

ISSUE #10

10 MARCH 2017

AUTHOR SPOTLIGHT
INTRODUCING

R. ALLEN
JR.

A portrait of R. Allen Jr., a man with short dark hair and a mustache, wearing a dark brown jacket over a light blue checkered shirt and a dark red tie. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background is a red brick wall.

INDIE PUBLISHING NEWS

PLAISTED PUBLISHING HOUSE, LTD.

Celebrating ONE year of Indie Publishing News from the Editor's Desk



We have survived a year of publishing this amazing and ever growing Indie Publishing News Magazine. **YOU SHOULD ALL BE PROUD OF YOURSELVES. I KNOW I AM.**

What started out as a Newsletter in Feb 2016 and emailed by-monthly has now turned into a **forty plus** page magazine (Thanks **Adri Sinclair** for the magazine idea)

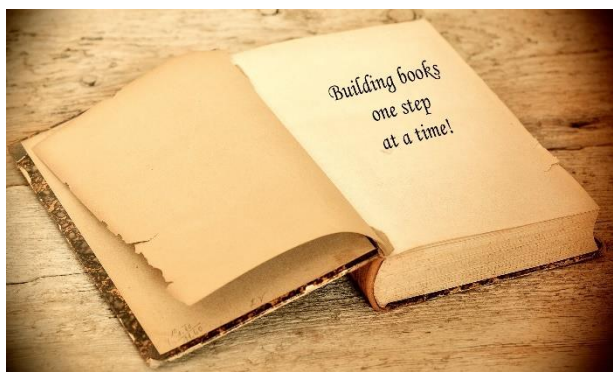
For each and everyone of you who has appeared in this magazine. Thanks. This is for you. This is to help you spread the word for your own news and that of other Indie Authors and businesses who assist us all. Thank you to the books cover designers, the editors and a special thanks goes out to **Joe Compton** from **GoIndieNow** for sponsoring this magazine with his advert on the back page.

Go Indie Now is another important step for all Indie Authors to take. Joe is amazing and we will have a special interview from him soon about what he does for everyone.

I would like to thank **Jennifer Deese** and **Rose Montague** for writing monthly articles. Jennifer with the Q & A and Rose with the Sales Information. I would also like to thank my spotlight authors (which started in October 2016). You have all been amazing to work with. Special thanks also go to **Claudia Plaisted** (my daughter) who makes the magazine cover, **Adam Mitchell** and **Mara Reitsma** for cartoon drawings of my spotlight authors.

NOW IS THE TIME TO CELEBRATE AND SHARE THIS MAGAZINE AS FAR AS WE CAN AND GET MORE AUTHORS INVOLVED SO THE MAGAZINE GROWS RAISING YOUR POTENTIAL OF FINDING NEW READERS.

DON'T FORGET OUR SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM FOR FANTASY AUTHORS.



***Helping Indie
Authors get their
books published
professionally***

Favourite Blog Interviews with Tom Fallwell

Michael J Elliott – Horror Indie Author

My guest this week is author Michael J. Elliott, a horror author with a penchant for the macabre.

Michael J Elliott was writing stories since his early schooldays and was described by his school principal as "A Second Alfred Hitchcock". Michael continued his love of writing in high school where he wrote and acted in films for his Media Studies class. He went on to study Media briefly at College, writing film scripts and radio ads. As a member of a community social theater club, Michael wrote many of the sketches and routines that were performed for the benefit of senior citizens clubs. His most notable writing success was having one of his previously written comedy sketches chosen for a television comedy special.

Michael lives in a bay side suburb in the State of Victoria, Australia. When he isn't writing tales to terrify readers, he's often uploading new content to his You Tube Channel. *'The Dark Realm Diaries.'* It's a channel for lovers of horror/thriller fans. It features book and movie reviews, trivia and myths and legends from around the world.



[MICHEAL J ELLIOTT
ON AMAZON](#)

THE INTERVIEW

1. Does writing energize or exhaust you?

Oh I'd have to say it energizes me, Tom. I get very excited when a new story idea comes along. I can't wait to write that first sentence in my new notebook.

2. What are common traps for aspiring writers?

Probably failing to plan. Writing and getting the book out there is only part of the equation. You MUST build your author profile and market the heck out of your book.

3. Do you try more to be original or to deliver to readers what they want?

Well, a lot of readers have told me how much they enjoy the twists at the end of my stories. That's not something I consciously plan, it's just something that naturally happens in my stories. I couldn't plan a twist just to satisfy readers. To me that would be like copping out. It would have to amuse or frighten me for it to pass the litmus test. I can understand authors who have written a successful series wanting to give their readers more of the same, it's like spending time with an old friend (I'm like that as a reader), but I also understand how authors need to remain fresh and original. It's a delicate tightrope, Tom.

4. How have other authors helped you become a better writer?

I have learned that other authors go through the same insecurities and doubts that I do. In a funny way, that's very reassuring. I've also been blessed to have a lot of encouragement and feedback from indie authors, especially the writing group on Facebook, #Awethors.

If you would like you read more about this amazing author you can find the rest of his interview at:

<http://tomfallwell.com/Blog/author-interview-michael-j-elliott>

MEANWHILE – YOU CAN FIND OUR INTERVIEWER - TOM FALLWELL:

Web Site: <http://tomfallwell.com>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TomFallwellAuthor>

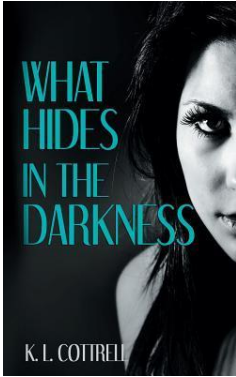
Amazon: <https://www.amazon.com/Tom-Fallwell/e/BooIV2JSJI>

Goodreads: https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/11303749.Tom_Fallwell

Indie Author Reviews

What Hides In the Darkness

By K L Cottrell



An amazing book!

I thoroughly enjoyed this original story full of romance, action, and even some mystery. The writing is dark but wonderful, full of exquisite details that draw the readers into each scene without boring us. The characters are well written and easy to love, but they also harbor little flaws that make them relatable. The secret world the Lightforce live in is well formed and believable.

I fell in love with this book in no time and knew halfway through that I would have to read the entire series in short order! Excellent writing, excellent storyline, excellent book!

Reviewed by Marie Krepps.

Hat Trick by T L Travis (R18)

Hat Trick is an erotic novelette about that one friend, the one friend that every big brother has. That unbelievably gorgeous but, 'oh so out of my league' friend. You know the one, the fuel for every hot and heavy self-gratifying session.

Claire Dover was no different. Her crush was Bryce Stanton. Bryce entered her life her freshman year of high school. He was on the school ice hockey team with her brother Eli and Claire never missed a game.

High school has since passed and now Claire finds herself attending the same college as Eli and Bryce. She always deemed herself unworthy of this hockey God, but little did she know, she was his ultimate goal.

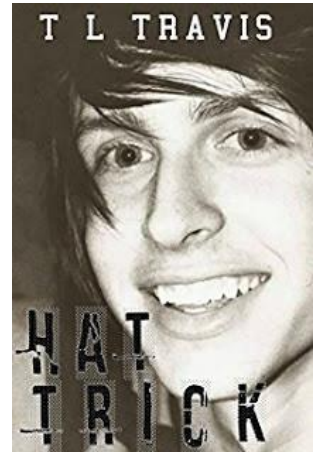
This novelette is catered to readers over 18 as it does contain a high level of consensual M/F sex.

I was provided an ARC from the author in exchange for an honest review.

By now you all know I love TL Travis' books. They're short, punchy, and sexy, the perfect late-night read to give you some very sweet (wet) dreams at night. Hat Trick is no different. It is a classic love story of girl-meets-boy, told with a modern twist of family issues and light BDSM (nothing so severe people will be turned off by it). I think that's my favorite part about it, showing a young couple slowly discovering another side of their sex life and doing so together.

This is short, sweet, a little predictable but perfect for that very reason. We all need a happy ending in our lives, especially now. The only thing I think could have been improved was it could have used more detail and the scene breaks were rather abrupt, which I am not used to from Travis. Otherwise, a great little read for anyone over 18!

Reviewed by Kelly Smith



***Review your goals twice every day in order to be
Focused on achieving them***

Les Brown

Once Upon a Pastry by Ashley Uzzell

I really enjoyed this book.

I downloaded it because I read the first couple paragraphs and liked it. As a reader, I enjoy books that flow easily, and ones in which the main character(s) show their personality, whether that narration be in first or third person. This was definitely the case for this story, and I was eager to read the whole thing.

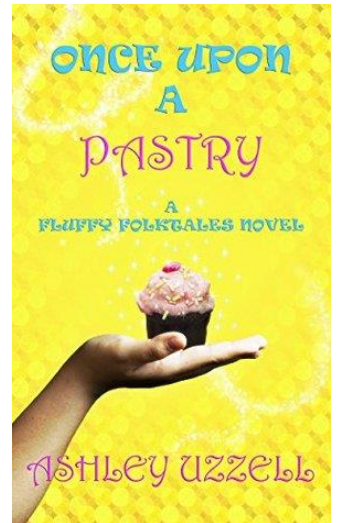
I finished it quickly – again, because of that easy flow. What stuck out to me the most as far as this author's writing style, is that she is able to illustrate the setting without telling you flat-out. Other writers (including myself) might write sentences that go something like this: THIS WORLD IS A FANTASY WORLD. HERE IS A LIST OF THE CREATURES THAT LIVE HERE.

Ashley Uzzell doesn't do this, and it's most appreciated. To me, the most important aspect of a story are the characters, and that's what you understand first, who Gertrude is and who Mona is. What their dreams are, and what they're trying to accomplish right now, and why.

I should have realized from the title that this was based in a fantasy world, but that didn't occur to me right away. LOL. I think it was the mention of gold being the money of the land, that helped me realize the truth about its setting.

I think she built real characters, and the plot about the war is something that parallels our own world. I think the touches of Cinderella and Pinocchio (with her own twist) are delightful. The only thing I would have liked to see more of would be passages of how Mona and Gertrude's romance blossomed; how they got from being attracted to one another to the ending sequence (won't spoil it for anyone). But, that's just because I enjoy their emotional connection.

I am hoping for a sequel or even better, a prequel that goes into detail about Mona's life when she lived next to the centaurs or Gertrude's experiences when she was homeless. I am interested to learn how she came across her grandmother.



Reviewed by Chrissy Moon



Each Our Own Devil by Joel Bain

EACH OUR OWN DEVIL brings its reader on a literary, emotional, action-packed journey as we follow the main character, Heinrich, through Cuba, Hell, and America.

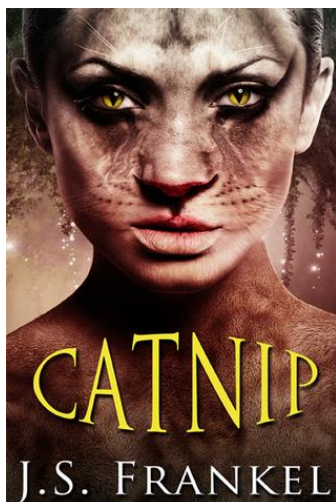
After a dismal, tragic life in Cuba, Heinrich finds himself in Hell, not really impressed by the horrors of it. Heinrich's misery causes sympathy by the others in Hell and Lucifer gets pissed, afraid that his order of chaos will be disrupted. In an attempt to get him out of his hair, Lucifer assigns Heinrich the task of doing his bidding on Earth and provides him with a spirit guide/demon, Mephistopheles, who will live within him.

In New York City, these two work together to get things done for Lucifer and, without giving too much of the story away, I'll just say that things start to get crazy.

As Heinrich experiences the emotions of those he's "helping" in NYC, his character becomes complex and layered, and his path is suddenly not so clear-cut. Still, there's that deal with the devil...

I can't tell you more! You'll have to read it yourself to find out. EACH OUR OWN DEVIL was a wonderful read--an intelligent, character-driven, action-packed look at good versus evil in the form of a known-world, supernatural fantasy. I highly recommend!

Reviewed by Jessica Calla



Catnip by J S Frankel

Again I was intrigued by a cover, which is very unique! Harry Goldman is a nerd with two brilliant parents. His research on transgenetics with the idea of curing cancer gets him in trouble legally. He ends up locked up. Although he was working for the greater good, it seems someone was not. When a woman/cat is captured, the Feds know exactly who to get to figure it out and where he could be found.

The Feds want to know what she is and how she came to be but before any answers were forth coming...a very angry bear goes on a rampage. Follow Harry as he becomes more attached to Anastasia (the woman/cat) while trying to avoid being killed by the bear. He wants to restore her but things just are not going according to plan. Can he save her? Can he save himself? Will they be bear kibble?

Well written and a page turner. Just enough science to keep it real but not over anyone's head. Good start to the series.

Reviewed by Cindy Smith

Portraits of Dread by Michael J Elliott

First off — I love this cover. It perfectly captures everything the author was going for. Brilliant.

There are many twists and turns in this collection. Some are good, some not, but most were utterly brilliant. The author has a knack for writing unique horror. I dig a good horror story. I truly do, but I'm spoiled when it comes to them so I'm not easy to please. This collection of shorts pleased me.

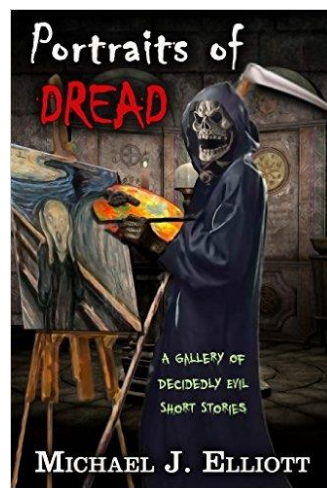
Dinner for Two is probably the most unique of the lot — for me anyways.

