

# Something Wicked

this way comes... 2021 • Vol 2 • Issue 2



## Virtual Event...

### "Serial Crime: Writing Crime Fiction Series" Sunday, August 1 • 3:00 pm

We are excited to have a panel of three authors for our "Serial Crime: Writing Crime Fiction Series." Author Matty Dalrymple will participate and moderate the panel that also includes James McCrone and Lisa Regan.

This is a workshop of sorts. Materials and/or a link to the materials will be available for participants.

Matty is the author of the popular "Ann Kinnear" mystery series and "Lizzy Ballard" series.

James is author of the "Imogen" Trager novels.

Lisa is author of the following series: "Claire Fletcher & Detective Connor Parks," "Detective Jocelyn Rush," "Detective Josie Quinn," and the stand-alone *Kill for You*.

Please stay tuned for more information on this event.

We will record this event. If you can't join us on the day of the event, or don't have an electronic device on which to view the event, please let us know and we can set up a viewing of it for you here in the shop.

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## July Activities

### Celebrating a Year of Pod/Video Casts

It's hard to believe that we've been doing pod/video casts for over a year! We've had 11 of them and #12 is coming up in July. Authors interviewed are: Eliot Pattison, R. G. Belsky, Kari Bovée, Robert Forte, Craig Johnson with Lou Diamond Phillips, Vicki Delany, Greer Macallister, Sherry Knowlton, Sophie Hannah, Ellen Crosby, Charles Fergus and coming up...Misty Simon. Misty will tell us about her new series that will be released in July.

We're celebrating this achievement during the month of July by giving 15% off on these authors' books for the entire month. We are very fortunate to have Author/publisher Bill Peschel host these events on our behalf.

Find these interviews at:

<https://www.mysterybooksonline.com/mechanicsburg-mystery-presents>

**Please note**...if you don't have access to an electronic device that will allow you to watch or listen to our Pod/Video Casts, please let us know. We are setting up a small area in the shop where you can watch/listen to them.

### 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration - July 1 through July 17

Buy two books from a select group and receive a booklight so you can read by the campfire you'll start with the firestarter we will give you.

### Christmas in July

Join us for a peek into our Killer Nutcracker Christmas plans scheduled for December. Everyone who makes a purchase in July will receive the first chapter of the short story *Crunch of the Nutcracker Christmas* that Sheryl C. D. Ickes is writing for the event.

We'll have a drawing for a candle of your choice by Bookmarksical. These candles come in 2 oz or 8 oz sizes and are crafted from soy. Cozy up with a cozy mystery and one of these creatively named scents... Coffee Shop Killer, Killer Crème Brulee, Strawberries and Scream, Buttercream Bump Off and Murder at High Tea, just to name a few. Also, we are very excited to announce that we are the exclusive seller of Nutcracker Nightmare candles and Sugar Plum Peril candles until December 31. These scents were crafted just for us to celebrate our nutcracker themed Christmas. We've matched up some cozy mysteries to go with the candles, too.

## Temporary Shop Hours

See page 7 for shop hours.  
Thank you.

Newsletter of the  
Mechanicsburg Mystery Book Shop  
6 Clouser Road  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055  
Phone: 717-795-7470 • Fax: 717-795-7473  
[www.mysterybooksonline.com](http://www.mysterybooksonline.com)  
[mysterybooks@comcast.net](mailto:mysterybooks@comcast.net)



MECHANICSBURG  
**MYSTERY**  
bookshop

We know where the bodies are buried...

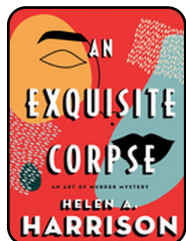
## Book Reviews

These books are available for sale on our website or by stopping in at the shop.

### An Exquisite Corpse - Art of Murder 1

by Helen A. Harrison

Type: Historical/Police Procedural/  
Women Sleuths/Historical - \$14.99



During World War II, an artist community that call themselves Surrealists escaped France as the German occupation began, scraping by and relying on the generosity of others whilst living in New York City. One evening, painter André Breton sees fellow painter Lam's studio light on and decides to call on him only to find his friend dead on the floor arranged in a unique fashion...an exquisite corpse to be precise. An exquisite corpse is a game played by surrealist artists in which an artist draws a head then folds the paper down to cover the image, hands the paper off to the next artist who sketches the torso and arms before folding the paper again. The last artist creates the feet. When the paper is unfolded, a bizarre and misshapen figure is left—derived from the subconscious and seen as the crazier being better for inspiration.

