

July/August, 2026

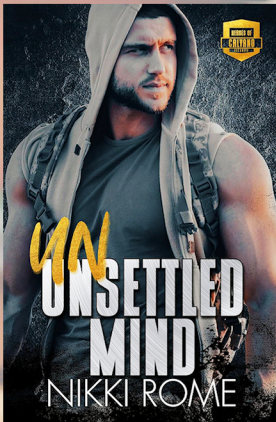
AdC Magazine

**Spotlight On
Ester Lopez**

**Sneak Peek
Guardian
Investigations**



**Cover Model Corner
with Aaron Groben**



**Spotlight On
Nikki Rome**

**Sneak Peek
Unsettled
Mind**

Dear Qwerty, The Dreaded Blurb

“I hate writing blurbs. How are I supposed to take my whole book and reduce it to three or four paragraphs.”

Why do so many authors have trouble with the blurb? Consider it part of your elevator pitch.

First, let’s get serious on the difference between a blurb, a back cover description, and the description used for retail placement.

A blurb is a **short** description of your book, a one or two sentence hook that will either go above the book description (recommended) or below the book description. It’s a hook to get the reader to read the rest of the description. It can also be used as an attention getter.

Let’s use Elle James’ book, *Remy*, as an example. She has two, one at the top of her book description and one at the bottom:

When a deputy is targeted, the man she never forgot becomes her fiercest protector.

And at the bottom:

In the heart of the bayou, love is the only thing stronger than fear.

Two fantastic blurbs.

The book description can be used on the back cover, as well as, your landing page. That’s where your three to five paragraphs come in. Remember, book descriptions include adverbs, adjectives, hooks and anything that will make the reader go, “Ohhhhh, I want that book.”

Keep in mind: who, what, where, when, and how. Use the first three to five chapters as your guide. Add a little cliff hanger to it and you’re good to go.

Good luck!

SPOTLIGHT ON MS. JULY

ESTER LOPEZ

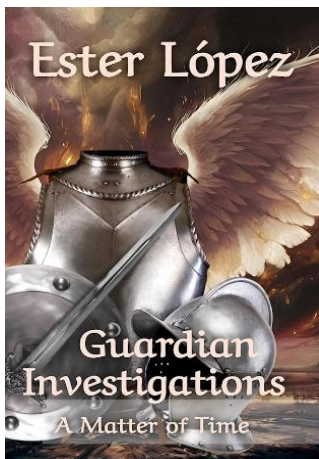


Ester began her writing career after a “close encounter” in 1989 on a desolate beach road in the Gulf Islands National Seashore. It took her twenty-five years from start to ‘published’ to write her first book. Of course that

included learning the craft, raising three children, and a move from the beaches of northwest Florida to the mountains of Tennessee.

This year, Ester celebrates ten years since the publication of her first book, “The Abduction.” She now has seventeen books published, four of which are children’s books.

Ester currently lives in the Smokies with her husband, two mini horses, Pepper and Bucky, and their dog, Chewie, and is working on her next two books.



Do you have a new book or series?

I have a new book, “Guardian Investigations: A Matter of Time.” It’s the seventh book in The Angel Chronicles Series.

Where did the idea for this story come from?

The idea came to me at the end of the last book in The Angel Chronicles Series,

“Nephilim.” It took me over a year to get the idea to work.

Who’s your favorite character in your new book? Why?

My favorite character is Elena Romero Cummings, a private investigator, along with her husband, Pete. Because I see myself in her shoes most of the time.

Are there specific people or events that helped shape the story?

I had a contest for my readers to help me name the agency they were forming (as private investigators) as well as a title for the book. The winner would be a character in the story. This was one reason I had a hard time putting the story together, but it turned out pretty good. And now, that reader (who is also a reviewer) may become a regular character in my next story.

Do you get inspiration from personal experience or just plain imagination?

I get inspiration from both my personal experiences and my imagination. I’ve worked a lot of different jobs over the years and that helps a lot.

Have you ever driven down a road or gone on vacation and thought, wow, this would make an awesome story?

Well, my close encounter led to my first book in The Genesis Saga of The Vaedra Chronicles Series. Then characters in each subsequent story led to other stories. I’ve even heard songs that made me think, ‘that would make a great story.’ In fact, “Bailey’s Irish Dream” was inspired by a song in the early 2000’s by the Real McCoys-Another Night.

Do you need silence or background noise when writing?

