

Summer Time Escapes

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

beach	camping	drinks
hiking	murder	museums
photos	pool	reads
snacks	summer	sunshine
travel	vacation	water

Complete this puzzle, and drop on by our shop for a small bookish gift of your choice!

(While Supplies Last)

# Something Wicked



this way comes... 2026 • Vol. 7 • Issue 1

Upcoming Events At-A-Glance

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**June 24th - PROMM (TBD)**  
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**July 22nd - PROMM with James**  
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Please Note:

Our shop will be closed  
 July 4th - 11th, and will reopen  
 on July 15th.

Can't Make An Event?

No problem! Just let our staff  
 know ahead of the day, and  
 we will gladly fulfill your order.



Summer Wordsearch:

Complete the puzzle, and drop on by our shop for a small bookish gift of your choice! (On the Back Page)

**Shop Hours**

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

Newsletter of Mechanicsburg Mystery Bookshop  
 6 Clouser Rd • Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

Phone: 717-795-7470 • www.MysteryBooksOnline.com

**NOTE New Email Address:** [mysterybookshop@proton.me](mailto:mysterybookshop@proton.me)

**Author Takeover Events... Mondays From 7 pm - 8 pm**

In our Facebook Group, And Then There Were Mysteries.... we host "AuthorTakeover Events" twice a month.

As a reminder, these online events feature an author who will chat with our readers about their books. Discounts on books will be a part of each of our Takeovers, which is FREE to do.

Pictured below are the authors who will be joining us.



**Geri Krotow**  
April 27th



**Lynn Cahoon**  
May 4th



**Cathy Wiley**  
May 18th



**Misty Lynn**  
June 8th



**Iris March**  
June 22nd



**Nancy Basile**  
July 13th



**Annette Dashofy - July 20th**

We will be our last Takeover before we take a break in August.

**Books are 20% Off for the week of an author's Takeover.**

**The PA Tea Festival 2026 TEA COZY COMPETITION**



Enter the PA Tea Festival competition for the best handcrafted tea cozy. Votes will be accepted online at TEAFESTPA.com between September 10th and 20th. Votes will also be accepted in person by attendees of the PA TEA FESTIVAL on September 18th and 19th.

Over \$400.00 in prizes (specialty loose leaf tea, tea accessories, books, gift items) will be awarded to the winners.

How to Enter the Contest

Designs do not have to be original, but the contestant must have handcrafted the knitted, crocheted or felted cozy (only cozies created with yarn will be accepted).

One entry per person.

To enter, contestants must email a color, clear (in focus), clear photograph to TheRosemaryHouse@gmail.com or mail to The Rosemary House, 120 S Market Street, Mechanicsburg, PA 17055.

Photos will not be returned.

The winner(s) will be notified by text or email.

This competition is open to residents of the USA only.



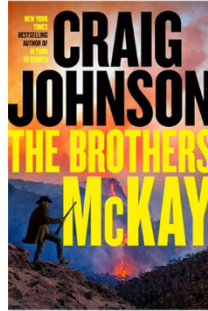
**For a complete list of the rules and requirements, please stop by our shop for a paper or visit The Rosemary House.**

And be sure to mark the PA Tea Festival on your calendar! We will be back at the Literary Corner with FOUR Authors.

## Craig Johnson is BACK! (FREE to Attend)

### June 1st: Craig Johnson Author Event

*The Brothers McKay* is the latest story in the beloved New York Times bestselling Longmire series – the basis for the hit Netflix original series “Longmire.” Craig Johnson is the recipient of the Western Writers of America Spur Award for fiction and the Mountain & Plains Independent Booksellers Association’s Reading the West Book Award for fiction. His novella *Spirit of Steamboat* was the first One Book Wyoming selection. He lives in Ucross, Wyoming, population twenty-six.



### Talk Begins at 7 pm

Doors open to the public at 6:30 pm, and his talk will begin around 7 pm. Books will be available for purchasing through our online store, in our shop, and on the night of the event.