Mother Called Today was creepy as hell. You'll dig that one.

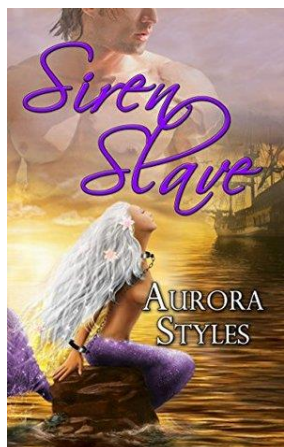
As for the others, well, I won't go through all of them because you don't want to read a blog post for an hour.

It took me ages to read this collection because that's what I do with a collection of shorts. I read one story, go off to another book and read it, then go back to the original collection of shorts that I started. Trust that I like the book. Trust that you'll like it as well.

Reviewed by J B Taylor



Siren Slave by Aurora Styles



Do not judge this book by its "typical romance" cover! This story has a goofy princess who loves alliteration, an OCD pirate into BDSM, a lusty sea witch who has a potion for everything (including manly problems), a fey "god" who loves bloodshed and wears a loincloth, a villain who dresses in drag and has a bit too much affection for livestock, mermaids, unicorns, and more. This magical adventure is a non-stop laugh fest with a dash of romance and politics thrown in for good measure. I highly recommend getting swept away on this voyage.

Reviewed by Marie Krepps

Author Spotlight – Ricky Allen jr.

He's a Baptist minister, husband of 17 years, a father of two boys, a cat, two small dogs and a Japanese fighting fish deemed a "hero". He's written hundreds of stories for the U.S. Navy as a Mass Communications Specialist over his 14+ years in service to his country. R.C. Allen Jr. is no stranger to writing. He first discovered his passion for writing in high school. "I kept to myself a lot. I didn't get serious about writing until I was a sophomore in high school. I remember taking this Creative Writing class and just falling in love with it. The rest, as they say, is history."

His passion would lead to the world of Journalism. After graduating high school in 1995 and a short college stint, he entered the U.S. Navy. He has worked for base newspapers in Sasebo Japan, Rota Spain, and for numerous public affairs offices. Leaving active duty in 2003, he moved to the civilian sector of Journalism, working for five different newspapers in the Virginia/North Carolina area and managing two: A daily and a bi-weekly.



He launched Lyrics, Inc. Magazine in late 2003, an e-zine dedicated to independent music and modeling. His first start-up as an Entrepreneur, Lyrics, Inc. quickly grew to feature many artists who left for independent marketing from Wu-Tang Clan's Cappadonna to Curtis Mayfield Jr. The Magazine also had more than 1,000 subscribers and more than 100 record labels in contact. In 2009, Lyrics, Inc. closed due to Ricky pursuing different interests.

As a published author, Ricky has published "The Funeral Writer," (Tate Publishing) "The Preacher" (Iron Cauldron Publishing) and "The Waiting Game" (Chuck Scalini: Bodies of Evidence).

His latest project, "MicroFish: Schools of Short Stories", an independent project, has been his favorite. "I was never big on flash fiction. I didn't grasp the structure. I kept working until I understood how to pack in an entire story under 300 words and now I'm hooked," he said. And his Instagram (@rcallenjr) has shown the results. "People love it," he said. "My Instagram account has been the best decision for my writing career thus far." He added, "I think in this fast-paced world we live in, writers need to find a way to reach people at their speed. My short stories respond perfectly to the times we live in."

And what advice does he have for aspiring writers?

"Do what you feel you've been called to do. Don't force writing. Don't tell about. Write when the words are there. Believe in your work. Sooner or later, someone's going to notice."



FIRE

Anger fills me
And its fire burns
To let it out
My body yearns

I set it free
With soul's full force
Flames from my hands
Find the right course

Compassion stays
Destruction's plan
Phoenix rises
Hope born again

How to Write Fight Scenes by Lily Luchesi

How to make a fight scene read well.

The more descriptive the words are, the more the reader can hear the bones crunching or the gun firing, can smell the blood, feel/taste the sweat, the better. Some people despair at being overly descriptive, but I think a fight scene is the one place where you need to get your eye for detail in focus. I also found that the shorter the sentences, the better fights scenes read. I'm one of the long-winded, sentences go on forever kind of writers, so it always takes some editing before I can get the sentence structure correct, but in the end it's worth the effort.

I also think less talk, more descriptive action, is best. I grew up watching shows like Dragon Ball Z, where, when you tally up the minutes of all the episodes, it takes roughly five hours for a fight scene to actually happen because of unnecessary banter. Scratch the talking, unless it's insults in between blows. Maybe make the winner gloat over the loser's corpse. That's always a fun little additive.

How to make a fight scene feel real.

That's actually a huge problem for me personally, because some of my characters aren't *'real'*. While my mortal man fights often, my most frequent fighter is a vampire who does not have realistic limitations. So when I make her scale walls, or bounce off of a shifter three times her size, or throw a woman over her shoulder one-handed, I constantly feel as if I have to remind the reader, only my vampire can do this. So I contrast her fictional feats by making my mortal have the same success rate with much more difficulty. I make him even more real, to offset the vampire. He falls, he bleeds, he runs out of ammo, he feels his age catching up to him, and he tries harder than any other character. Another thing I do to feel more real is I even limit my paranormal characters. I take their weaknesses and exacerbate them, which you will see in my latest book, *Right To Silence*, where want of blood and lack of sunlight comes into play. Make the reader see even the most unrealistically strong character fail sometimes, and they will appreciate it more. No character is invincible; it's just not realistic, even for a vampire.

Writing actual fight moves as they'd be used in real life.

To do that, first you need to have a good understanding of your character. A good writer knows that the characters are really the ones leading us by the nose, not the other way around. So sit down and get to know them, how would they fight? Would they be hand-to-hand lovers? Martial artists? Do they like blades? Or would they rather use a gun? A combination of them all? Once you know your character, you'll know what kind of fighter they'll be. I have one who loves swords and blades, but also will use a gun if necessary. She's trained most of the FBI and Mossad (she trained them, not trained by them), and still manages to make some mistakes. And I have another who loves guns and basic street fights. It's all different. Which brings me to the next thing I have to say on the subject...

Studying varying fighting styles.

Yes, I studied them in different ways. I did martial arts and have always watched professional wrestling (during the time when it was actually professional, not this scripted crap we get today), plus am trained in basic self-defense. In order to write anything realistically, you need to study it, you need to know it like the back of your hand. Knowledge is power, and knowledge also breeds more creativity. Watch fights, study moves and techniques, talk to local fighters or even law enforcement. I found that martial arts trainers and cops are often very willing and happy to assist you in your quest for intel. Same with blades, go to a store or even a chat room that specializes in them. Want your character to fight with a gun? Go to a shooting range and learn. Feel the gun in your own hands. Familiarize yourself with all of it. An informed author makes for an entertained reader.

Aftermath.

A lot of people don't think about the aftermath of a good fight. In reality, the effects of a fight are not just physical, but emotional as well, so this will be broken into two parts and will discuss a necessity for every writer: being realistic with more than just action.

For starters, how is your character faring physically after a fight? Broken bones? Lacerations? Perhaps a missing limb? Whatever it is, you need to make sure you know the medical treatment(s) for whatever injuries your character has accrued because of the fight. Are they immortal and quick healers? Make sure

you mention that once a fight is over. Do you have magic to heal them? Describe said magic. Are they regular old mortals and need a doctor? Research the healing process for their respective wounds. As with everything, knowledge is key.

The second part of this is emotional pain. Rarely will someone get out of a battle and be peachy keen. Violence, especially if it is from prolonged torture or resulted in death, should have a serious emotional effect on the character. Will they have nightmares? Will they feel guilty? Will they develop PTSD or anxiety? Especially if you write a character recovering from torture or sexual violence, you need to research the usual aftermath. There are many resources for that kind of research online or you could ask to attend a group meeting and see if survivors are willing to talk to you. If you write a soldier, same thing. Research. Go to local VFW halls, the people there love to talk and discuss their experiences with an attentive listener.

Most of all, when writing an action scene, remember this: have fun!

Writing Tips with Traci Sanders

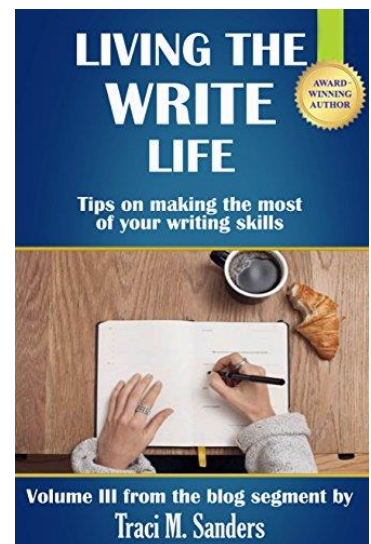
Living the Write Life by Traci M Sanders

This brief, easy-to-follow guide offers unique tips on how to manage the daily tasks of authorhood, as well as a few suggestions on other aspects of the writing and publishing industry such as:

- *how to enhance your Amazon page with html code
- *7 stretches to alleviate pain and tension
- *tips on how to balance your writing time with your personal time
- *tips on how to overcome procrastination
- *21 items you should have in your writing space
- *information on writers' grants and contests
- *information on tax deductions you can take as an author

A few of my personal recommendations for writing resources are listed in here as well.

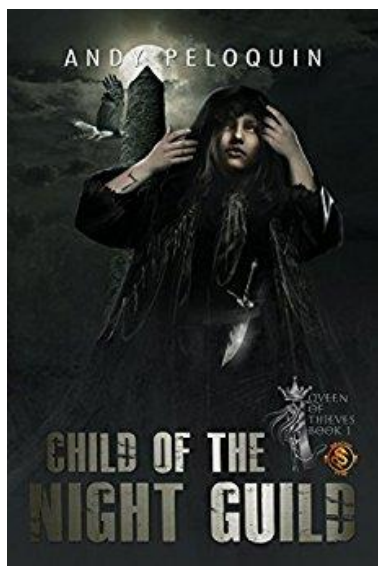
All this and more can be found in this one handy guide to help you Live the Write Life.



[BUY LINK](#)



Grandma Peachy's Reviews



Child of the Night Guild by Andy Peloquin

Child of the Night Guild by Andy Peloquin is the first book in the Queen of Thieves series. Set in the same world as his The Last Bucelarii series, the story is about a girl who is sold into the Night Guild to pay a debt. This dark fantasy captivated me even though in my mind's eye the girl's maturity was beyond her age in my reality. I kept reminding myself that in her world anything could be possible including intellectual maturity beyond one's chronological age. I was in full sympathy with the main character and all that she experienced. Many of the things she endures will be hard to read for people who have undergone any kind of abuse or trauma. The 'training' to deprogram the initiates into the Night Guild is torture and the methods used could be a shadow of those used to deprogram victims of human trafficking of today. The bullying and abuse are at times extreme. But humans are capable of the most heinous of acts against others and the author captures this, as well as the resiliency of the human spirit. Child of the Night Guild is not for the faint of heart.

Through sheer determination and a will to survive, Illiana moves up in House Hawk, those thieves of the guild who rule the roof tops. I like the way the author interspersed the current events taking place with her memories of events leading up to her being sold to the Night Guild. Scenes in the main plot sparked memories in the main character of her early childhood. By the time I was about two-thirds of the way into the book I had learned her back story, not too much at a time and not too little.

The plot and characters are both well developed. An enjoyable tale and one that I am sure I will enjoy the rest of the series. If you like a dark fantasy that captures the human spirit in the darkest of times, then you will enjoy this tale. I recommend for older teens and adults, the subject matter may be a little too dark for most younger teens.

Enjoy!

Grandma Peachy

Rainne's Reviews

La La Land by Logan Keyes

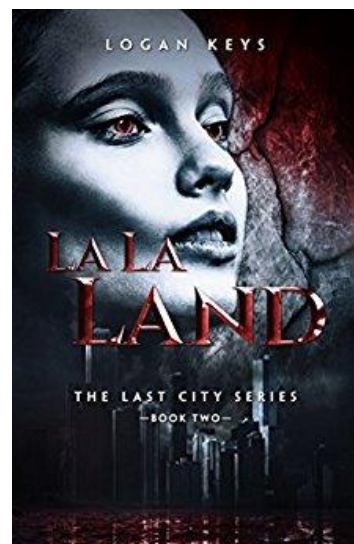
Wow!

I might've had to wait a while for the second installment in The Last City series, but it was totally worth it.

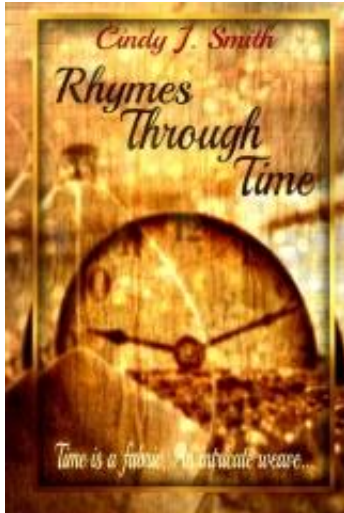
This epic story continues in the same style as the first book, with different points of view and separate story lines that keep you wondering how and when they will join up.

The characters (new and old) are still 'real' with depth and emotions, and the world building is superb. The pages are filled with non-stop action and suspense, twists and turns, love and hate, and happiness and heartbreak.