I usually write in silence. I could probably write with music playing, but if it’s a song with words, I will sing along and then I wouldn’t be writing.

How do you stay motivated?

It's hard to stay motivated with so much going on in the world right now. Instead, I've used some of it for my stories, especially the sci-fi stories. Currently, I'm working on two books-one is a children's book, "Adventure Street Kids." The other is a non-fiction book, "Are You My Irish Cousin?" I have two more planned in that series, "Are You My Spanish Cousin?" and "Are You My Czech Cousin?" Those books will keep me busy for a while.

Do you take time off once a book is sent to the editor, or do you move on to the next story?

I do take time off when a book is done, but I should be marketing the book instead.

It's time to sit back and relax. What's your go-to?

When I'm not writing, I make earrings or wine charms or galaxy bags. I started back in stained glass recently, but I'll be canning vegetables soon or make wine when my garden is ready. Lately, I've been reading books.



Will you be attending any book signings or conventions?

I decided to take this year off from those because I was homeschooling my granddaughter, but she has graduated very recently, so I may do some in 2027.

Contact Information:

Esterlopez.com

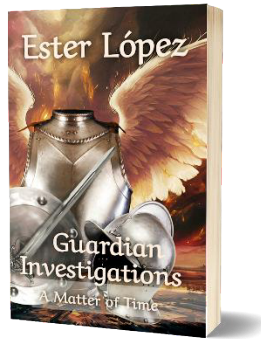
x.com/esterlopez1

facebook.com/ESTERLOPEZAUTHOR

Excerpt of Guardian Investigations by Ester Lopez

Downtown Miami, Florida, on the first floor of a posh hotel, inside an empty event room, sat two young women. Their two metal, foldup chairs faced a stage. The Comic Book Convention had begun, and the two women waited for the first workshop to start.

Crystal Stewart, a 5'6" redhead with blue eyes, thumbed through the program, reviewing the list of offered panels. Her friend, Eva Rawlings, a 5'8" blonde with blue eyes, poked Crystal in the shoulder.



“Look!” Eva exclaimed.

Crystal glanced up and saw two greenish-blue, bird-like creatures walk past them. “Nice costumes,” she whispered. She followed them with her eyes. The tall bird people loomed over seven feet in height. Their feathered masks were incredible, almost like real birds, down to their slender necks and beaks.

Eva stood and walked toward the make-shift stage, next to a red door. *Where did that door come from?* Eva grabbed the knob and pulled the door open. Just as she stepped through the entrance, both the door and Eva suddenly disappeared.

Crystal jumped up. “Eva!” She ran toward the stage, walking completely around it, searching for the door. “Eva!” she shouted. Eva and the red door were gone. Crystal glanced around the empty room. Even the bird people were no longer there.

The Angel Chronicles Series
Paranormal Adventure Romances with
Mystery, Intrigue, and Inspiration



A fledgling private investigative firm, Guardian Investigations, may be new to the game but will take any and all cases. Their first case earned them a cosmic device that helps them solve a lot of cases.



While using their wits and talents, they stumble across a vacant house that keeps popping up in more than one investigation.

Grab your adventure today.

EsterLopez.com



SPOTLIGHT ON MS. AUGUST NIKKI ROME



USA Today Best-Selling Romance Author Nikki Rome has been a romance junky since a young age. As a girl she reached for book after book, looking for that happily ever after she always believed in. She loves all forms of romance, and you can find her latest read not far from her reach.

Nikki writes contemporary romance with a touch of danger and kink. Her love of realistic characters who face real problems provides a story that touches the hearts of many. As a writer, reader and lover of words, it only made sense that she publish her stories.

Now years later she owns and manages Smut Lovers: The Community. A group of like minded individuals that come together to talk about their love of all things smut. You can find her hosting Smut Lovers: The Podcast or running Smut Lovers: The Conference. Either way you know she'll always be talking about her love of books.

Do you have a new book or series?

New erotic short that will be releasing as part of Smut Lovers: The Chronicles, a charity anthology

Where did the idea for this story come from?

This is the third short in this series. They are all interconnected in my larger world and are darker and more taboo than the other short stories I have out there.

Who's your favorite character in your new book or series?

Why?

Probably the FMC, she has just enough crazy to make her unpredictable and I love not knowing what comes next from my characters.

Are there specific people or events that helped shape the story?

The story takes place in my Dark District universe. I like to explain it like a darker, grittier, Gotham-style New York City. Each of the stories in it from lighter to darker romance have contributed to this story. It is as if each story leads to the next dropping little hints along the way.