The case becomes twisted when Lam is found with his wallet intact, including \$300, and he appears to have no visible wounds on his person. Detectives O'Connell and Dillon head up the investigation that takes them between the eclectic worlds of the foreign artists, Chinatown, and the Cuban community. Between many of the artists romantically involved with each other's spouses, a sailor with some drugs on the loose, and the police hitting a stone wall at every turn, can the police find the creative murderer or will they keep playing with Cuban Voodoo dolls and Chinese firecrackers for theories?

I found this book entertaining and creative as it twists together numerous perspectives into one narrative. There are many artists and additional characters to keep track of, but it kept me on my toes and engaged me throughout the book. No extreme violence occurs, nor sexual imagery except some innuendos, and some moderate use of foul language would give it more a classic detective story leaning closer to a cozy in format. The

### Bearly Departed - Teddy Bear 1

by Meg Macy

Type: Cozy - \$15.00



The Silver Bear Shop and Factory might be the cutest place around, but there's nothing warm and fuzzy about murder...

As manager of the family teddy bear shop and factory, thirty-one-year-old Sasha Silverman leads a charmed life. Well, except for the part about being a single divorcee with a ticking biological clock in small-town Silver Hollow. And that's just kid's stuff compared to Will Taylor, the sales rep who's set on making drastic changes to the business her parents built from scratch—with or without Sasha's approval.

But before Will digs his claws in, someone pulls the stuffing out of his plan...and leaves his dead body inside the factory. Reeling from shock, Sasha's hit with more bad news—police suspect her hot-tempered Uncle Ross may have murdered him. Sasha knows her uncle would never do such a thing, and she's launching her own little investigation to expose the truth. As she tracks Will's biggest rivals and enemies for clues, Sasha can't get too comfy—or she'll become the next plaything for a killer.

*Bearly Departed* is a delightful read. This intriguing story is hard to put down. The interplay between the characters is enjoyable and realistic. Because of so many secrets unveiled there are a lot of twists and turns that keep you guessing on the identity of the killer. There is a very action packed ending when the killer is revealed. I'm very much looking forward to the next book in the series, *Bear Witness to Murder*.

...Reviewed by Marcia

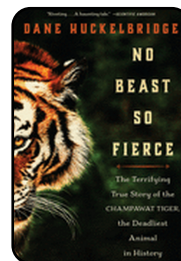
people described in this story were real but the actual crime is pure fiction, and you won't guess who the killer is.

...Reviewed by Sarah

### No Beast So Fierce

by Dane Huckelbridge

Type: Non-Fiction/Thriller - \$17.99



Nepal, 1900: The single deadliest animal in recorded history began stalking humans, moving like a phantom through the lush foothills of the Himalayas.

As the death toll reached an astonishing 435 lives, a young local hunter, Jim Corbett was dispatched to stop the now-legendary man-eater before it struck again.

*No Beast So Fierce* is the true account of the Champawat Tiger and Jim Corbett, the legendary hunter who pursued it. Huckelbridge's masterful telling also reveals that the tiger, Corbett, and the forces that brought them together are far more complex and fascinating than a simple man-versus-beast tale.

Like a detective on the trail of a serial killer, Corbett tracked the tiger's movements in the dense, hilly woodlands—meanwhile, the animal shadowed Corbett in return.

I don't know if this book should be "true crime" because even though the victims were human, the killer was not.

This is the story of a man-eating tiger that roamed India and Nepal. It begins telling us why she became a man eater. Humans being the reason she had to hunt other humans in order to survive and feed her cubs. It is reported that she killed over 400 people over several years.

It is also the story of the man who hunted and killed her. He hunted several of these man-killers but later established a sanctuary for tigers.

Included are some wonderful photographs and a bit of history about "royal tiger hunts" and the political views in that era.

...Reviewed by Sandy

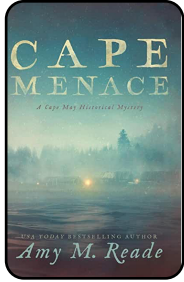
"It is ridiculous to set a detective story in New York City. New York City is itself a detective story."

Agatha Christie

## Book Reviews • continued

### Cape Menace - Cape May Historical 1 by Amy M. Reade

Type: Historical - \$12.95



Horrifying accident or murder? *Cape Menace* starts with the disappearance of Ruth Hanover, mother of Sarah and wife to William, the local apothecary. No sign of what happened to her is found when William and the neighbors searched, nor in the years that

followed. Sarah does eventually find the answer. She considers death by the ever-present wolves and bears, kidnapping by the local pirates or Captain Eli, a repulsive man who has an unrequited passion for Ruth.