The unique and engaging plot kept me on the edge of my seat from start to finish, and left me wanting more!



Poets Corner



Rhymes Through Times

By Cindy J Smith

After 'Voices in My Head' and 'They Won't Shut Up' in this third poetry book by Cindy, you will not find sex, violence, blood and gore, and neither vampires, zombies or ghosts. What you will find are poems about fleeting and elusive moments captured in rhyme through the sands of time.

[BUY LINK](#)

Pain, Poems, Prayer and Passion

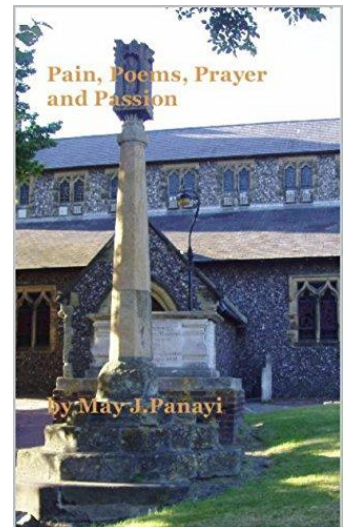
By May J Panayi

A collection of poetry that takes a journey from the darkest, bleakest emotional landscape, through to a happy, peaceful place of light.

On its travels, it visits mental illness, violence and surreal silliness, as well as scenes of nature and tranquility.

It's a bit of a bipolar roller coaster ride, not really to be approached by the faint hearted and unwary.

[BUY LINK](#)



Teardrops and White Doves

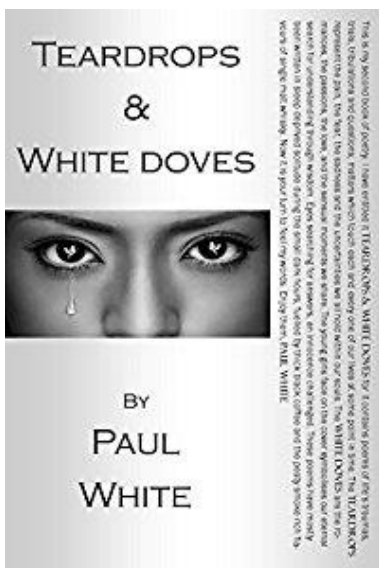
By Paul White

This book is entitled it 'Teardrops & White Doves' for it contains poems of life's traumas, trials, tribulations, joy's, happiness and questions. All matters which touch each and every one of our lives at some point in time.

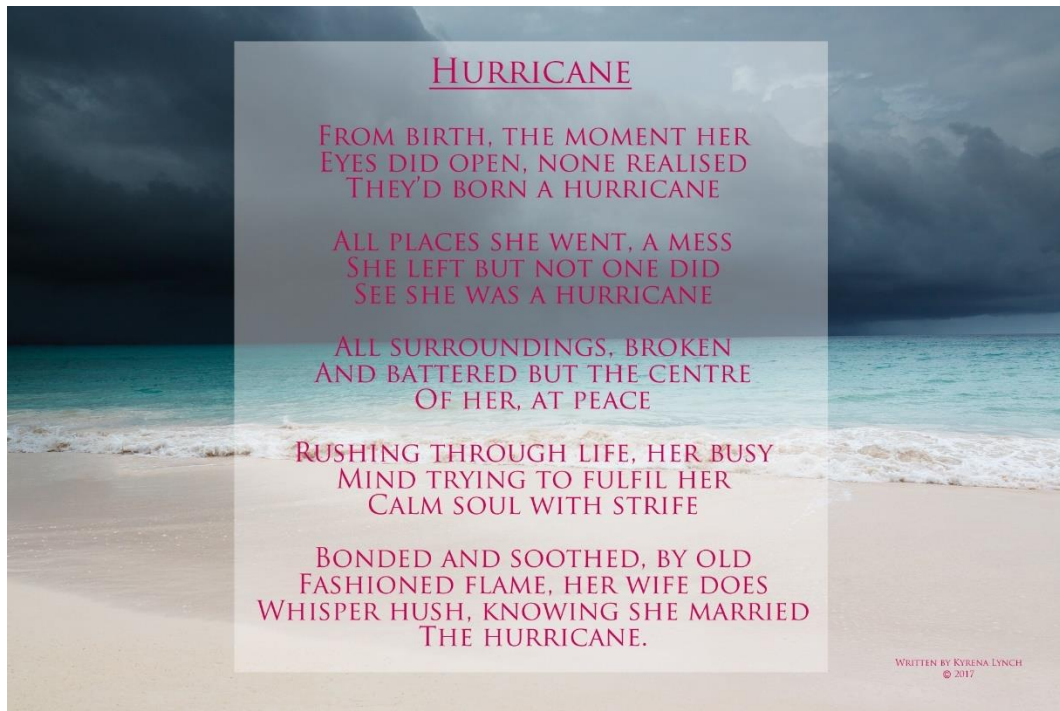
The Teardrops represent the pain, the fear, the sadness and the uncertainties we all hold within our souls.

The White Doves are the romances, the passions, the love, and the sensual moments we share.

The face on the cover symbolises our eternal search for understanding through wisdom. Eyes searching for answers, an innocence challenged. Introspection. Tears of both unhappiness and joy.



[BUY LINK](#)

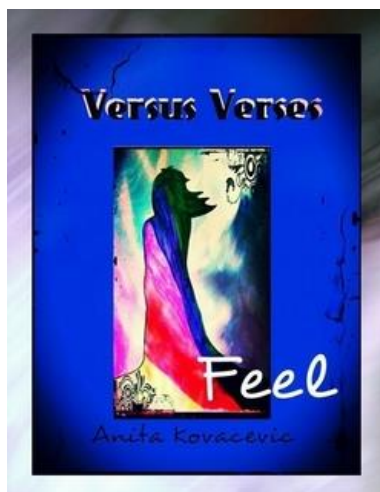


She still loved him!

The sun shined brightly
She could still smell him,
She could still taste him.
She loved the way he touched her
so gently.
She loved his gentle
kisses,
the passionate times
they spent together.
She knew that he wasn't
right for her...
She was there
for all the wrong reasons...
but
she still loved
everything about him.

Crumbling

The sky that once was
full of stars
broke open and
ripped the skies apart
Noisily.
Lightening brightened
the skies
while you slept
and left me alone
thinking,
“What next?”
Because I knew
the end of the rainbow
was over.
No more would life
remain the same.
Because I was crumbling apart.
And then you'd leave as quick
as you came.



Versus Verses by Anita Kovacevic

Poetry is my therapy, my meditation, a world quite close to the real one, but in another dimension. Many people I know say they feel the same – poetry either strikes a chord or it doesn't.

There are no rules, no restrictions, no rights or wrongs. Perhaps that is why it feels so liberating.

This is the first volume in my poetry collection. It is called Feel, and displays a range of moods many of us go through.

[BUY LINK](#)

Kate A Everward – P A



I'm not an author, but I am an author's sister. Yes, that's a position. And so is Mana-Sis.

Tell us a bit about yourself.

My name is Kate Anne Everward and I was a media consultant for 10 years. I specialize in crisis management which apparently comes in handy in the self-publishing world.

My sister is an author and I decided to use my skills and become her publisher, marketing strategist and what we decided to call a Mana-Sis, a sister manager. If there's a Momager why not a Mana-Sis right?

What brought you to the world of writing?

My sister, Anna Claire Everward, wanted to write. She loves to write, her stories are beautiful, they create an impact and it was her dream. So we decided to make that dream come true through self-publishing. She had the writing experience and I had the PR experience, so it seemed possible and natural. We started a family publishing house to support it as a business, and called it Author & Sister. Catchy, right? This was our way of sharing with the world that we're doing this as a family. As two sisters. I admit I was quite surprised when we got amazing feedback. People wanted to hear about the two sisters who are working together to publish the books written by one of them.

Why did you decide to open a publishing house and not use traditional publishing?

We have a lot of respect for both self-publishing and traditional publishing. But what we wanted was the ability to decide for ourselves. I researched the self-publishing industry for a year before we published Claire's debut novel, *The First*, and we both decided it's the right way for us. We wanted to be able to decide where our story goes, how the cover will look, our branding, you get the idea, and with traditional publishing, well... the fact is that if you come weak to the negotiating table and need the other party more than they need you, it never ends well. We will never allow that to happen. We were raised by our mother to be strong and to fight for our rights and for what's right. We won't give anyone the opportunity to take what we're building with our own two, well, four hands. Self-publishing enables us to have that control. We decided to learn the business inside out, the good and the bad, and we learn from our own mistakes. Lucky for us we met some amazing people on social media who are patient and experienced.

Would you recommend that to every self-publishing author?

Yes. If you are in it to publish learn the trade. It's a profession like any other profession. If you don't learn, how will you know you're doing the best thing for you? How do you know you're not being scammed? Research the world of publishing the way you researched for your book. Don't give anyone the control of your work before you understand what you're giving them.

What other things would you recommend?

Invest in the best editor you can find and the best cover artist you can find. Ignore all the 5-minute success programs, promotions for \$200 and courses for \$400. Seriously, you can find amazing information in a \$4 marketing book—well not one, maybe 10—and online. Don't believe the first thing you read. Read on. You'll learn how to recognize the important things. Use your first book as an experiment and take baby steps. You'll enjoy it more.

Do you work also with other authors?

No. Author & Sister is, at this point, focused on us. On getting Claire's books and our story out. But who knows where the future will take us.

What's next for the business?

We're preparing to publish the first books of two new book series this year and we're also focusing on our blog, where everyone can read about our experiences in the self-publishing world, about our lives, and we also share tips for authors. It has a unique point of view and I invite everyone to read it and share their opinions and questions, and also to register to our email list so we can share updates about upcoming books, giveaways and just regular author and mana-sis gossip ☺

How do you promote Anna Claire Everward's books?

We're now getting ready to launch her second book that she will talk about in the next newsletter 😊, but our main focus is our author platform, which we're working very hard on. Or actually, our author and sister platform, which makes it more interesting. We both have platforms that are intertwined, one can't exist without the other. And we work with Facebook groups, promotions—we spent the past year learning how to work with promotions and this will be the first time we'll use paid promotions and probably also ads. But we'll take things slow. We are also lucky to already have supportive readers and reviewers. Claire and I both believe in personal contact and we keep in touch with everyone who emails or texts us through social media. But there's still a lot to learn. Good thing we're here for the long run!

Where can we buy Claire's books?

This is Claire's Amazon author page: www.amazon.com/author/a.claire.everward

Who are your favourite authors?

Well, except for Anna Claire Everward (duh), I love Harlan Coben, Preston & Child, Jeffrey Archer and I'm also a huge fan of historical fiction—Philippa Gregory, Jane Austen and the Bronte sisters.

Links

www.authorandsister.net/blog/category/blog/

www.facebook.com/KateAEverward

www.goodreads.com/kate_everward

www.linkedin.com/in/kateeverward

<https://twitter.com/authorandsister>

<https://instagram.com/authorandsister>

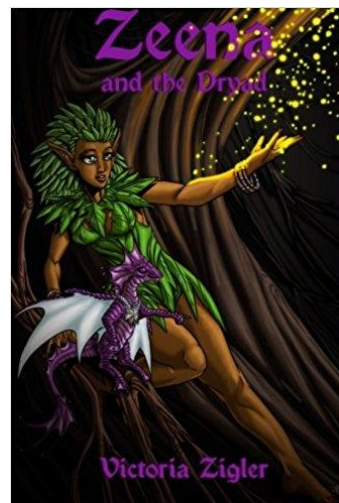
Children's Books

Zeena and the Dryad by Victoria Zigler

Zeena the faerie dragon doesn't think she's special, even though she's the only one of her kind to have mastered the magic for all five elements equally. But when a dryad named Kishi comes to her for help, she doesn't hesitate.

Together with her best friend – a mischievous pixie named Saarik – Zeena sets off to free Heidi the earth fairy, as well as to save the woods and the creatures of Earth. This is the first book in the “Zeena Dragon Fae” series.

The books in the series are as follows: 1. Zeena And The Dryad 2. Zeena And The Gryphon 3. Zeena And The Mermaid 4. Zeena And The Phoenix.



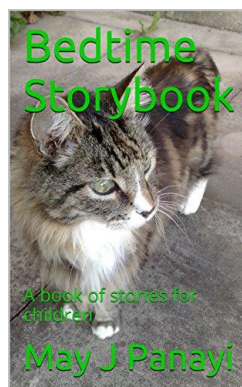
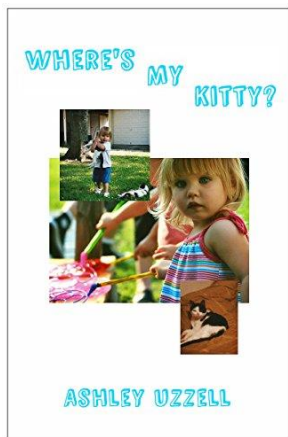
[BUY LINK](#)

Where's My Kitty by Ashley Uzzell

Kassidy is outside playing when she decides to find her cat. But he is nowhere to be found. Follow Kassidy as she searches for her kitty.

This book is dedicated to my daughter, Kassidy, who was diagnosed with NHL in October 2016.

[BUY LINK](#)



Bedtime Storybook by May J Panayi

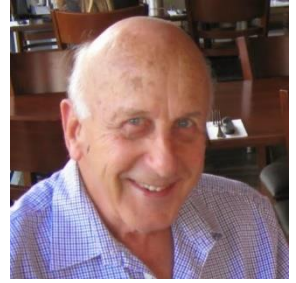
A book of stories to read to, or with, children at bedtime. Stories with old fashioned values and morals. Stories that will be a joy to read, and a joy for them to listen to. Nine unique tales.