### Event Location:

Shiremanstown United Methodist Church  
125 E Main St, Shiremanstown, PA 17011

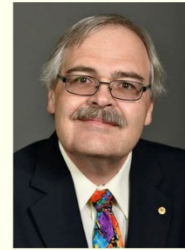
Please register for this event ahead of June 1st, so that our staff may have enough chairs and supplies ready. You can register on our website, over the phone, or stopping by our shop.

The paperback of *Return to Sender* will also be available on the night of the event.

## PROMM For This Year... (\$3 Per Person)

Please register ahead for these events. Starts at 7 pm.

### May 27th: PROMM with Mark Podvia



America’s first covered bridge once crossed the Schuylkill River in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and at one time the Commonwealth had over 1,500 covered bridges. Today approximately 209 authentic covered bridges remain, more than any other state.

This presentation will look at types of covered bridges, laws protecting covered bridges, the destruction of covered bridges by fire, flood, or vehicles. We will also look at some of our covered bridges that are said to be haunted.

### June 24th: PROMM (TBD)

### July 22nd: PROMM with James Rada Jr.



Allegany County (MD) hanged its first murderer in 1829. He was the sheriff of the neighboring Washington County, MD. After the mysterious death of his wife, George Swearingen went on the run through the frontier lands of a young country trying to evade capture. Hear the story of how a promising young sheriff became a wanted man in a historical true crime that shows love, power, and money are just as much motives for murder 200 years ago as they are today.

### August 26th: PROMM with Scott Mingus Sr.

More information to come on this program.

## iScream for Mysteries... (\$6 Per Person)



Join us for an afternoon filled with mystery books!  
Our Attending Authors (Alphabetical by Last Name)



Laura Bradford  
C. Bradly  
GG Calpo  
Carla Conti  
Ellen Crosby  
Barbara Early  
John Havas  
Nancy A. Hughes  
Sarah Ickes  
Andrea J. Johnson  
Tj O'Connor  
Mindy Quigley  
Amy M. Reade (aka A.M. Reade)  
Robert Swartwood



### Happening on May 2nd - 11 am to 4 pm

Not only will we have books for buying/signing, but also Author Round-About (aka speed-dating), Ice Cream, and Fun Trivia. Check out our website for more details!

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As of now, due to the rising cost of the venue, this is our **ONLY** Large Event of the year.

While there will not be a Cozy Fete this fall, we do have plenty of cozy book options at this event for our readers!

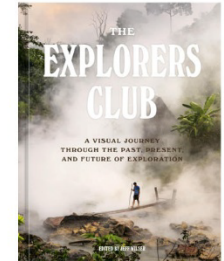
## Book Reviews Continued...

### The Explorers Club: A Visual Journey Through the Past, Present, and Future of Exploration

*By The Explorers Club*

Type: Non-Fiction - Hardcover

Price: \$35.00



From the Book: The discovery of the North and South Poles. The summiting of Everest. The moon landing. The (largely unknown) birth of climate change science. These are just some of the stories from The Explorers Club, the organization that, since its inception in 1904, has pushed the envelope of human curiosity.

This guided tour of The Club's most riveting journeys includes hundreds of photos and fascinating anecdotes about The Club's distinguished members, including Teddy Roosevelt, Neil Armstrong, and Jane Goodall. From the darkest depths of the ocean to the highest points on Earth and to outer space and beyond, this book shares not just the inspirational history of modern exploration, but also reveals how it has evolved and continues to be relevant—even urgent—today.

In New York City there is a unique place to honor explorers. Men and women who have had a profound impact on our world.

These are short stories of discovery from the North and South Poles, ocean depths, mountain tops, space, to volcanoes and nature.

There are many beautiful color photos included along with a short biography of the persons involved.

A very interesting book. I feel this could be in a high school library for students and teachers.

...Reviewed by Sandy

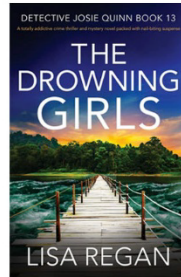
## Book Reviews Continued...