Before Sarah gets her answer, the reader learns a great deal about everyday life in colonial New Jersey. The daily round of chores and the relationships with the people of Town Bank make for involving reading. I'd recommend this book for any reader including young adult.

Our book discussion group gave this book an 8.4 out of 10 rating.

*Reviewed by Anonymous*

### Tragedy at Piddleton Hotel - Churchill and Pemberley 1 by Emily Organ

Type: Cozy/Traditional - \$12.99



This is the first in the Churchill and Pemberley mystery series set in the Village of Compton, Poppleford, England. Mrs. Churchill is a middle-aged Scotland Yard detective's widow, who purchases the Atkins Detective Agency. Ms. Pemberley is the secretary that comes with the agency.

The book is written with great wit and humor. The setting is a detective agency in a small town run by two women. The agency receives two cases. Number 1 is to find a cat's mystery feeder and number 2 is to discover how Mrs. Furzgate fell down the stairs at the Pendleton hotel.

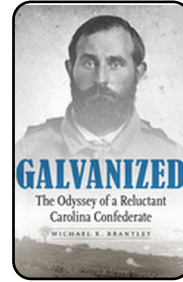
The twists and turns in this read are light and fun to follow. Most of the time the two women are caught in hilarious situations while attempting to solve these cases.

Mrs. Churchill's methods to explain the demise of Mrs. Furzgate is to assemble the necessary players, explain the situation, and name the person responsible for the crime. The remaining Churchill/Pemberley books will make a fun read.

*Reviewed by Bernie*

### Galvanized - The Odyssey of a Reluctant Carolina Confederate by Michael K. Brantley

Type: Historical/Biography - \$28.95



The story of a North Carolina farmer who fought in the Civil War. Wright Stephen Batchelor served in both armies, survived Gettysburg, was twice captured and spent time in the worst POW camps of the war, escaped, and walked hundreds of

miles to rejoin his comrades at Petersburg just in time for a Union siege. After surviving it all, he went home to North Carolina only to be the victim of a bizarre murder.

During the earlier years of the Civil War, Confederate soldiers who were captured were sometimes given the opportunity to be released from prison camps if they took an oath to swear loyalty to the Union. These soldiers were called "Galvanized." Wright Batchelor was one of these soldiers. He was also the great-great grandfather of the author.

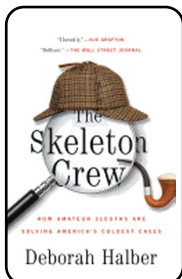
Brantley describes Batchelor's early life through the post-war years to his surprising death. He also discusses how the people from his area of North Carolina felt about slavery, splitting from the Union, and War. He also poses the question of how we can judge the Confederacy 160 years later. Society has changed so much that we need to put ourselves back into their time and mindset.

I got interested in this book because I was working on my own family history when I found that a Thomas Batchelor (a North Carolina soldier) was captured in Perry County. This was when the Southern Army was in Carlisle/Mechanicsburg area just before the Gettysburg battle. I believe these two men (Wright and Thomas) were related. More research for another day...

*Reviewed by Sandy*

### The Skeleton Crew - How Amateur Sleuths are Solving America's Coldest Cases by Deborah Halber

Type: True Crime/Forensic Science - \$17.00



#### It's DIY CSI.

Every year thousands of unidentified bodies or remains are found in the U.S. and thousands of people go missing each year. Many of these cases go cold because law enforcement agencies have neither

the resources nor the manpower to devote to trying to solve them.

Today, private citizens are using the internet to solve these cases. They may start by

searching for a loved one or perhaps they are looking for someone whose story was in the news.

The author tells various stories of how these amateurs go about solving these cases.

For all of you "ghouls" there are no photos but some descriptions of the murders and a trip to a morgue (a place I don't want to visit while I'm still among the living).

This is a fast read on a subject that I have never read about previously. Those of you who enjoy a good mystery—especially real ones—should enjoy it.

*Reviewed by Sandy*

"There simply must be a corpse in a detective novel, and the deader the corpse the better."