[BUY LINK](#)

Warne Wilson – Indie Author

Tell us a bit about yourself.

I am in my eighties now and retired after a very busy business life. I am still very active apart from writing and I help in the running of two woodworking clubs in my area. I live with my wife Muriel in an historic little town on the range overlooking the coast about 100 k north of Brisbane Australia. I have always had a love of words and English expression. Throughout my life, I have taken many opportunities to write; business letters, advertising material, even arrears letters in a building society.



What bought you to the world of writing?

From my earliest memories as one of six siblings my mother encouraged correct expression and my vivid imagination brought the books I read to life; children's books, the 'William' series, 'Biggles' then Ian Fleming before 007 arrived from Hollywood. Later it was Charles Dickens, and my life rhythm included a book beside the bed and a few pages read every night before sleep for years without number. Retirement brought the prize of time and I turned to writing a book based upon a family legend re a remittance man during the gold rush days in Australia.

What is your first book and what do you think of it now?

ESCAPE FROM INJUSTICE a five ebook series on Amazon Kindle.

I wrote this across some 14 years, starting well before I retired and finished two years ago. I am now rewriting it to make it flow better and to bring it all together as one book.

What type of books do you write and do they fulfil your reader's needs?

I have written in several genres but one book, LANCASTER BOMBER TAIL GUNNER continues to sell two or three copies a day.

Would you like to feature a book, if so which one? Tell us about it?

Lancaster Bomber Tail Gunner.

This short story – 3700 words – based upon a true account of a German fighter attack related to me years ago by an old friend, who was one of the few tail gunners to survive the 30 missions required for Lancaster crew. My friend's first name was Harry, and I have used his name as the tail gunner in this story.

The opening lines find Harry's love Maureen washing glasses in an inn near High Wickham airfield. She has heard engines being tested all day and she knows Harry will be with the others as they take off for God knows where.

Vivid descriptions follow of Harry's experience in freezing conditions as his Lancaster survives searchlights and flack to make its horrendous bombing run over the already ruined city of Berlin. On the way home, deadly action with German fighters is almost Harry's and the Lancaster's nemesis but he survives to see a fighter added to the line of bombs painted beneath the Lancaster's cockpit.

How long does it take you to write your first draft?

A short story, several weeks, at an hour or two each day

Do you plot or not, if so why?

Just a general idea in my mind then the characters to life as I write. I begin by driving the story, and then the story takes over to drive me until I have to invent its finish.

Do you write in 1st or 3rd person, or have you do both?

Generally 3rd person. I have written one book in 1st person about my memories of growing up and school days when the Japanese were coming during WW2.

How do you edit your work? Do you leave your draft alone for a while or edit as you write?

Both, but I do leave a finished work for at least a week then return to do a careful edit.

What type of people/readers do you market your books to?

Like many writers, I avoid self-promotion, I write for the absorbing interest it gives me, but I always have potential readers in mind and the Amazon sales graph gives satisfaction. The reviews are of great interest, sometimes giving clues for improvement.

Do you self-publish or have you worked with an Agent/Published?

Self publish.

How do you promote your writing?

I do have a Facebook page.

Where can we buy your books?

Go to Amazon.com -> Kindle books -> Warne Wilson.

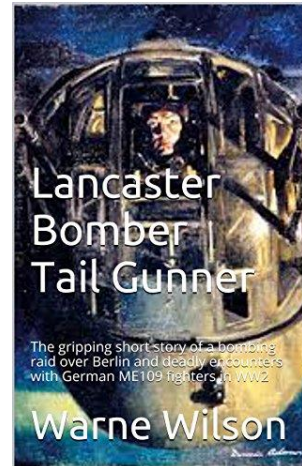
Who are your favourite authors?

Clive Cussler, Bryce Coutenay, John Grisham, Judy Nunn, Peter Fitzsimons

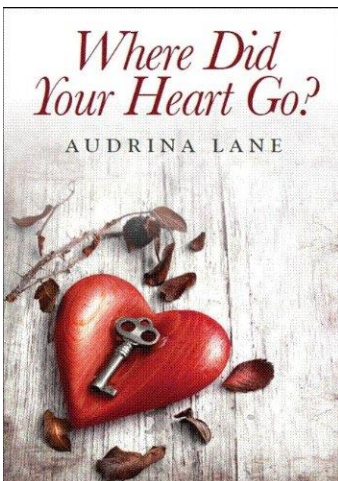
Links

<http://amzn.to/2fZ4TKM>

<http://amzn.to/2m5PcDG>



Free and 99c Books



[BUY LINK](#)

Where did your Heart Go by Audrina Lane

Stephanie never truly let go of her first love James in 1988. When the relationship ended she kept her diaries, letters and memories safe in the attic and her heart locked away from any future heartbreak. Now her daughter Charlotte is experiencing the same relationship break up that she did. Handing her daughter the diaries she hopes to save her from the bleakness she felt at the loss of first love. The diaries inspire Charlotte to strive for true love as she realises that finding the right man is worth the wait.

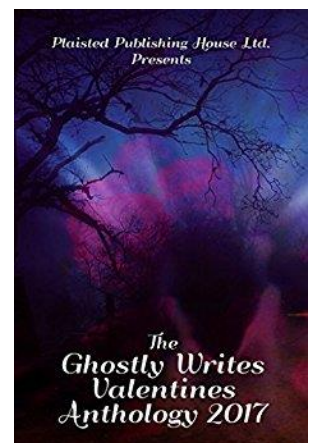
Can Charlotte heal two broken hearts at the same time through a strange twist of fate, destiny, music and dance?

Linking the lives of a mother and daughter together you can join them on their journey of discovery through the highs and lows of first love. Will Stephanie finally face the future after the scars from the past, and find out why James left her? Charlotte starts to discover that dancing with Mitchell will be the time of her life. Does anyone ever forget their first love and can you go back?

The Ghostly Writes Valentines Anthology 2017 By Ghostly Writers

From the minds of writers from around the globe, Plaisted Publishing presents a collection of ghost stories that will chill you, haunt your heart, and steal your soul from eternal devotion to undying love. International authors include: C.A. Keith, Audrina Lane, Karen J. Mossman, Adele Marie Park, Jane Risdon, Jennifer Deese, Lynn Mullican, and a poem from Kyrena Lynch

[FREE DOWNLOAD](#)



A Short Story from Jane Risdon

Under Cover

(c) Jane Risdon 2014

For the last three years she had lived another life, had buried her real self, taking on the mantle of a hardened Madam, a trafficker of girls, the worst kind of criminal and, for the umpteenth time, she had fought nausea as she negotiated with the Eastern European.

Her control back at the command centre had shown concern the last time they'd met. He could see the physical and mental toll this assignment was having on her, but they were committed now; there was no going back. The team had spent too long infiltrating the organisation and she was their only hope. During the time she had been under cover she had alerted them to more shipments of girls than he cared to recall, and the risk had grown with her every betrayal.

She knew it was only a matter of time before they rumbled her and her life wouldn't be worth a fig if the team were unable to protect her and extradite her at exactly the right moment. The latest shipment had arrived at Heathrow only hours before and were already on their way to a secret location in London where there would be an auction of the girls, some as young as eight, and where the special unit of police would be waiting to raid them. Her message had been received and the team was ready for any trouble which might ensue.

Marko eyed her from the bed as she gathered her clothes and prepared to shower and dress. He didn't trust her any more, she seemed nervous and remote these days and his gut didn't feel right; she didn't feel right. For a long time he'd had suspicions, she seemed to be softening towards the girls under her control and he was debating whether to remove her from her role as Madam of the main whore house which she'd run so successfully. Too many things had been going wrong lately. Too many shipments had been discovered and although he had managed to remain more or less anonymous and untouchable, he knew his luck would run out unless he acted soon. Was it her? He hoped it wasn't but he would soon know; the trap was set. If the latest consignment of girls was discovered, and raided, he would know.

She lingered in the bathroom, fully dressed, senses heightened. Marko had been a bit distant and had appeared suspicious of her movements all week. He seemed to make a point of repeating the instructions for the latest intake of girls - where they would be, even giving her more detail than usual about on-line bidders. Something wasn't right. She needed to contact control. Marko's kiss goodbye seemed final somehow.

As she pulled to door gently towards her, the phone rang. She hesitated, listening to the conversation, her ear against the door; terror gripped her as she heard his words. As she turned a strong pair of arms grabbed her, and she screamed.



C G Blade - Indie Author



Tell us a bit about yourself.

“My name is CG Blade and I am an addict”.

“Hello CG”. The hands in the room slowly rise and wave.

“I am addicted to writing science fiction and I cannot stop.”

“When did this start?”

“Well, I’m glad you asked that question. I was born in Ohio, did a stint in the Navy, became an engineer and a robot programmer, and then God said, “Enough of this nonsense!” and decided to throw my life off course. Ten back surgeries later, I am simultaneously working on novels four, five, and six. A quote that I absolutely love goes something like this: “We make

detailed plans for our future and then along the way life happens”. Dealt some serious medical blows, I decided not to sit on my laurels. I began writing with a feverous attitude known only to Tibetan Monks and Herman the Recluse.”

What bought you to the world of writing?

I dreamt of being a writer since I was a wee tot. I have always been a big fan of Philip K. Dick, Ray Bradbury, Heinlein, etc. The possibilities of science fiction and the incredible twists and turns inside the books always made me awestruck. I wrote some work many years ago but never really pursued it until I had my first of ten back surgeries in 2011. Then the floodgates opened as I sat for a year jotting down notes on what would later become Cobalt.

What is your first book and what do you think of it now?

Cobalt was my first novel and I still consider it my finest baby. It took a couple of years to develop and quite a few drafts and edits. I still think it holds up quite nicely today. Cobalt was the basis and the foundation for the rest of the Trinity Series so it had to be perfect. The facts, plot, and storylines, all had to align properly for the remainder of the novels to work. It was a lot of hard work but in the end, it was well worth it.

What type of books do you write and do they fulfil your reader’s needs?

The Trinity Series are historical science fiction and horror novels with a genetic technical twist. My novels do not fit into one particular category and this makes them somewhat difficult to market. Readers who are into the fusing of fiction and past historical conspiracies will love these books. I always found them to be my favourite. The melding of history and future fiction is always in the back of my brain. I am not into writing foo-foo love stories, romance, or YA. These are hard-core science fiction novels with a sarcastic twist on today’s headlines. Most of my ravenous fans love this formula and it works for me and for them.

Would you like to feature a book, if so which one? Tell us about it?

My latest book Emerald, the third in the series, is a nod to a couple of stories that I have loved since I was younger. It is a combination of the movies Five Million Years to Earth, a Hammer film, and John Carpenter’s Escape from New York. I included some of the character traits of Snake Plissken when writing Xanthe, and the UFO crash in 1947 as the basis behind her crashing to earth. Although the story is very original this is not fan fiction. I felt the need to pay tribute to these two stories as I have many others in my books. There are subtle hints sprinkled throughout my novels, which give a nod to great movies, writers, and events in history. The final Xanthe character modelled after Christine Thompson, a crazy, psycho, Canadian welder chick. She is great role model for women and for humans who are libertines.

How long does it take you to write your first draft?

I write in blocks over a month or two so I really do not know how long it actually takes me to write a draft. I do not write everyday due to the pain. I will write ten chapters in a day, or nothing. It is very weird but I do what I can when I can. The first novel took a couple of years to put together, but the more you write the easier it becomes.

Do you plot or not, if so why?

This is necessary for me only because there are so many details to get correct. I go back to my engineering days and use flowcharts and graphs. It is a must for my timeline and the details of the characters that I get this absolutely perfect. Using a plot chart also aids in getting rid of any writers block.

Do you write in 1st or 3rd person, or have you do both?

Both. I feel it is best to infuse my own brand of sarcasm into a story by having the characters in the story talk directly to me through the reader. I want the characters to feel as if they are having some difficulty with a part of the story and then blame me for their disappointment. I have always loved this style of writing in a story and it just adds to the humour.

How do you edit your work? Do you leave your draft alone for a while or edit as you write?

I edit every day before I write the next chapter. I will go back and edit what I wrote the day before. This way it has stewed in my brain for a day or so.

What type of people/readers do you market your books to?

Anyone who loves to read historical science fiction, sarcasm, humour, horror, genetics, fantasy, and a boatload of Easter Eggs. Mainly, the Trinity Series novels are old-school pulp fiction fused with new-school technology. Several readers have told us: "Once you pick up Cobalt, you cannot put it down." This is all an author ever needs to hear. It has been my greatest pleasure to give that to any reader.

Do you self-publish or have you worked with an Agent/Published?

My wife Jackie and I actually started our own publishing company, Pseudosynth Press, when we started. After Cobalt was written, we decided to assist other authors in getting started. We wanted to give back for all of the help we received while writing Cobalt. There are many great poets and novelists out there not published by an agent or publishing company and that is just not fair to them. Especially when it is so easy to publish now through digital means. Unless you are famous or a celebrity, no one wants to publish you. Everyone should be given a chance to breakout if their writing or story is good. Sometimes all a decent story needs is great editing and tweaking and it becomes a fantastic story.

How do you promote your writing?

Mainly through social media, platforms like The Indie Publishing News, and other great sites. I like to give teasers as I write. It also allows the reader to get a feel for where you are going with the story and gives you some invaluable feedback. Facebook is a great platform for readers and authors to connect.