Do you get inspiration from personal experience or just plain imagination?

This one is ALL imagination. There is some kinkier elements with Clown Play and I would have to say that was inspired by our Dark Carnival theme for the Smut Lovers afterparty this year.

Have you ever driven down a road or gone on vacation and thought, wow, this would make an awesome story?

Every time I'm in New York City I find new little spots where I think scenes would work. Same with Miami and Chicago since I do have some stories that visit or take place in those cities as well.

Do you need silence or background noise when writing?

Silence.

How do you stay motivated?

My characters keep me going. It's like they are talking in my head up until the moment I am done writing them.

Do you take time off once a book is sent to the editor, or do you move on to the next story?

It depends on what I have going on that month. Many times I move to the next book.

It's time to sit back and relax. What's your go-to?

Doom scrolling! Terrible I know.

Will you be attending any book signings or conventions?

I run Smut Lovers: The Conference so you can find me there every year.

Please give us the following contact information:

Personal web page <https://nikkirome.com/>

Twitter - NA

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



Nikki Rome

*Director, Smut Lovers: The Conference
She/Her*

✉ Info@SmutLovers.org

🌐 Smutlovers.org

Nikki Rome's Excerpt

Unsettled Mind



What happens when the man you once loved comes back to tell you someone is out to kill you?

Silvi knows what it's like to live in fear. It had been over two years since she left the military, and it was time well spent. She established a new life and was healing from the trauma she experienced there. Her work at Calvano security fulfilled her daily until the dark, angsty and hard bodied partner she served with turns up and rocks her world.

Marco thought his mission was successful until landing back in the states. The enemy that haunted his nightmares stood alive and well watching him from a distance. He needed to warn Silvi, this was his chance to finally protect the fiery, curvy, vixen who kept him warm at night. The only problem was, he hadn't seen her since he shipped her home injured and alone.

What will happen when Marco and Silvi are hunted by their past? Will their love for each other help them make it out alive?

This is a steamy, second chance romance that guarantees an HAE. *Unsettled Mind* is an introductory novella to the *Heroes of Calvano Security* series.



ADAPT, IMPROVISE AND OVERCOME

I had to find her or all was lost...

FLASH

WWW.ZOEDAWSON.COM



I crossed oceans of darkness to find you, and somehow you still look at me like I'm worth saving. I never had to choose between you and the mission. You became the mission.

—Jae "Flash" Shaw

SEAL Team EAST
UPCOMING RELEASE



Space Coast Book Lovers 2026

The fantastic Space Coast Book Lovers event, hosted by Teri Dees Edney, opened on June 17th this year with a boatload of fun activities for authors and readers.



First night, the Meet and Greet with a wonderful meal and lots of fun.

Thursday and Friday had Booknique, panels, an exclusive book launch, Hawaiian Luau, and all sorts of Activities.



Mystipul Rakkastaja having fun with Booknique!



Author, Pam Ackerson posing like her book cover during the SCBL Exclusive Book Launch

Luncheon with Authors and Readers



Saturday was more fun with the Author Feud and the much awaited book signing and after-party.

Author, Melody Johnson (left)

Author, Pamela Ackerson (right)

Another wonderful book event! We'll see you next year at SCBL 2027!

RAWR June, 2026 Book Event



Hostess: Leah Taylor

The Romance Atlanta Writers and Readers event began June 26th with a Meet and Greet.



The signing was Saturday afternoon on the 27th and a fun After Party with a DJ on Saturday Night.



Author Kat Mizera



Maria Elena Alonso-Sierra



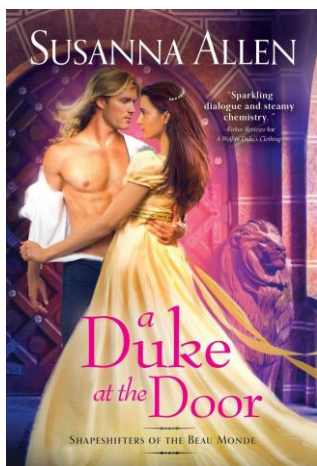
Author Victoria Saccenti

See you next year for this two-day event in Georgia.

Cover Model Corner with Aaron Groben

Debra: What was the first cover you appeared on and how did it come about?