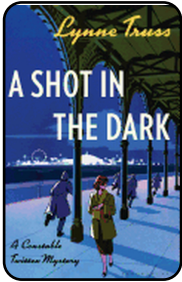
S. S. Van Dine



**A Shot in the Dark - Constable Twitten 1**

*by Lynne Truss*

Type: Cozy - \$17.00



Bodies (dead bodies!), murders (how horrendous!), so many unknowns (how mysterious!), an inept police inspector (sort of like the long-ago TV character Monk), and a host of bizarre characters make for a very interesting story (well maybe “hilarious” would be a better adjective). The reader is introduced to Inspector Steine (our inept police inspector) almost immediately (page three) as being a very serious individual who took his new job as police inspector of Brighton (located near London, England) very seriously and managed to wipe out all the corruption, criminal mischief, violent gangs and to make Brighton a welcoming and safe town for residents and visitors alike. Mispronouncing his name (pronounced “Steen”) would not be tolerated either. After a couple of pages the reader realizes that author Lynne Truss has a unique way of using words that make for a roller coaster ride of laughter. Truss’s use of parentheses to further describe the story’s events tends to pull the reader into a sort of personal relationship with her (like having a cup of tea and sharing your life’s stories with a friend).

The reader immediately learns about the “Middle Street Massacre of 1951,” how three gangs battled it out. Two of the gangs killed each other leaving only one gang in existence and a whole host of questions unanswered. The story jumps ahead six years to 1957 leaving this massacre hanging and the reader wondering about its connection to the story.

Truss introduces the reader to a whole host of unique individuals, each with characteristics that make them all memorable. A.S. Crystal is a renowned theatre critic (yes, I forgot to tell you that this story centers around the theatre world, a great place for colorful characters) and he is murdered while viewing a play. He is not well-liked

and suspicions abound as to the how, why, and who of the murder. Jack Braithwaite wrote the play and he knows that Crystal hated it. Henry Hogarth (aka “The Head”) is an antiques dealer who bought a set of coins that he knew to be stolen. Mrs. Groynes is a sweet little old lady that practically lives at the police station and calls everyone “Dear.” Mr. Forrester, an actor, was accused of killing Crystal as was Strong Lady Miss Carver. Constable Twitten reports to Inspector Steine but there is a communication snafu where Twitten believes Steine is expecting him, but Steine knows nothing about him. Harry Jupiter provides another facet to this hilarious farce as a writer who writes praises for the police and therefore is called “The Policeman’s Friend.” Steine, unbelievably, has never heard of him!

The cast of characters continues to grow as the story becomes more intricately involved. Criminal acts continue to mount up. Then, suddenly, things start to tie together, and the reader is caught off guard when the truth becomes apparent.

And...the title, “where did that come from,” you ask? Well, that is Crystal’s autobiography that he and his secretary, Miss Sibert (also a colorful character), are writing. Of course!

If you are looking for a light-hearted fast-moving book that mocks the seriousness of murder and criminal acts and has some memorable characters, this is it. Just be prepared to laugh and to shake your head in disbelief.

*Reviewed by Sherry*

**Scorched Earth - General Sullivan and the Senecas**

*by John Moore*

Type: Historical/Biography - \$9.99



Throughout 1778, Iroquois war parties repeatedly raided the frontiers of Pennsylvania, New York, and New Jersey. In 1779, General George Washington decided to punish them. He sent Major General John Sullivan into the Iroquois country with orders to make it uninhabitable. “Scorched Earth - General Sullivan and the Senecas” tells how Sullivan’s invasion force of thousands of soldiers marched into the Pennsylvania hinterland, up the Susquehanna River, and into the Iroquois homeland. Along the way, the troops burned every village and destroyed every farm they found. As the army advanced, the Indians—men, women, and children—fled. Drawing upon first-person accounts kept by Sullivan’s officers, author John L. Moore chronicles how the troops devoted much more time to laying waste to cornfields than they did to fighting Iroquois warriors. Washington himself was ecstatic. “Their whole country has been overrun and laid waste,” he said. In the end, many more Indians starved during the following winter than were killed in battle with Sullivan’s soldiers.

I have read all eight of Moore’s “Frontier Pennsylvania” series and this is the second in his “Revolutionary Pennsylvania” series. There are three more after this completed.

Moore’s books are well-researched and have maps, drawings, and photos of current locations mentioned in his text.

In this book, he not only tells of the battles, but about Native American life in the time period: hunting, farming, fighting tactics and strategy.

Many characters will be familiar to those who remember their history lessons: Washington, Sullivan, Zeisberger and Heckewelder (missionaries), Mary Jemison (a white girl taken by Indians in the Chambersburg area), and various Native Americans who took part in this story.

Moore’s books are all short but fact-filled. If you’re interested in Colonial history you will enjoy all of them.