Where can we buy your books?

Amazon and Lulu. Amazon for the digital version, and Lulu for the paperback version.

Who are your favourite authors?

Philip K. Dick, Ray Nelson, Ray Bradbury, Robert Heinlein, Marissa Meyer, Judith Merril, H. G. Wells, Michael Moorcock, just to name a few. So many up and coming new authors are currently busting through changing the landscape of science fiction and fantasy. It is wonderful and amazing. Any of the pulp writers such as Hubbard, were the ones who drove the science fiction we have today. They worked and died writing stories for pennies on the dime and were the first take us to other places and times. Forced to write over a million words a year to keep food on the table, they were the trailblazers of the fantasy genre.

Links:

<http://www.pseudosynthpress.com/cgblade>

<https://www.amazon.com/CG-Blade/e/Bo195SESHS>

<http://www.lulu.com/spotlight/CGBlade>

Do you have any more information you would like to share with us?

CG's Words of Wisdom for Aspiring Writers

Do not give up—ever! If you have a story or plot that is nagging you in the back of your head and it just will not go away, jot it down. Take notes. One day, you may find yourself in a position to write and you will need that information. Always keep a journal by your side no matter where you go. Don't let anyone tell you that you cannot become a writer. No one started out at the top—no one.

When you are finished writing for the day keep that journal next to you. Something amazing is about to happen. Your subconscious will continue to write the story for you. Whatever pops in your head write it down. You may or may not ever use it, but more of the story will seep into your mind.

Most writers are not rich. See the richness in your writing and the rest will follow.

Never take a family members review of your book as Godsend. They love you and therefore will tell you that the worst story is the greatest thing they have ever read. Filter out the love and try to interrogate them if necessary. Use alcohol.

Always give your first book out free. Suck it up and expect losses. Pass your book on to anything with thumbs that can clutch things.

Many authors before the advent of the internet sat around together in the same room critiquing each other's work and helped each other out. Do not be so quick to be jealous of another authors work. Some of their style may rub off on you and you might like what happens. Imitation IS the sincerest form of flattery and it still applies today.

For more words of wisdom and random ramblings from CG, head to our Pseudosynth Press Blog.

Robotic Love, CG Blade, storyteller

Up and Coming Events for March

Jeremy Hallett leaves a flourishing law career in Boston to return to his hometown of Anchor Point on Cape Cod. He secretly purchases the local lighthouse and surrounding property to open The Shipwreck Café.

Rich in history the lighthouse is rumored to be haunted by multiple ghosts and hiding a buried treasure worth millions.

Robbie, Jay's younger brother, surfs by day and bar tends at the café by night. He doesn't like ghosts, but it's okay, because they don't like him either.

Stormy, an abandoned golden retriever, who has been living at the lighthouse is adopted by Jay. Together, they move in to the keeper's cottage.

Two murders in as many weeks, transpire in Anchor Point. The town is thrown into an upheaval. Who is killing the locals and why?

Jay, Robbie, Stormy, and Roland Knowles, the ghost keeper of the lighthouse must work together to bring answers and peace back to Anchor Point. Will the murders be connected to the treasure that may or may not have been found in the last one hundred years? Only Roland knows.

Death by Chowdah

Donna Walo Clancy

THE SHIPWRECK CAFÉ MYSTERIES

Donna Walo Clancy lives on Cape Cod in Massachusetts in the U.S.A. She has three grown children. A spoiled rotten Papillon dog named Zumiez is her writing assistant. Her hobbies include reading, crafting of all kinds, and attending live concerts. She loves to walk the beaches of the Cape with her metal detector.

Visit her at:
www.facebook.com/AuthorDonnaWaloClancy/
www.facebook.com/donna.waloclancy
Contact her at: dwaloclancy@yahoo.com

**Release Day Party
for Death by
Chowdah by
Donna Walo
Clancy**

**On Facebook on
the 24th March
2017 at 6 – 10 pm
EDT**

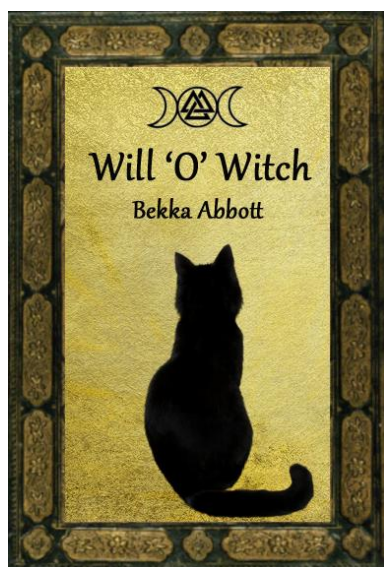
We'll see you there



The Ides of March : Essentia

***This is an Online Facebook Character Event on March 15th 2017
with Tom Fallwell and friends
From 6am – 11pm CDT***

Will 'O' Wisp by Bekka Abbott



When her mind was finally free of the terror, she found she was driving south towards the edge of the city. Still panting, she changed lanes and pulled into a parking space on the side of the road.

“This is ridiculous, D!” she said, trying to calm herself with her voice. “There’re no such thing as ghosts!”

She looked out of her window at the line of shops outside. There was a cafe, a little Indian spice shop, some kind of crystal store and a burger joint. Opening the glove compartment, she grabbed her purse, and shuffled out of the car. Maybe lunch and a coffee would help settle this feeling, particularly as there was no such thing as ghosts!

A shock-wave rippled through reality, like an earthquake in the air, and she stopped walking to turn around. There was nothing there, just a street and pedestrians, cars on the road, an ordinary work day for

everyone else, but her instincts told her something bad was chasing her and it was the same feeling from that house.

Again, her reptilian brain screamed for to her run and hide. She moved to obey and ducked in through the nearest door. A bell chimed and the scent of incense hit her nostrils. Suddenly, the feeling of threat dropped away.

She stood in the entrance of the crystal store, panting and trying desperately to reclaim her mind from the terror. A line of coloured and clear crystals hung in a random pattern of clouds in front of the shop window. Smatterings of sunlight from outside shimmered and projected rainbows everywhere. Both walls were covered in bookcases and in the centre were tables and displays of crystals, books and jars of dried plants. At the back of the room was an old wooden desk that seemed to serve as the counter.

A woman with dark hair and eyes, wearing a black velvet dress with speckles of rainbow colours down the front, approached her. “Can I help you?”

Dana stared at her for a moment. “I, um... I don’t suppose you have something to cure the heebee jeebies?”

One eyebrow lifted and Dana sensed that her answer didn’t impress this woman. “We’re about to close for lunch, so unless you have something particular in mind, please come back later.” The woman opened the door and grabbed her elbow.

“Let go of me!” Dana tried to dislodge her arm.

She was pushed out onto the side-walk, but then the woman gasped and yanked her back. The door closed with a chiming bell, and Dana was inside again.

“How in the hell did you get a leech spirit that big on your ass?” barked the woman.

Dana frowned. “What? A leech spirit? What are you talking about?”

The woman put her hands on her hips. “You don’t know what’s following you? Why did you even come in here?”

“I...” Dana had no idea how to explain anything. “I... I don’t know... something is... um... I got creeped out and I ran. I just happened to run into this shop. It was an accident. What’s a leech spirit?”

The woman rolled her eyes. “It’s a critter. A spirit that lives on life energy, they’re usually the size of cats or small dogs, but yours is... well,” the woman swallowed. “It’s huge. If it catches you, you could get really sick.”

Dana snorted. This woman was obviously about to try selling her a miracle cure. “Bollocks,” she barked as she opened the door, heading back towards her car.

The woman stepped in behind her. One hand clapped to the back of Dana’s head, the other grabbed one arm and spun her around to face down the street.

For a moment Dana felt dizzy and her eyes closed. When she opened them again, the world was different.

Rivers of colour flowed around them like some sort of trippy Van Gogh painting. The sky was painted in streaks of purple water colour, and up the road was a mass of black cloud, edged with claws; several rows of teeth gave shape to its middle.

She cried out and the two of them slipped back into the shop. “What the hell was that?” she yelled. “What did you do to me?”

The woman let go of her. “I just opened your Sight for a moment so you’d see what I see. It should already be wearing off. I need you to stay in the shop. The wards here will keep you hidden until I can figure out how to get rid of it.”

Dana stared, mouth dropping. The crystals in front of the window reflected streams of white light into the room, like a mirror ball. The walls, floor and ceiling, all dark hardwood, shimmered with orange and blue flames that covered the surface in rippling lines of light. Every object was peppered with colour or extra layers, some moved like they were breathing, and others seemed to have eyes that stared right back at her.

She gasped and pushed her spine against the front door. “What?” her voice came out as a squeak. “Have you drugged me?”

The woman snorted. “No, what are talking about?”

“Whatever you did isn’t going away. Everything’s alive in this place.” She was panting, terrified and at the same time also fascinated by what she was seeing. Inanimate objects seemed to be alive, like some kind demented live-action cartoon.

The woman approached her with a frown on her face that was more confused than angry. “Tell me what you see.”

A blur, the front end of which looked like a black cat, flickered on and off from view as it travelled across the room, around the woman’s legs, and then up close to Dana’s face like a cat hugging her.

She whimpered, not sure what to do despite the feeling of comfort and love emitting from this weird cat-blur creature.

“Kitty?” she managed to blurt out.

“You can see Socrates?”

“Bl... black cat. Blurry.”

“Socrates, go in the back you’re scaring our guest.”

The blur let out a very cat-like meow and flickered out of her face.

Dana stared, still terrified.

“Chicky, you need to relax.” The woman sighed. “My name’s Wilhelmina, or just Mina, what’s yours?”

“D... Dana.”

Mina handed her a pendant. The silver disk glowed a gentle gold and pulsed like candle light. “This is a protection spell. For the moment, I want you to put it on and come into the back room with me. I’ll see if I can help you.” She leant around Dana, changing the sign on the door from “open” to “closed”, and turned the lock.

Dana did as she was asked, and followed Mina through the breathing, pulsing room, around the desk, and through an archway.

Beyond the shop, the air was filled with flickering, warm stars like white fireflies, and for no reason at all she felt completely safe.

The walls were lined with boxes, but there was a square dining table with four chairs in the middle, and on the left hand wall, next to another doorway, was a small kitchenette with a kettle, microwave and sink.

“Sit, try to relax.” Mina indicated the table and moved to the kitchenette where she turned on the kettle. “You like hot chocolate?”

The woman turned around and Dana could see another face overlaid on the woman. Her real face was square and androgynous. Not ugly but not very pretty either. Her dark hair was chocolate brown and cut in a rough bob. The overlaid face was younger and oval, very pretty with green eyes that hovered over the dark brown of the physical world. And flames of red hair moved around her second face, like she was on fire.

Dana frowned. “Why have you got two faces?”

Mina smirked at her. “That’s what it looks like when your insides don’t match your outsides. Hot chocolate?”

She nodded. “Thank you. Please, what’s going on?”

“Well.” Mina sighed. “My guess is you stumbled on something with that critter attached, and now it wants to eat you. As to your new world, I think you might be a spirit medium. Usually when I open a person’s third eye chakra it’s only temporary because that’s not their natural state. Most folks have to work hard to keep their spirit Sight. But if you’re seeing more and not less, it means your natural state is probably to See.”

Dana’s eyes filled with tears, and she dropped her head to the table surface. “I don’t want this. I feel like I’m going mad.”

“Welcome to the real world, Dana. Count yourself lucky. I didn’t have a friendly witch to help me when I was a kid. We’ll sort this together, don’t worry. Now tell me what happened? When did all this start?”

North Street Book Prize for Self-Published Books 2017

This is the second annual North Street Book Prize for self-published books.

This year's deadline is June 30. The entry fee is \$50 per book.

Submit a self-published book in one of the following categories, up to 150,000 words in length:

- Mainstream/Literary Fiction
- Genre Fiction
- Creative Nonfiction & Memoir

More details, and submissions at this link...

<http://createsend.com/t/d-1BDC1EB344F187E4>

***A merchant who approaches business with the idea of
Serving the public well has nothing to fear
From the competition.***

James Cash Penney

R James Stevens - Indie Author



Tell us a bit about yourself.

I'm R. James Stevens, a SciFi / Horror author. I was born and raised for the first third of my life in a small town in Western Pennsylvania. I served in the US Military during the first Gulf War and currently live with my wife in sunny Florida.

What bought you to the world of writing?

Writing has been a lifelong dream for me. At an early age, faced with a broken family and moving around quite a bit, I became an introvert. I frequented the local town library and lost myself in whatever genres piqued my interest at the time (mostly Fantasy, SciFi or History). While working on a comic book idea with my son-in-law, I decided that the back story of it would make a great novel – and so Epsilon was born. As was my writing career.

What is your first book and what do you think of it now?

My first book was Clarity, which started out the Epsilon series. I released it back in September of 2013 and recently had the opportunity (time) to read through it. While I am biased, I actually enjoyed being a reader rather than a writer. A few years removed from its creation, I was able to appreciate it in a different light. This also gave me ideas on how to change/improve my writing going forward.

What type of books do you write and do they fulfil your reader's needs?

Although I could just offer up a genre here (most of mine fall into SciFi / Dystopia, with subtle hints of Horror intertwined), I like to always say that I write what I would like to read. That is to say that most often I ignore the "flavour of the month" and go with something that pleases me.

Would you like to feature a book, if so which one? Tell us about it?