Aaron: I booked my first modeling job when I was 16 - a print shoot for Gorgeous Magazine – and from there more print and runway kept coming my way. Eventually, I was offered Romance Novel Covers. I don't recall which cover came first but I love this facet of storytelling—creating character with every movement, a new story with every flash of the camera.



Debra: If you could do a photo shoot anywhere in the world for a cover, where would you most want to go? What sort of shoot would it be?

Aaron: The bayous of New Orleans. An interracial love story with elements of the supernatural.

Debra: Beyond romance novel cover shots, what other projects keep you busy?

Aaron: I'm a full-time actor—movies, TV, commercials, voice over. Yes, you've probably seen me in something. And lol I'm not sure what it is.

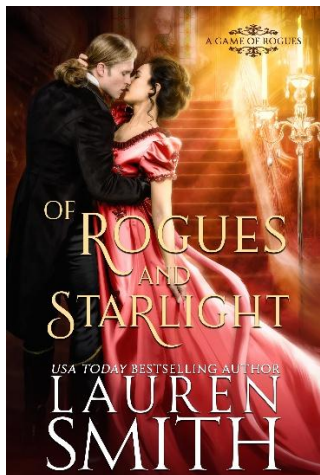
Debra: If you wrote a book, what would it be about?

Aaron: I have written a book. It's called *My Good Thing*. You can purchase a copy on Amazon. It's an interracial love story about a couple who met as kids, got separated, and re-found one another later in life. And no, it's not based on a true story. But I am currently looking for my own real life *Good Thing*.



Debra: Your fitness level is beyond the average persons. What is your exercise routine and what sort of nutrition plan do you follow to achieve and maintain your level of fitness?

Aaron: I'm incredibly disciplined with lifestyle, workouts, + diet. I'll spare you the details cuz who wants to read the math lol



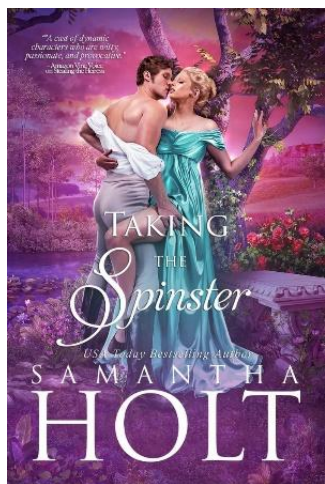
Debra: If you could share three simple fitness tips the average romance reader could do every day to stay healthy, what would they be?

Aaron: Don't wait for motivation. Do it regardless.
There will always be excuses. Don't allow any of them.
Your workouts and your eating must compliment one another.

Debra: It's your birthday dinner and calories don't count. What's on the menu and what are you drinking?

Baked Fish w asparagus, onions, okra, mushrooms, and jalapenos.
Sweet Potatoes. Cherries. Cold Carrot Juice.

Debra: Describe the perfect romantic evening:



Aaron: To look deeply into her brown eyes, our conversations holding depth, understanding, and commitment, surrounded by some aspect of locational beauty whether nature or city, inside or outside, fruit, vegetables, and our being together.

Debra: Please share one unusual fact about you or your life:

Aaron: I was run over by a truck when I was a year and half old. The doctor said if I'd been run over a centimeter different in any direction, I would be dead or paralyzed. I look at that as a metaphor for not compromising—my beliefs, my goals, my morals, fitness, diet, etc.

Debra: Eight Quickie questions:

- 1.) Watching the sunrise, or the sunset and the stars? Sunset and stars.
- 2.) The beach, or the mountains? Mountains by day, beach by night.
- 3.) Primitive camping, or luxury hotel? Luxury.
- 4.) Snow skiing, or water skiing? Water.
- 5.) Favorite movie: Legends of the Fall.

6.) Best book you ever read: Sleepy Hollow.

7.) Fav. Sport to play: Working Out.



8.) Fav. Sport to watch: Running.

Debra: Aaron thank you for Where can readers find you online to keep up with your latest news.