*Reviewed by Sandy*





# Schedule of Events

We are pleased to announce that we are participating in the PA Tea Festival this year. We had a great time in 2019 when we participated and are looking forward to this year's event.

If you haven't been to the Festival please do consider going. There are lots of booths selling teas, tea accessories, and more. There are classes and I'll have the author booth.

Tickets are on sale now. For more information, visit their website at:  
<https://www.teafestpa.com/>

**Friday,  
September 24**

**Saturday,  
September 25**

**9:00 am til 4:00 pm  
each day**

## **Friday Lectures**

**10:30**–Tea in Britain: Comfort & Tradition in a Cup

**11:30**–Welcome to Tea Rooms - Historically Speaking

**12:30**–Welcome to the World of Puer - Pu Erh - Pu'er -Puerh

**1:30**–Herbal Bouquets (toss 'em in the teapot or the stock pot)

**2:30**–The Way of Tea and its Relationship with Literati (the scholarly)

## **Friday Tea Tastings**

**9:15– 10:15**–Make it and Take it Class – Jewelry!

**10:30**–Yellow Tea, What is it?

**12:00**–Tea Brewing Basics and Beyond

**1:30**–Chocolate and Tea Pairing

**3:00**–It's 5 o'clock Somewhere! A World of Fruit Flavored Teas

## **Friday Garden Activities**

**10:00**–Kombucha Tastings-Meet at the Picnic Table

**11:00-2:00** -Special Tastings-Pavilion Area

**10:15**–Garden Tour-Meet at the Giant Tea Cup

**2:00**–Garden Tour-Meet at the Giant Tea Cup

**2:30**–Kombucha Tastings-Meet at the Picnic Table

**3:15**–"Sip-in for Peace"–Meet at the Peace Pole

## **Friday Literary Chats**

**12:00**–Christine Trent,Lady of Ashes, Victorian Era book series

**2:00** -Author Meet & Greet -- Did you miss meeting the author earlier? Come now to chat!

## **Friday Musical Line Up**

**11:00-1:00**–Jonathan Frazier - guitar, native flute, Jonathan offers a variety of musical sounds

**1:00–3:00**–Mary-Kate Spring of SEASONS, with the Celtic Harp

## **Saturday Lectures**

**9:30**–Herbal Teas for Winter Health

**10:30**–Tea, Tearooms and Women's Suffrage

**11:30**–Looking Beyond the Tea Cup

**12:30**–Historical Tea Gardens

**1:30**–Tea Trivia - Didja know that?

**2:30**–Japanese Tea Traditions. The Way of Tea

## **Saturday Tea Tastings**

**9:15**– All about CHAI

**10:30**–Cooking With Tea

**12:00**–*to be announced*

**1:30** - Tea and Honey Pairing and Tasting

**3:00** - Charcuterie Board and Tea Pairing

## **Saturday Garden Activities**

**10:00**–Kombucha Tastings-Meet at the Picnic Table

**10:15**–Garden Tour-Meet at the Giant Tea Cup

**11:00-2:00**–Special Tastings: Cookies-Pavilion

**2:00**–Garden Tour-Meet at the Giant Tea Cup

**2:30**–Kombucha Tastings-Meet at the Picnic Table

**3:15**–"Sip-in for Peace"–Meet at the Peace Pole

## **Saturday Literary Chats**

**10:00**–Nancy Coco,Kensington Palace Series Mystery Series and the Candy Coated Mystery Series

**12:30**–Catherine Bruns,Italian Chef Mystery Series and the Cookie and Chance Mystery Series with recipes

**2:00**–Author Meet & Greet – did you miss a chance to meet an author earlier? Come back!

## **Saturday Musical Line Up**

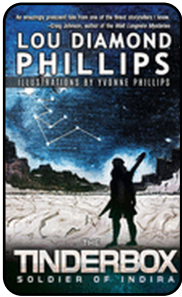
**11:00-1:00**–Jonathan Frazier,talented in all the arts including music

**1:00-3:00**–Keith Carney-Engle,Our favorite fiddler

**Tinderbox: Soldier of Indira**

by Lou Diamond Phillips

Type: Space Opera/Thriller - \$24.99



This story was a delight to read and I thoroughly enjoyed the book from cover to cover. It follows the story of Everson, an Indiran soldier who has been left for dead by his people after defeat at the Grand Schism battle. The desert that lies before him is of the enemy planet Mano, once adjoined to his planet of Indira long ago. The two halves have been at war for a few centuries, Indira having the more advanced of the weaponry. Intertwined with his fate, the Manoliths surviving the desert landscape have been suffering under their King's power hungry greed. Terrified of the prophecy that has announced his reign's demise, his daughter Allegra has been trapped in the castle since her birth and kept as a prisoner within her room. The TREE is said to hold the key to saving the kingdom if they can find a champion that can beat the three DOGS' challenges nestled within its secrets. When Everson is captured by one with less than pure intentions for the King of Mano, his only freedom rests in him surviving those very obstacles. As he approaches what would end up being the start of battles, love, betrayal, and a life he never imagined, he realizes that no one has ever come back alive. Will he end up with the same fate as the rest or will he survive and allow himself to fall victim to his destiny?