### The Drowning Girls (Detective Josie Quinn 13)

By Lisa Regan

Type: Detective - Trade Paperback

Price: \$11.99



This stand-alone book draws the reader from its very beginning. We don't yet know who the initial two characters are, but trouble is unmistakably brewing. Within the next several pages, the author does a superb job of catching the reader up to this current book, and we learn all we need to know about our protagonist, Josie, without having read the previous twelve books in the series.

The setting of the crime is a dam with a waterway. Josie knows the victim who is trapped on a rock and unconscious. She risks her own life to save her, feels her moving hand, and then . . . loses her grip. She believes the girl is her friend, Amber, but soon discovers it is someone else. However, Amber is missing from her home and has left her phone, purse, everything behind; it's as though she just disappeared into thin air. Josie needs to identify the girl that drowned, and also Amber's whereabouts. As she works with fellow members of the police force, many mysteries come to light and the plot thickens. There is another drowning of another girl at the dam which further complicates the plot. Josie concludes that she did not know Amber as well as she thought.

The author tells the story through Josie; we learn the clues as Josie learns them. We follow up on them through Josie. We think we have answers and then Josie proves otherwise and the reader is quite perplexed as to how this crime (or is it crimes?) will be solved. Admittedly, this reviewer was taken by surprise by the ending. This book is exciting with its many twists and turns that keep the reader motivated to turn just one more page. The book has a dog, Boston Terrier Scout, and bodies without blood, but it is far from being a cozy. This reviewer is looking forward to reading more books in the series to see how the author developed Josie into the detective she is in this book.

...Reviewed by Sherry M.

## iScream for Mysteries... (\$6 Per Person)

### The Tentative Schedule

(Subject to Change)

Mechanicsburg Mystery Bookshop  
2026 iScream for Mysteries

#### Agenda

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**11:00 - 11:30: Registration**

- Check in and Everyone picks their seats

**11:30 - 11:45: Opening**

- Greetings from Deb Beamer
- Introduction: Master of Ceremonies Bill Peschel

**11:45 am - 12:15 pm: Author Round-About Session 1**

**12:15 - 12:50: Ice Cream Break (Shop/Bathroom)**

- Buy books, restroom break, photos with authors

**12:50 - 1:20: Author Round-About Session 2**

**1:20 - 1:50: Break (Shop/Bathroom/Photos)**

- Buy books, restroom break, photos with authors

**1:50 - 2:00: Fun Author Trivia**

**2:00 - 2:30: Author Round-About Session 3**

**2:30 - 3:00: Final Break (Shop/Bathroom/Photos)**

- Buy books, restroom break, photos with authors

**Hardcovers will be 25% off at our Event!**

Be sure to sign up in advance, as the entry fee doubles at the door.

## Additional Sales...

### April 25th: Indie Bookshop Day (FREE Mug)

Spend \$30 or more to pick out a FREE Mug from our shelves...Today Only! Also...wear your red and black bracelet from one of our off-site events to get a FREE bookmark for your next read!

### May 6th - 9th: Signed Books Sale (Mother's Day)

Signed books are on sale so it makes that perfect gift for mom that much more affordable! We have signed books from our prior events in our new book room, ranging from \$7.99 on up (In-Store Only).

### June 17th - 20th: Father's Day Sale (Pick A Brick)

This week, there will be building bricks scattered amongst our book shelves to help celebrate Father's Day! Pick up one of our bricks to see what discount you get! (In-Store Only)

### June 24th - July 3rd: Cozy Mystery Sale (25% Off)

We are excited to be running this cozy mystery sale to help our country celebrate its 250th birthday! Stop on by in our shop for 25% off on both New and Used Cozy Mysteries (In-Store Only).

### July 4th - 11th: Our Shop is Closed for Vacation

We apologize for any inconveniences this may cause, but our shop will be closed during these dates. Our online store will still be available; however, please keep in mind that no orders will be fulfilled until after our staff returns. We look forward to seeing you all on the flipside and have a wonderful Independence Day weekend!

Have Any Questions? Don't Hesitate to Ask!

We Don't Bite...Much... 