Both books of Epsilon are like my children, so it's extremely hard to pick one over the other. However, the series is, well for lack of a better term, serialized. As such, it would be disappointing for someone to start with Book 2 and judge the series based on that. There is so much more that happens in Book 1 that needs to be digested first before tackling the second epic. So here goes... Clarity:

Discovery. Salvation. Redemption.

In the year 2077, the world is stricken by an epic natural disaster, sounding the death knell of modern technology. Sent back to the Dark Ages, billions perish in the aftermath. Seven years later, the scattered populace is left to fend for themselves against rogue organizations that seize the opportunity for a power play in a world without power.

Three individuals; three separate paths. All will be irreversibly entwined as they search for the answers in an attempt to reassemble the pieces of their broken lives. But will they find what they seek, or will they stumble upon the devastating truth that lies just beyond their reach?

The Epsilon series explores the events seven years after the catastrophic death of a technological society.

The first installment, Clarity, begins in 2084 and focuses both forward and back on the raw, emotional journeys of former friends and partners. Will they band together to help right wrongs and restore order to the scattered remnants of the populace? Or will their quests for individual fulfillment tear apart an already worn bond?

How long does it take you to write your first draft?

Clarity was a unique one in that it started out as a comic book idea that never quite got off the ground. That was back in 2003/2004. I actually began writing the novelized version of Clarity in 2012, with the completion about a year later.

Do you plot or not, if so why?

I'm not one of the types of writers that likes to just write and see where the story takes me. My stories more often than not are quite complex and layered, and that lends to having to plot quite extensively. Book 2 (Duality) was no different – it took me 2 months just to outline the plot and subplots before I began really writing the meat of the story.

Do you write in 1st or 3rd person, or have you do both?

Epsilon is written in 3rd person. I do have a novel that I am working on right now, though, that is 1st person. It's definitely different having to work as though you are in the protagonist's head – and I'm having to arrange my wording in a much different sense than I would have in 3rd person. Interesting, and we'll see how it goes.

How do you edit your work? Do you leave your draft alone for a while or edit as you write?

I'm a perfectionist, and as such, I find it difficult not to edit whilst writing. While it's not a final edit by any stretch, I do quite a bit of editing 'on the fly' as it were.

What type of people/readers do you market your books to?

Anyone that enjoys a deep, rich story with intertwining layers and subplots. That type of work isn't for everyone, and I've had a handful of people say "I just can't keep up" – but everyone that has gotten to the end of each book has realized that the payoff and the overall story is worth the effort.

Do you self-publish or have you worked with an Agent/Published?

Right now, I'm self-published – and proudly so. But if an agent and/or Trad publisher were to come knocking, I wouldn't say 'no'.

How do you promote your writing?

Social media has been my primary outlet. Whether that's Twitter, Facebook, or any number of online outlets – I try to disperse the workload evenly between them.

Where can we buy your books?

My books can be found on Amazon, Smashwords, Kobo, iBooks – you name it, wherever you can get ebooks, its most likely there. Additionally, there is a print version on Amazon that is also listed in the Ingram Catalogue (which enables it to be purchased through brick and mortar bookstores if you just ask the clerk).

Who are your favourite authors?

I'm definitely into the classics – Tolkien, Asimov, Bradbury, Poe, Wells, Orwell, just to name a few. These authors sparked my imagination at a young age, and I owe them their due for what I'm able to do now.

Links

Clarity: <http://amzn.com/dp/BooF4KWUIG>

Duality: <http://amzn.com/dp/Bo1oWHBLTE>

Homecoming: <http://amzn.com/dp/BooGBDP4YW>

Keystone. : <http://amzn.com/dp/BooPoHGSJK>

Do you have any more information you'd like to share with us?

Be sure to follow me on Twitter and Facebook for updates on my latest projects – 2 new novels, 2 anthologies, and of course, Book 3 of Epsilon:

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/rjamesstevens>

Facebook: <http://facebook.com/rjamesstevensauthor>

Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower

Albert Camus

Spotlight Author Recipe

Peanut Butter Balls

Ingredients

1 1/2 cups peanut butter
1 cup butter
1 1/3 cups graham cracker crumbs
2 cups semisweet chocolate chips
1 tablespoon shortening



Method

Mix together peanut butter, butter or margarine, confectioners' sugar, and graham cracker crumbs. Shape into 1 inch balls.

Melt chocolate chips and shortening in top of double boiler. Dip balls into chocolate mixture and let dry on waxed paper. (Poke each ball with a toothpick for easier dipping.)

The photo is from: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/mesohungry/4215843159>

Chocolate Chip Cookies from New Zealand

Ingredients

250 gms Butter
1/2 Cup Icing Sugar
4 Tablespoons Sweetened Condensed Milk
3 Cups Flour
3 Teaspoons Baking Powder
1/2 Teaspoon Salt
1 Packet Chocolate Chips



Method

Preheat oven to 190 c

Soften Butter and cream together with sugar, and sweetened condensed milk. Shift flour, baking powder and salt. Add to butter mixture gradually. Lastly add chocolate chips Roll dough into sausage and slice into pieces, slightly flatten with fork. Bake for 110 – 15 minutes or until golden brown

Enjoy

Photo from: https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Chocolate_Chip_Cookies_-_kimberlykv.jpg

***The thing with children is they're a bit like baking a fruitcake
You throw all the ingredients in but you never
Know how they're going to turn out***

Len Goodman

Toni Michelle – Freelance Editor



Tell us a bit about yourself.

Well, I am a full-time freelance editor, executive marketing manager and editor for Foundations Books, LLC a traditional publishing company, a freelance author PA, and I do some formatting when needed. I work from home where I get to enjoy the company of my Newfoundland/Border Collie pup and 'work' my own hours. I say work that way because really, I find great pleasure in what I do so I tend to spend more hours 'working' than I do anything else.

What brought you to the world of editing?

I had edited legal docs as a paralegal for about 7 years, but left because it was just too depressing watching families fall apart, insurance companies win the lawsuits they should not have won over a lost loved one, and contract law was just too boring. However, I did learn a lot!

I started reviewing books and when I wrote a review for an author, I contacted her before posting due to editing issues and she asked me to edit for her. From there, she referred other authors to me and business started picking up. Five years later, I am full-time at home living in books. A world of imagination and adventure, and I absolutely LOVE it!

What type of books do you edit and do they fulfil your reading pleasures?

I edit all non-fiction and fiction genres (except urban lit), and I absolutely love the paranormal and romance genres along with any subgenres that come along with them. Mystery/Thriller is fast becoming a favorite now as well.

How long does it take you to edit a book, say around 50,000 words?

Well, depending on the level of work the book needs, the first round could take up to a week. Typically, it does not take me much more than 2-3 days. I include a second round of edits after content edits are complete to ensure that any changes made sparkle and that nothing else was missed. This second round usually takes no more than 2 days, as it is less detailed as the first round.

Do you work with indie authors or with a publisher?

I work with both, actually. I started out working with indie authors and that is something I absolutely love! I will never change that! But I had the chance to become an editor for a traditional publishing company and help authors get published if they so choose. So I jumped on it. I have been so happy working both ends.

How do you promote your business?

Most promotion is by word of mouth at this point, however, I do promote on Facebook, Goodreads, Twitter, LinkedIn, Google+ and a few other sites.

Where can we find you?

www.PolishedPagesEditing.com

Who are your favourite authors?

Oh now that is hard to say. I have tons: Amanda Kay, KS Haigwood, SE Rise, Laura Ranger, Meg Collett, Lory La Selva Paduano, Ainsley Shay, Sylvie Stewart, Jolyse Barnett, SJ Pierce, JDR Hawkins, Tess Gerretson, Cait Reynolds, KN Lee... This list can go on for so long...

Links

<https://www.facebook.com/toni.michelle.7524>

<https://www.facebook.com/BindingDreams/?ref=bookmarks>

<https://www.facebook.com/PolishedPagesEditing/?ref=bookmarks>

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/tonimichelle/>

<https://twitter.com/PolishedPages1>

<https://plus.google.com/u/o/+ToniMichelle-PolishedPagesEditing>

Do you have any more information you'd like to share with us?

I am always open to new clients in both editing and PA. Also, if you are looking to find a traditional publisher, please feel free to message me and we can discuss your book. I would be happy to read a few chapters and let you know if we would accept your manuscript.

Q & A with Jennifer Deese

Our first question will be in two parts The second part will be in April's publication. Kelly Marsden's question was: ***What is your opinion on publishing with KDP? (Part 1) Do you think that the new SmashWords expansion into 3,000 more libraries and lower thresholds for payments make it a better option. (part 2,)***

According to "The Creative Pen there are distinct advantages to being exclusive on KDP;" ***Choose between two great promotional tools: Kindle Countdown Deals, time-bound promotional discounting for your book while earning royalties; or scheduled Free Book Promotion where readers worldwide can get your book free for a limited time. [Note: you can still make your book permafree if you publish on multiple platforms, pricing free and then reporting the cheaper price to Amazon.]

***Help readers discover your books by making them available through Kindle Unlimited in the U.S. and the Kindle Owners' Lending Library (KOLL) in the U.S, U.K., Germany, France, and Japan. Kindle Unlimited is a subscription program for readers that allows them to read as many books as they want. The Kindle Owners' Lending Library is a collection of books that Amazon Prime members who own a Kindle can choose one book from each month with no due dates. When you enroll in KDP Select, your books are automatically included in both programs.

(The above information was gathered from The Creative Pen at:

<https://www.publishgreen.com/differences-between-ebooks-and-print-books>

It seems very obvious that one main benefit to using KDP select is the plethora of marketing tools and the many promotional opportunities it offers. These help both ebook sales and lends from their library. Think about it... Amazon is fast becoming one of the biggest ebook sellers and while it doesn't state this in anything I have read I do strongly believe that there is truly a favoritism shown to books enrolled in KDP. This means your enrolled books/s will be, IMO, pushed more - and this results in sales spikes every time they push your book. And, of course, we love those sales spikes, right? I have been told by some with KDP that their KDP sales are higher than if they were openly published across all platforms. So it's definitely something to think about. My only quandary is that I keep asking myself ...' Do I wish to be available only on Amazon?' And I suppose that is the question we each have to ask ourselves when it comes time to publish. In truth once I get more titles published I aim to have my series on all platforms and my other books (anthology and memoir) on KDP select, thus giving myself the opportunity to have something to offer in all camps.

Now for question 2 from Adele Marie Park, which I must say, is another learning question for me.

Adele asks: What are the accepted forms for formatting.

Great question Adele! I will start with font, there seems to be a trend toward Times New Roman in the publishing world, but there is also the good old go to Courier. I would not stray from either of these though and certainly don't use any of the Sans fonts like, Arial or Comic Sans. Use 12pt and of course use black for the color. One inch margins all around. Double space between lines, unless it's the synopsis, and generally there is not an extra space between paragraphs. Now when it comes to ebooks the general populace says that accepted formats are Mobi and EPub, these allow for flexibility for the readers on their devices. For print PDF files are the general rule of thumb.

Now since I am not prolific on the subject of formatting I would like to offer a couple helpful links.

http://www.marlyspearsen.com/formatting_101.htm

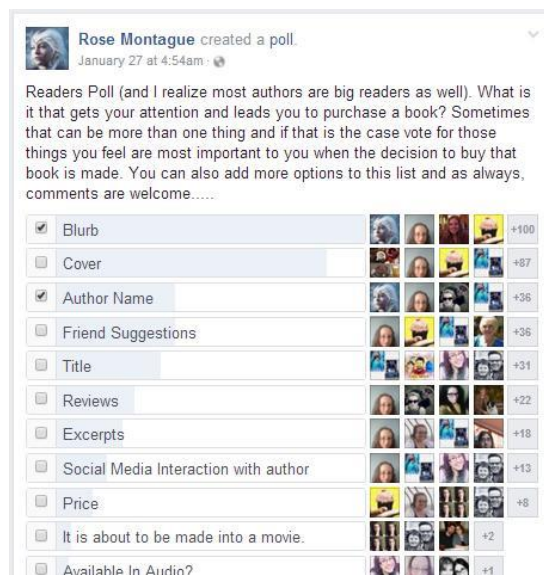
<https://www.publishgreen.com/differences-between-ebooks-and-print-books>

Thank you everyone for reading and thank you to Kelly and Adele for your questions, and the learning opportunity it presented to me.

I have Heard of Sales – Part Two with Rose Montague

Thanks for hanging in there with me. I finished January with about \$800.00 in royalties, a pretty nice start to the year. At the time, I wrote this February is only projecting out to around half of that total. I spent most of my first half of the month on my event, Our Books Are Not Free, which turned out to be a major success. Now it's back to focusing on promotion and marketing of my existing titles, as well as working on my next book, Wiznews James. Publishing new titles on a regular basis is the number one driver of sales.

One way to understand how to generate more sales is to look at what drives readers to buy books. During the event, I had a readers poll up asking people what causes them to make that decision to buy. The results are eye-opening. The blurb and cover turned out to be, by far, the main reasons people buy. I expected to see price right up there, instead it was pretty far down the list. It turned out that if your price was reasonable, it really wasn't a major factor in the decision to purchase a book. I am going to talk about the dreaded blurb and the lovely book cover in this article.



The Blurb:

Most authors hate writing blurbs and I am one of those. You can write a full-length novel and not stress as much over it as a couple of paragraphs in your blurb. Be not afraid. There is a solution. It involves admitting you are terrible at writing blurbs and asking your friends for help. Somewhere out there are the select few that actually, have a talent for thesis things and if you don't stumble upon one of those, at least you will get some constructive criticism of your current blurb.