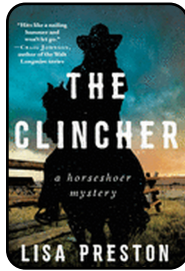
I was originally intrigued by the storyline when I heard about it at the bookshop's zoom event with Craig Johnson and Lou Diamond Phillips (LDP), and I was not disappointed. LDP's first ever novel was dimensional in its plot and details, and well deserving of its praise from Craig Johnson's quote on the book's cover. The well-developed characters all played a part in a grander scheme that rotated between their various viewpoints and kept me on my toes. The emotions are relatable and the world so real, I can touch it in my mind. I would recommend this book to anyone who likes science fiction, action, adventure or just plain good old storytelling.

I would also like to give fair warning to readers that his choice of wordage can be

**The Clincher - Horseshoer 1**

by Lisa Preston

Type: Cozy - \$15.99



Rainy Dale is The Clincher—a twenty-something high school-dropout turned farrier (horseshoer) who is haunted by a secret she carries. Estranged from her California D-list actress momma and her ranch hand Texas daddy, she tracked down her childhood horse in small-town Oregon—a land full of cowboys and their horses—then stayed to build a life with her tools, steel, and forge. She's sleeping in a garage and trying not to fall for her landlord, the hapless and hopeful chef, Guy, who is determined to create the perfect soufflé while Rainy would prefer to just stuff her mouth with fuel for her physically demanding job.

As the new kid in town, Rainy has an uphill battle to prove herself in order to make a living by her trade, especially to her male clients who look down their noses at a female farrier. She's in over her head when one of her clients turns up dead, setting her up as both a suspect and a seeker of the truth. If she plans on setting down roots in her new town, Rainy will have to find the killer and clear her name. It's a country as wild as the mustangs that used to run free. Finding the truth might get her killed.

Looking for a unique read? *The Clincher* by Lisa Preston has a taste of the old west in modern times. There are many secrets, most of them pertain to Rainy Dale, the main character. Those secrets reveal why Rainy feels the way she does about life. Her character matures as she works through some dark times from her past.

Rainy feels she is obligated to the victim to find the murderer because she may have missed an opportunity to prevent the killing. There are many suspects but when she realizes who the culprit is, Rainy's life hangs in the balance. A very intense and absorbing end that keeps you riveted until the last page.

*Reviewed by Marcia*

challenging at times, but I did not feel that it took anything away from the actual story plot or from any of the messages within it.

*Reviewed by Sarah*

**Thin Ice - Alaska Wild 1**

by Paige Shelton

Type: Traditional Detective - \$7.99



The word "terror" is mentioned twice on the first page of Paige Shelton's *Thin Ice*.

Its storyteller, Beth, whose name is not divulged until page nine, is flying to a very remote part of Alaska clutching an old typewriter. By page five, the reader is hooked, fully drawn into the story, and in need of the answers to the many questions posed in the first four pages; the main question, and what we believe is the crux of the story, is: "What terrifying thing is Beth hiding from and why?"

We get to know some of the 500 inhabitants of this remote town of Benedict and how their lives are all intertwined for survival. Benedict, Alaska is a beautiful land and extremely harsh in winter. Three female felons are housed at the Benedict House and we are drawn into their lives. Even though some community members may not be liked by everyone, respect is mandatory for all because the winters can be brutal and supporting each other is a necessity.

One of their own had been found dead shortly before Beth's arrival and everyone believes it is murder, but no evidence can be found...that is until Beth does some questioning. Through the investigation, one might wonder if a romance is in the making. Through Beth's probing, the reader picks up historical bits of intriguing information. This book is much more than just a piece of fiction.

Beth's fear and the murder are beautifully woven together. Then another mystery arises; what happened to Beth's father all those years ago? Is he still alive somewhere?