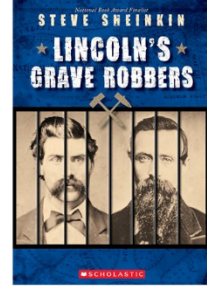
## Book Reviews Continued...

### Lincoln's Grave Robbers

By Steve Sheinkin

Type: Non-Fiction (For All Ages)

Price: \$9.99



In the beginning, the book starts off with a criminal escaping from a train passing through Pennsylvania in the dead of night. The man, Pete McCartney, was in the process of being transported to the Old Capital Prison, and the author gives a well-researched history of this man's ability to exit various jails by different means. One such account describes McCartney patiently waiting to collect enough of the tin foil found inside cigar boxes in order to melt them down and cast a key to unlock his cell in one of the jailhouses.

From there, Steve Sheinkin takes us on a journey of epic proportions as we meet up with Secret Service Patrick Tyrrell and his encounter with known counterfeit money engraver Ben Boyd. Back then, at the time when the Secret Service was established to secure our country's economy, Tyrrell and his men were tasked with capturing the counterfeiters, also known as coney men, which placed James "Big Jim" Kennally in trouble with his clients. And it was actually due to his desperation of wanting to bust his best engraver out of jail that led him to concoct the plan of stealing the former President's body from his gravesite in Springfield, Illinois. But when the crew began looking for another man to include in their grave robbing scheme, an informant, also known as a roper at the time, Lewis C. Swegles quickly found himself digging a deeper hole than the Secret Service ever dreamed of unearthing.

Now...unfortunately...I will have to leave my review at that; out of fear of spoiling the story for all of you intrigued to find out more about the dastardly deeds carried out in 1876.

...Reviewed by Sarah

Our Bloody Book Discussion Group is reading this in June.

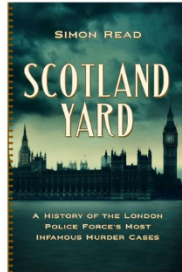
## Book Reviews Continued...

### Scotland Yard: A History of the London Police Force's Most Infamous Murder Cases

By *Simon Read*

Type: Non-Fiction - Trade Paperback

Price: \$21.95



From the Book: The idea of "Scotland Yard" is steeped in atmospheric stories of foggy London streets, murder by lamplight, and fiendish killers pursued by gentleman detectives. From its establishment in 1829 through the eve of World War II, Scotland Yard—the world's first modern, professional, and centrally organized police force—set new standards for policing and investigating.

Scotland Yard advanced ground-breaking use of forensics—from fingerprints to ballistics to evidence collection—made the first attempt at criminal profiling, and captivated the public on both sides of the Atlantic with feats of detective work that rivaled any fictional interpretation.

Based on official case files, contemporary newspaper reporting, trial transcripts, and the first-hand accounts of the detectives on the beat, Scotland Yard tells the tales of some of history's most notorious murders—with cases that proved to be landmarks in the field of criminal inquiry.

This book covers the history of one of the most well known police forces in the world. Many famous cases are covered including: Jack the Ripper, Dr. Crippens, the man who drowned his young wives, and others. Several of the Yard's officers are profiled. This is like a true crime movie in print.

There are some photos and sketches of the characters. Detailed, but NOT boring. An exciting well-written story for crime buffs.

...Reviewed by Sandy

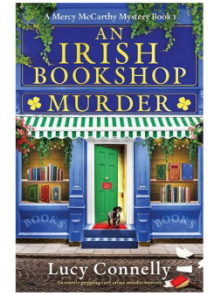
## Book Reviews...

### An Irish Bookshop Murder (Mercy McCarthy 1)

By *Lucy Connelly*

Type: Cozy Mystery - Trade Paperback

Price: \$10.99



Mercy and her twin sister, Lizzie, get an unexpected inheritance from a grandfather they never knew. Mercy finds a new neighbor, the Judge, dying on his doorstep and tries to help. Before he passes, he accuses Mercy of killing him. The sisters decide if their new life in a new town with new neighbors is going to work, they'll need to clear Mercy's name. Another murder, a suspicious note, and various break-ins add to a fun mystery for readers to enjoy as they ride along with Mercy and Lizzie as they work to find the culprit or decide to return to America.