I am a member of several author and writing groups and I see this happen quite often. Someone will ask for help with their blurb and they will get suggestions on how to make it better. Even if most of us are terrible at writing the things, we do recognize a good blurb when we see one.

When I republished Jade last year, one of the things I wanted to improve on was my blurb. I asked around in my groups and among my friends and one of my beta readers, Caryn Mock, ended up suggesting a much better blurb than the one I had originally.

Meet Jade Smith, a magical mutt with a mission. A detective partnered with a shifter named Rolfe, she's on the case to solve a slew of murders: Vamps are killing humans, and nobody knows why. When London Jane, the most powerful vamp in town, is implicated in the murders, Jade knows something isn't right. Together with Jill, the Winter Queen of Faerie, Jade and Jane take their investigation underground. On the run, with nowhere to hide, they uncover a secret that could destroy Faerie, as well as the human realm. Will Jade stop the killer in time? Or will she be the next victim?

Magic, mayhem, and mystery abound, and the odds are stacked against them; it's three against three hundred.

This is great, in my opinion. Some blurbs go on and on and try to give the whole story. Sometimes less is more. You get an idea of the basic plot, a bit of a teaser, and the supernatural elements I wanted it to have. It also provides a great lead in to the trilogy itself, *Three J'amigos*, featuring Jade, Jane, and Jill.

Speaking of teasers, that is something I am much better at than blurbs and sometimes a good teaser can convince a potential reader to follow that link and read that blurb. For *Jade*, one of the teasers that I use is...

I love the mystery in Jade and I love how the crazy comes together.

For *Norma Jean's School of Witchery* I use this one...

A presidential election. A witch with a target on her back and a magical arrow. A shadowy government agency made up of witches with unusual abilities. A game called Witch Pong. The Mighty Thor?

See how it all comes together in a school you will never forget.

For my next book, *Wiznewski James*, I am using this one...

Hello. My name is Wiznewski James. I'm a real person but that's not my real name. My real name is GEM (Genetically Engineered Modification) Set 231 Batch 31,390. My sister is called Kate and she's not a real person but that is the real name I gave her. She's an AI (Artificial Intelligence). She rides around with me in my brain. Together we are on the run and hiding in plain sight. It was only a matter of time before we ran into ConGloom again.

I am thinking of incorporating this teaser into that dreaded blurb. Let me know what you think!

The Cover:

It draws attention to your book and leads a reader to click that link and explore things like the blurb. Some authors buy pre-made covers, cheap. Some of these are good and some are not. Some do their own covers with varying degrees of success depending on how talented that author is at doing them. I prefer spending a little more on a cover than the pre-made version and working with a cover artist to come up with something we both like, a cover that conveys the elements I want, and draws the immediate attention of a potential reader.



I can't tell you how many compliments I have received on my covers. My cover artist is Mirella Santana and she is easy to work with and doesn't complain when I ask for changes. I approached each of my series with a different idea in mind. For *Norma Jean's School of Witchery*, I wanted a couple of action scenes from the book itself. I like getting my covers done before my book is complete and with me using a scene that was planned from the book, if that scene on the cover didn't turn out exactly like I wanted, I could adjust the scene in the book to match the cover. This worked really well in this series, both represent an actual scene from the book.

For the *Three J'amigos*, I wanted more of a focus on each character. Jade had to convey the mixed supernatural nature of Jade, and the addition of the pointed ears, the pentagram necklace, the bats in the background, and the full moon relate to her nature as fae, witch, vampire, and shifter. The dagger of darkness on her belt plays an important role in the book. For Jane, a vampire, I wanted that baseball bat, her weapon of choice, and of course the red hair and blood. For Jill, the Winter Queen of Faerie, it just had to look like a Winter Queen.

Thanks for reading, next month's article will cover trying new things and what I call The Hook, that very important first chapter of your book.

You can find out more about Rose Montague's Books here:

[More Books](#)



Markie Madden – Indie Author & Small Press Publisher



Tell us a bit about yourself.

Hello everyone, I'm Markie Madden, independent author and small press publisher. I started my company back in 2014 to publish my own books, but now I help others to do the same!

What brought you to the world of writing? I've been writing since the fourth grade. I remember my teacher would come around and draw an abstract squiggle on our paper. The assignment was to finish the drawing then write a story about it.

What is your first book and what do you think of it now?

My first book was *Once Upon a Western Way*. It's now been rewritten from 1st to 3rd person, and is called *Clash of Times: The Quest*. Though it's not my favorite, it still holds a special place in my heart.

What type of books do you write and do they fulfil your reader's needs?

I am a jack of all trades, and I've written memoir, self-help, crime/paranormal, romantic fantasy with a touch of steampunk. I'm currently working on a historical romance trilogy, a paranormal romance, and a political thriller.

Would you like to feature a book, if so which one? Tell us about it?

My next book release is *Siren Song*, book 4 of the #UndeadUnit series, and it's due out February 14. The paperback is already available, though!

How long does it take you to write your first draft?

I have participated in National Novel Writing Month, where I have written 50,000 words in just 30 days. Of course, my full-length books are longer than that, but I can get the majority of a first draft done in a couple of months.

Do you plot or not, if so why?

I never used to be a plotter. But after I had cancer, I've found myself turning more and more to writing aids, so now I do tend to use a bit of plotting.

Do you write in 1st or 3rd person, or have you do both?

I write in 3rd person almost exclusively. Of course, my memoir is written in first person.

How do you edit your work? Do you leave your draft alone for a while or edit as you write?

As I finish each chapter, I run it through an editing program called Pro Writing Aid. Then, I send them over to my editor chapter by chapter. When he returns them after the book is finished, I do all the final edits then.

What type of people/readers do you market your books to?

I like to think my books are suitable for most everyone. My Undead Unit series books are available in both adult and young adult editions.

Do you self-publish or have you worked with an Agent/Published?

I am self-published through my company, Metamorph Publishing.

How do you promote your writing?

I use a combination of social media and paid advertisements, author interview swaps, physical conventions, and word-of-mouth.

Where can we buy your books?

All my books are available in paperback at Amazon, Barnes and Noble, and many other retailers. To purchase signed copies, visit my website at <https://metamorphpublishing.com>.

Who are your favourite authors?

I like Nora Roberts, J.D. Robb, Kay Hooper, and Patricia Cornwall.

Links

I have too many to share all of them!

<https://www.facebook.com/booksbymarkie>

<https://www.facebook.com/markiemaddenauthor>

<https://www.twitter.com/metamorphpub>

My services page is:

<https://metamorphpublishing.com/professional-publishing-services/>

Do you have any more information you'd like to share with us?

I also do my own cover design, and offer covers to other authors as well. I have pre-made covers for a low price, and will do custom covers to the author's preference. I offer editing and formatting services as well, and have a flexible payment plan available.

Cabins by J B Taylor – from Ghostly Writes Anthology 2016

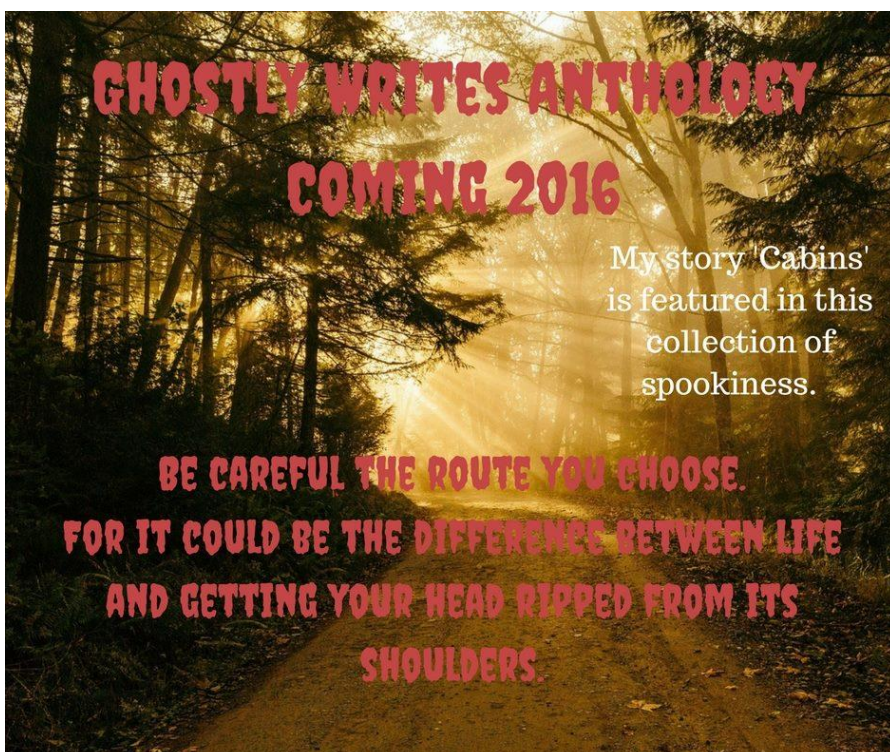
Hi book lovers! I've just read the story the Cabin from the Ghostly Writes Anthology. I can tell you now, I'll not do this story justice, it is good. It was suspenseful, and it did keep me reading straight through to the end. The one thing I really liked about it was how it pulled you in right from the get go, and kept you reading straight on through.

What I had trouble with is the fact that there was no resolution to the haunting. I daren't say more unless I give too much away. This might be my trouble... I haven't read this type of writing in the genre of horror before. Not really, and so what I'm used to reading, and what this is well, it's a bit different.

I'll tell you what it reminded me of, and this is a complement. I read a book not long ago by Johnathon Saul and I liked it fine, except the same problem applied. In the end the house...? Well, again, I daren't reveal too much.

What do I recommend? Read this anthology and make certain you don't skip this story. The name of the book by the author are referenced, is Creek Crossing.

Reviewed by Patty Fletcher



Recently Released Books

Speaking Emotions by Terra James

A short story based on a young girl's struggle with life. She's unable to communicate. Her mother discovers a way to allow her to express herself differently. She has a suppressed secret that's affecting her life.

Will she eventually be able to communicate or will this secret continue to destroy her?

Amazon link: <https://tinyurl.com/j2du2wl>

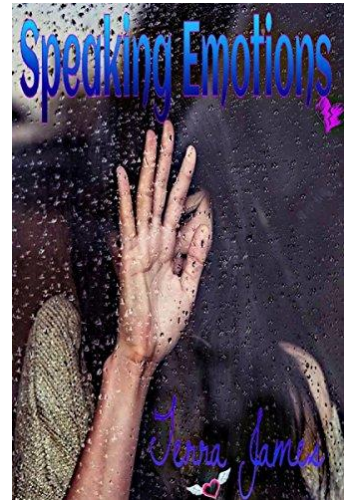
Itunes link:

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/book/speakingemotions/id1012738518?mt=11>

Smashwords link: <https://www.smashwords.com/books/view/553165>

Barnes and Noble Link: <https://tinyurl.com/q6rlav5>

Kobo link: <https://www.kobo.com/us/en/ebook/speaking-emotions>



The Hunted by Heidi Angell

The highly-anticipated sequel to The Hunters Saga. Follow Fury, Havoc and Screvin as they track down the Werewolf who turned Screvin and try to help her come to terms with what she is.

Things are going better than expected with Avie, then the Counsel comes after them. Now the hunters have become the hunted.

[BUY LINK](#)

What is Love?

Treasures from the sea brought forth by rippling waves

Beautiful daisies springing up among weeds

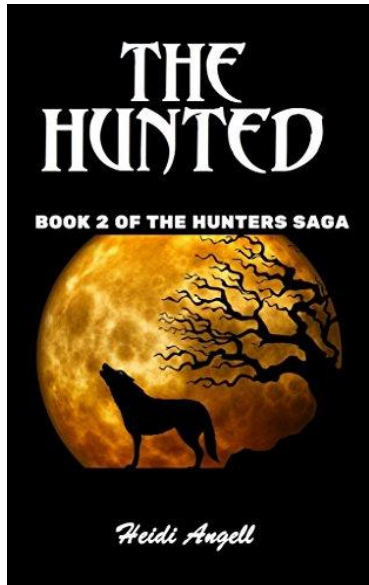
Raindrops producing growth to sustain life

Divine strength that keeps all things standing

Sun rising in the morning no matter what happened the day before

Goodness from the earth nourishing the body

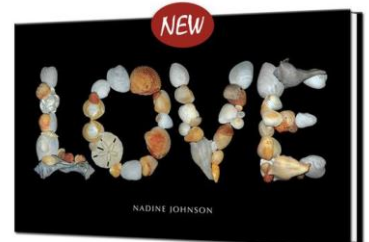
Broken pieces crafted to become the cornerstone . . .



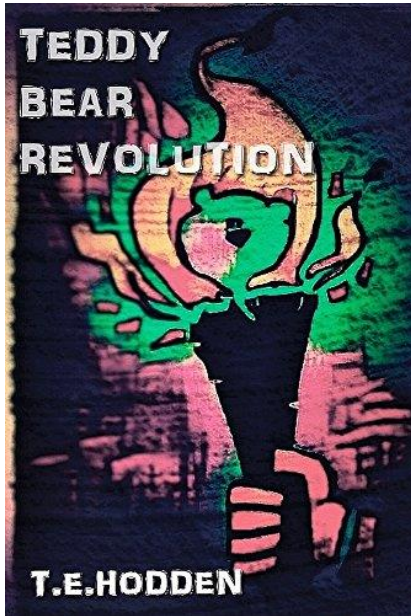
LOVE by Nadine Johnson

I wanted to create a book that I could share with my son, siblings, mother, and the world - a book that inspires gratitude for God's ever-present love - a book that will be read over and over again to calm the soul - a book that represents my journey, evolution, and understanding of life. That book is LOVE.