This book is a page-tuner with each page surprising the reader with another piece of the puzzle as the personalities of all the players continue to develop. By the time the last page is read, one mystery has been solved, but the other two are still wide open. A body has just washed up on shore and the reader, especially this one, is already looking forward to the sequel.

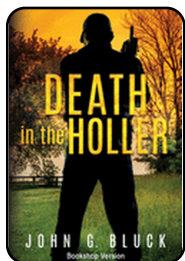
*Reviewed by Sherry*

## Book Reviews • continued

### Death in the Holler

by John G. Bluck

Type: Hard Boiled/Thriller - \$18.99



In the near future, 2029 to be exact, things are not very different. There are more electric cars, including cop cars, and marijuana is legal. There are still illegal drugs as well as black market pot. Couples still separate, and a bad break up still effects both parties.

Kentucky Game Warden Luke Ryder took his breakup hard, leading him to become an alcoholic. His boss is ready to fire him when his best friend, the county sheriff, asks him to help with a murder case and offers him a job if he gets into a program for his drinking.

The case involves a Louisville gangster who was killed with a smooth bore weapon on a farm in the Holler. Ryder must figure out who his friends are while trying to control his drinking long enough to get into a program.

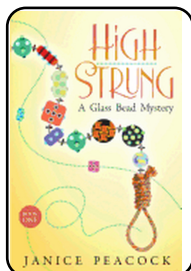
The interest of an attractive former "escort" only further confuses him. Ryder races against a ticking time bomb of self-destruction to solve the case before he implodes.

...Reviewed by Jay

### High Strung - Glass Bead 1

by Janice Peacock

Type: Cozy - \$13.95



After inheriting a house in Seattle, Jax O'Connell is living the life of her dreams as a glass beadmaker and jewelry designer. When she gets an offer to display her work during a bead shop's opening festivities, it's an opportunity Jax can't resist-even though the store's owner is the surliest person Jax has ever met. The weekend's events become a tangled mess when a young beadmaker is found dead nearby and several odd-ball bead enthusiasts are suspects. Jax must string together the clues to clear her friend Tessa's name-and do it before the killer strikes again.

Janice Peacock has created a wonderful and fun read in this modern day **High Strung**. The easy-flow writing captures your attention from the very beginning.

A number of suspects keep you guessing and the revelation is surprising. The story made me chuckle as well as feel sad. The interplay between characters is very enjoyable. This is a series worth following.

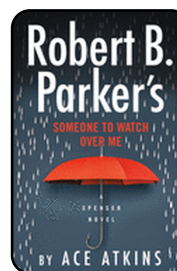
...Reviewed by Marcia

### Someone To Watch Over Me -

Robert B. Parker's Spenser 48

by Ace Atkins

Type: Traditional Detective - \$15.95



Spenser has a new apprentice in Mattie Sullivan who years earlier was his client. Spenser helps Mattie with her own case of a young girl who is trying to recover her stolen laptop and backpack. The case quickly escalates to involve the exploitation of young women on a global scale.

Due to the high danger level Spenser, of course, gets Hawk to cover his back. Hawk's presence is even more important when they realize their new adversary is being aided by the mysterious "gray man" who nearly killed Spenser some years before.

Ace Atkins has always had a good feel for Parker's characters, and this story shows that the series is still in good hands.

...Reviewed by Jay

### Dark Sky - Joe Pickett 21

by C. J. Box

Type: Detective/Crime/Thriller - \$28.00



Joe Pickett's job as a Wyoming game warden does not include guiding tech billionaires on an elk hunt. Unless, of course, the Governor makes it mandatory. Soon after the hunt starts Joe discovers that they were followed by woods savvy killers who are bent on revenge. If being out-manned and out-gunned isn't bad enough, there are also traitors, a snowstorm, and even savage wildlife to deal with.

Joe's best friend, falconer Nate Romanowski, has his own problems dealing with bird poachers, but finds that he must once again ride to Joe's rescue.

This is another exciting thriller with the rugged Wyoming wilderness as its setting and once again shows that Box is a master of the outdoor adventure.

...Reviewed by Jay Catherman

Note...Paperback is due to be released in August and the cover price will be \$17.00.

## Temporary Shop Hours and Procedures

Wednesday and Thursday	12:30 pm til 6:00 pm
Friday and Saturday	12:30 pm til 5:30 pm
Sunday through Tuesday	Closed except for special events

Please note that starting on June 28, while inside the shop:

Wearing masks will become optional

Gloves, while no longer mandatory, will be available if you would like to wear them.