I really enjoyed how the author gave a credible explanation for their unknown inheritance of an antique bookshop and house in the Irish village of Shamrock Cove. This explanation can easily translate into the ladies learning more about their grandfather as the series continues, and I hope they do so.

Without giving any spoilers away, Lucy Connelly does a great job putting the reader into Mercy and Lizzie's world. The characters are not only believable, but one feels they're in the village with them as they are reading the story. As I thoroughly enjoyed this cozy mystery, I was delighted to see that a relative gifted me with the next one in the series at Christmas, *Death by the Book*; which will be next on my list!

...Reviewed by Sherry I.

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A number of our book discussion groups are reading this title.

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Don't see a book you are looking for on our shelves?  
Just ask one of our staff members about ordering it in.  
There is no extra fee, and we'll give you a call when it arrives.

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## Book Reviews Continued...

### The Magical Map Series

By Ridley Pearson

Type: Kids Books (Ages 6 - 8 Years)

Price: \$7.99 Each



#### Pirates of the Caribbean - Magical Map 1

Gemma is heartbroken that her family is closing down their bookshop and moving to Orlando where her mother gets a job at Disney World. As her relationship with her brother, Torin, seems to be changing from their days of adventure and imagination, she finds comfort in an odd journal that a stranger placed at their shop right before they moved. She reads the stories and finds herself wondering what it would be like if things were slightly different than the way they were written. But when her mother tells her that an issue at work has her staying late, Gemma tries to fix the problem. Along with Torin's help, the siblings discover that perhaps magic really does exist when they learn about a secret hidden within the book.

I really enjoyed the story and following along with the siblings as they deciphered the strange journal and attempted to solve the issue on their own. Unfortunately, I fear that if I dive too much more into the story, it will spoil it for the rest of my fellow readers.

#### Jungle Cruise - Magical Map 2

This book was a great sequel to the first installment of the "Magical Map" series! I feel as though I am there at the park from the descriptions, and can picture the brother and sister duo so vividly in my mind through their genuine laughter and humor. From well-developed characters, to a thought-out storyline, and the magical elements that brought a smile to my face, I thoroughly enjoyed this mystery from beginning to end. Perhaps it is a magical map of its own kind?

...Reviewed by Sarah

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The third installment, *Haunted Mansion*, is already out.

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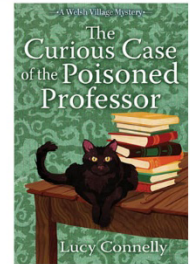
## Book Reviews Continued...

### The Curious Case of the Poisoned Professor (Welsh Village 1)

By Lucy Connelly

Type: Cozy Mystery - Hardcover

Price: \$29.99



After a lifetime of working as a news reporter and managing a newspaper in Texas, Dr. Gwen Griffith takes up a new profession as the head of the journalism department at a university in Dillynaidd Wales, where she also studied many moons ago. However, when Dr. Alice Rice, a tenured professor who was not liked by just about everyone, dies literally on Gwen's doorstep, she finds herself already in the thick of it from the very beginning.

Gwen ultimately decides that she has to figure out the how and the why, leaning into her beloved past life as an investigative reporter, since not only do the local police think she may be guilty, but her instincts demand it. Throughout her snooping, she meets a great group of characters as they attempt to call out the culprit before a possibly fatal misstep allows the guilty party to get away scot-free.

I thoroughly enjoyed *The Curious Case of the Poisoned Professor*! Lucy Connelly did a great job taking Dr. Gwen Griffith from America into Wales, and I believe this book should be read by every reader who enjoys a fun cozy. I am definitely on the lookout for the next "A Welsh Village Mystery" as the adventures continue for Gwen.

...Reviewed by Sherry I.

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This book was just released in February of this year!

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#### Did You Know...

In Philadelphia, a routine baggage check at the airport revealed someone attempting to smuggle in swords from the Middle East that date back to the Bronze Age.

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