Love is an uplifting keepsake book that reveals what love truly is and how easy it is to access. This book inspires gratitude and will bring forth joy in anyone who reads it. Love has vibrant photographs accompanied by poignant prose that show how God surrounds us with love daily. Readers will find affirmations, strength, and faith. It's a great book to share with the entire family and a heart-warming gift for a loved one.



[BUY LINK](#)



Teddy Bear Revolution by T E Hodden

The world faces darkness, extremists, aliens, monsters and villains. But one man, and a lot of teddy bears, are about to take a stand...

Alex grew up with tales of the Teddy Bears of Eternity. Little bundles of mischief with sticky paws and bobble hats, said to defend the innocent from ghosts, ghouls and the supernatural. But they were long gone, and near forgotten by the time the Shield Wall took control of the country.

When Alex is discovered to carry the Spark of magical potential, he is whisked away to a prison facility, to be contained and controlled. There he discovers the true evil of the men and women who have risen to power.

But he also learns that there is a new hope waiting to be rediscovered. All the bears need is somebody willing to light the beacon and call them home...

Join Alex and the bears on three thrilling adventures, as he faces political intrigue, killer robots, and men from Mars.

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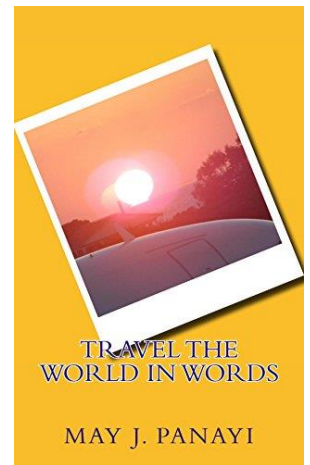
Travel the World in Words by May J Panayi

A review of world travel; sometimes diary, sometimes adviser, often humorous, always informative. Travel virtually to a variety of destinations. Plan your next holiday. Read about things to see, places to visit, foods to eat and much more; all from the comfort of your armchair.

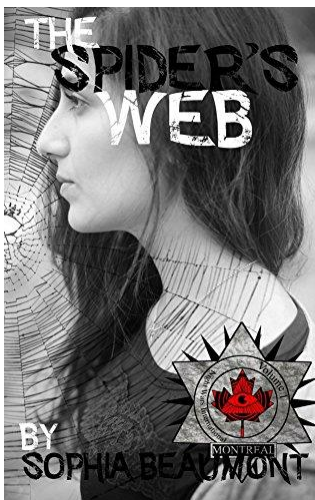
[BUY LINK](#)

***The world is a book, and those who do not travel
read only a page***

Saint Augustine



The Spiders Web by Sophia Beaumont



After being released from a Toronto psych ward, Evie decides that her life needs a drastic change. Moving 500 kilometers east to stay with her aunt in Montreal, however, is not turning out as expected. Though she loves the city, she can't outrun the problems that drove her to the edge in the first place.

Recovery might be a little easier if not for Micha. Handsome, kind, always willing to help Evie or cheer her on--and completely invisible to everyone else. He seems to think he's some kind of guardian angel, and she might need one now that things have gone from bad to just plain weird.

It started with the spiders. Then the owls started following her. Ghosts, goddesses, and secret societies are just the icing on the cake. She's going to need help from some very powerful friends if she wants to make it to her next birthday, but when one of those friends is the goddess of the underworld, her guardian angel might have to start working overtime.

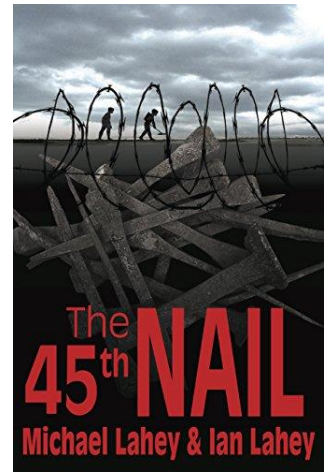
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The 45th Nail by Michael & Ian Lahey

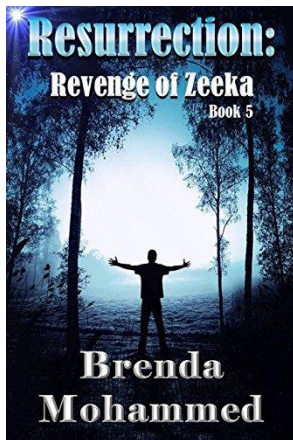
A Christmas card from Italy arrived on Robert Svenson's desk. There was no return address, but when Bob opened the card, it was signed by his uncle, James Savorski. Nice, except for the fact that Uncle Jim was declared MIA back in '44. Forty years later he's sending solid gold Etruscan amulets for Christmas presents? Bob resolved to travel to Italy to see if he could find his long lost uncle.

How does one find a dead man in Italy without knowing the language or having an address? All Bob knew was that losing his luggage and his money the first night in Rome didn't help. Then he found himself picking his way through a minefield of old scars and memories of war.

Along the way he journeys through Italy's art and its incredible archaeological treasures, its history and people. A tale of war and mines and other things buried underground and even deeper—in the hearts of those who lived those years.



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Resurrection : Revenge of the Zeeka by Brenda Mohammed

Mandy's new robot helper Eve encounters a stranger in the backyard. He claims to have connections with Zeeka.

Who is this stranger?

When he learns that Eve is a robot, he discloses his story to her.

Eve promises him to keep their conversation secret but can she?

She records it on her security device and plays it for Steven and Mandy.

When he collapses in the backyard with an epileptic fit, Eve alerts the Gosh hospital

Tests and records reveal the stranger's identity.

Police records show that he died in the Carnival massacre in 2036, but did he?

Steven faces opposition to launch his greatest invention of the century.

Who will be the first volunteer to test it?

Read Resurrection: Revenge of Zeeka Book 5 for all the answers.

Elizabeth and Neil Newton

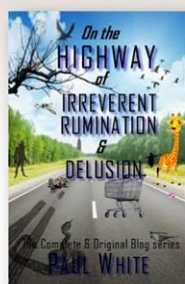


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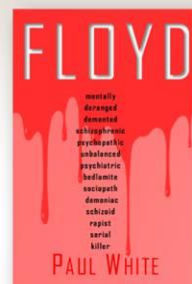
[Prime Works](#) in Progress by Paul White

THESE ARE MY PRIME WORKS IN PROGRESS

SEE MORE OF MY WORKS BY CLICKING THIS POSTS LINK



ON THE HIGHWAY OF IRREVERENT RUMINATION & DELUSION is the adaptation and translation of Paul's original blog of the same name into a comprehensive and substantial book

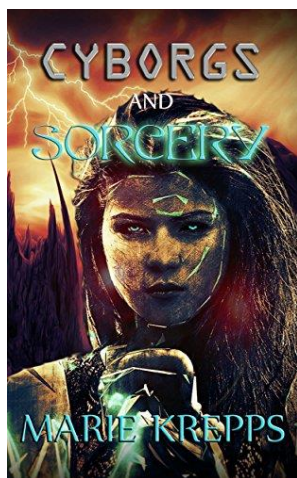


FLOYD
A full length novel
Floyd is an escaped psychotic murderer, on a rampage of bloody revenge.
A fast paced, non-stop, violent slasher of a story



WITHIN THE INVISIBLE PENTACLE
An eclectic collection of short stories with feminine titles.
A large number of stories are ready, others have yet to be written.

Cyborgs and Sorcery by Marie Krepps



Four stories that will whisk you away to worlds where magic and science collide.

A girl and her companion search for an object that could prevent a war. Will they find what they are searching for in the desert sands? A malfunctioning cyborg is sent on a quest to obtain magical items that could bring peace to the four kingdoms. The simple task brings more than she expected. A human woman and a mutated falcon track down a magical being that wreaks havoc on the land. Can they destroy it before more fall to its evil? A family prepares for the return of their son after his many years in service, but is he the same boy they once knew?

Welcome to the mysterious worlds of Cyborgs and Sorcery!

[BUY LINK](#)

Smugglers Justice by Melissa Robitille

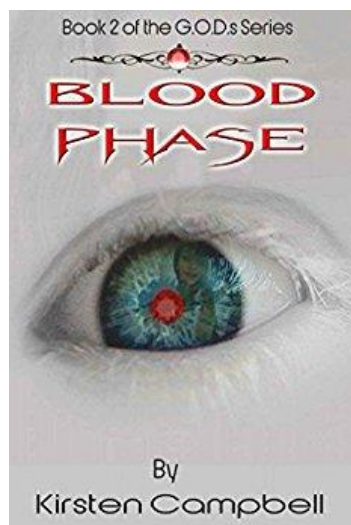
Within moments of arriving on Amazon, Master Smuggler Sophocles Errant is witness to a brutal murder. But he's an off-worlder, a cyborg, and a man - guilty until proved innocent as far as the ruling party is concerned. He's got big secrets to hide, and it's not just his life at stake; things will get much worse if those secrets get out. It's just days before the election, and Sophocles - and whether or not he's the real murderer - become a hot potato political issue.

Things heat up further when his lawyer's family complicates matters - her grandmother is the retiring Prime Minister, her mother's the candidate for the party that wants to see him dead, her aunt's planning a coup, and her cousin is a psychopath. She ought to be conflicted, but Melia Dawn is serious about getting her client the justice he deserves, even if the entire corrupt justice system is stacked against her.



[BUY LINK](#)

Blood Phase by Kirsten Campbell



November 12, 2052: Earth has lost two-thirds of its population to the Great War. Many more lives have been lost to earthquakes, the Clover Virus, and the Death Plague. Years later, survivors are clumped into factions. Two of those factions—the Brotherhood and the Guild Faction—have battled over medical supplies and food for years. The fight is coming to a head as manpower dwindles and the struggle becomes one to gain numbers, even if said numbers are children...

Griffin Storm, an albino man kidnapped and dragged into the Brotherhood, has transformed into a G.O.D., a Genetically enhanced Omni-dimensional being. Two weeks in the brig, and Griffin's released after it's determined that he's learned to control most of his god-like abilities. His abilities have grown almost as much as his love for Tassta Vinetti and his unfortunate blood lust. His bond with Tassta's twin brother, Penn, has grown as well and is cemented in secrets.

Soon after his release, Griffin's told that Guild agents and the notorious Trips (super-agents of the Guild) are in the Underground. He must now test his abilities to save the abandoned children that live there. Will Griffin rescue the children of the Underground from a tragic end? Will Tassta and Griffin's love survive such turmoil? Can a G.O.D. forgive himself when death and destruction follow his every move? Read Blood Phase, the gripping second book in the G.O.D.s Series!

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Authors Supporting Charities

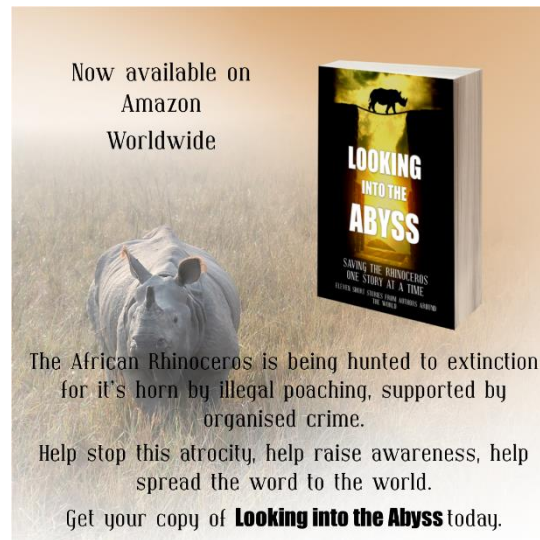
LOOKING INTO THE ABYSS WITH PAUL WHITE

Now here is a story and a half. Paul White is an author extraordinaire and also a man who is involved with Saving the Black Rhino –‘Boots on the Ground’ Charity. With this in mind Paul decided to compile an Anthology from authors around the world who would donate a short story.

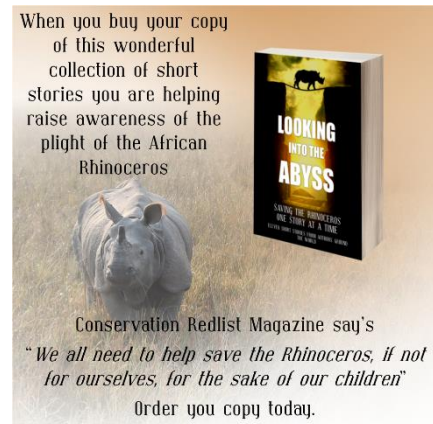
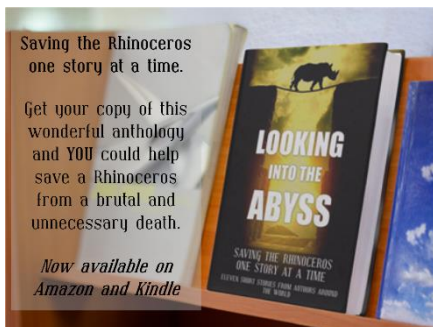
Connect with ‘Boots On The Ground’ and help them protect and do their job. It is never ending – day and night

[BOOTS ON THE GROUND TRAILER](#)

Yes, I am one of those authors. It was an amazing journey and I can’t wait to read the book. My story is for children ages 3 – 8 years. It will one day be Book Three of my children’s series of Charity Books ‘Girlie Adventures.’



***Looking into the Abyss is now available on Amazon and Kindle...
You need to buy this book!***



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