Hand sanitizer will still be available

Maintaining a "social distance" of 6' **will continue**

We will continue to limit occupancy to 4 folks at a time

Please note that we will continue to accommodate appointments if you find it more desirable. Please call us to let us know if you would like an appointment. If you prefer "Drive-By Service" please call us and let us know in advance. Our number is 717-795-7470.



## Simple Alarm System

I received the following information in an email and thought it might be helpful to you, a relative or friend.

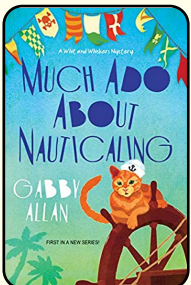
- Put your car keys beside your bed at night.
- Tell your spouse, your children, your neighbors, your parents, your Dr.'s office, the check-out girl at the market, everyone you run across. Put your car keys beside your bed at night.
- If you hear a noise outside your home or someone trying to get in your house, just press the panic button for your car. The alarm will be set off, and the horn will continue to sound until either you turn it off or the car battery dies.
- This tip came from a neighborhood watch coordinator. Next time you come home for the night and you start to put your keys away, think of this: It's a security alarm system that you probably already have and requires no installation. Test it. It will go off from most everywhere inside your house and will keep honking until your battery runs down or until you reset it with the button on the key fob chain. It works if you park in your driveway or garage (or your spare key, if you have one)
- If your car alarm goes off when someone is trying to break into your house, odds are the burglar/rapist won't stick around. After a few seconds, all the neighbors will be looking out their windows to see who is out there and sure enough the criminal won't want that. And remember to carry your keys while walking to your car in a parking lot. The alarm can work the same way there. This is something that should really be shared with everyone. Maybe it could save a life or a sexual abuse crime.
- It might also be useful for any emergency, such as a heart attack, where you can't reach a phone. You might carry your car keys with you in case you fall outside and your spouse/friend/etc. doesn't hear you. You could activate the car alarm and then your spouse/friend/etc. would know there's a problem.

## Word Search

O X C H E M I C A L S A T F K A L J  
E O V I C T I M C E V I T O M O P P  
D W T C K A G L B V D F Q U Y R O B  
L N I R J Y U F N T O S S J O S I S  
F B A T F E K F I R M L L J T O E O  
O L S L N K X R E T X E J M M C J O  
O T P A H E N N S O C T O E N C Q B  
T C O N W P S O B N T R T E U T M V  
P E A I Z I L S E N T R C L X D F I  
R P G M C V K D I E I S P R A Y O O  
I S F I E A I R M C E R A E Z T O U  
N U I R U V P T S R I R Z T S L R S  
T S S C E R J I O T T Q G T M I P L  
S H H D E S P U S E R U H A O U I G  
Z V Y G Z N L B W F X W J P U G T S  
G O N O B F A E T A G I T S E V N I  
O I K S J W I B I L A J B E J N A C  
F Z S W S F R N S U O I C I P S U S

ACCOMPLICE	DNA	POSTMORTEM
ALIBI	EVIDENCE	PROOF
BIOMETRICS	FISHY	SOLVE
BLOOD	FLUORESCENCE	SPATTER
CHEMICALS	FOOTPRINTS	SUSPECT
CLUE	FORENSIC	SUSPICIOUS
CRIMINAL	GUILTY	SWABS
CULPRIT	INVESTIGATE	VICTIM
DETECTIVE	MOTIVE	WITNESS
	OBVIOUS	

### Latest Pod/Video Cast #12...Coming Up...Gabby Allan (a.k.a. Misty Simon)



Gabby Allan is the next author interviewed for us by Bill Peschel. In this episode, Gabby will talk about her new Whit and Wiskers mystery series. The first book in the series—*Much Ado About Nauticaling*—is a bubbly fun rom-com meets the irresistible quirkiness of a cozy mystery in this new series set off the coast of Southern California, where 30-something Whitney Dagner has moved home to help with her family's boat tour business. Living in a Pacific paradise isn't always smooth sailing, but things really get rocky when Whit's brother is accused of murder and it falls on her—with the help of her ex-boyfriend Felix and police dispatcher roommate Mirabel - to clear his name...

Whitney Dagner is your tour guide to a Pacific paradise that's to die for only to find it's a place people are also willing to kill for in Gabby Allan's *Much Ado About Nauticaling*.

Please note...the link for this interview will be available July 17. If you don't have access to an electronic device that will allow you to watch or listen to our Pod/Video Casts, please let us know. We will be setting up a small area in the shop where you can watch/listen to them.