the limits, challenged the norms without fear. As a white woman from a good family the world was hers.

Nicholas was a poet. They shared literature and so much more. He was a black man in 1954 Louisiana.

When a minor misunderstanding resulted in the lynching of a black man, Lucia began to understand just how far apart their worlds were and the danger that resided there.

Beautifully written about the passion and the pain of a time when lives were defined by the color of their skin. Excellent read.

Thank you NetGalley for an ARC in exchange for an honest review.