Facebook: AARON

GROBEN

Instagram: @AaronGroben

IMDb.com: AARON GROBEN

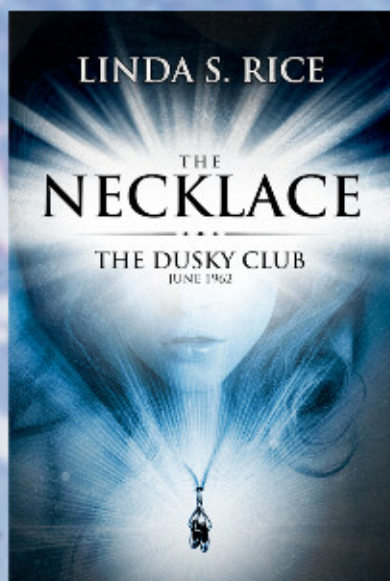


Debra Parmley is a best-selling, award-winning, multi-genre author of over 40 books, specializing in military romantic suspense set in Montana and Wyoming. Drawing from her life as an adventurous traveler and the wife of an Air Force veteran, Debra crafts high-stakes stories of danger and redemption from her current home in North Carolina in the

summer months. She and her husband who live in a motorhome often winter in Florida.

Since 2011 she has interviewed cover models on Cover Model Corner and enjoys sharing her interviews with readers of Affaire de Coeur Magazine. DebraParmley.com

Your dreams never need to die.



Will she learn that sometimes, when a dream comes true, it's not quite what you expected?



Brianna Campbell didn't come to Edinburgh to lose herself.

She came for music—for discipline, beauty, control.



**Write the wish.
Speak it aloud.
Hide the jar.
At midnight... it comes true.**

LindaSRice.com





Main Street: She's designing a new future. He's refueling her passions.

Towne Square: She's making up for her troubled past. He's building a better future.

South Pointe: She's the girl next door. He's a man of law and order.

Crossroads: He's tired of running. She's looking for an escape.

Boardwalk: He denied his emotions. She closed off her heart.

Seasons: Spend a year on Providence Island with a collection of short stories.

Ritter Park: Three stories intertwined in a way you'll never suspect.

Midtown: One brother wants him dead. Another swears to protect him.

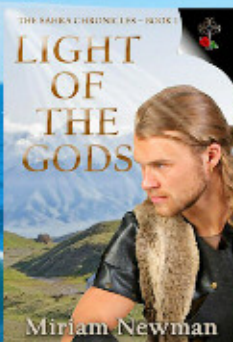
Seasons II: Spend another year on Providence Island with this collection of short stories.



DiannaWilkes.com

From DCL Publications  **Wherever Ebooks Are Sold**

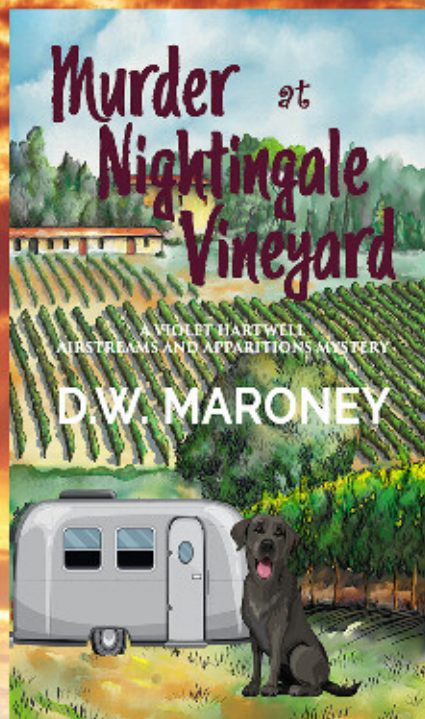
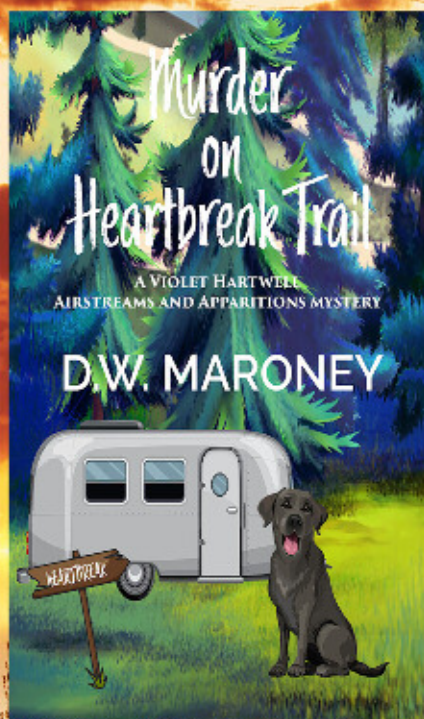
EXPLORE ANCIENT
WORLDS, VIKINGS,
AND PASSION WITH
ROMANTIC FANTASIES BY
AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR
MIRIAM NEWMAN



From DCL Publications
Wherever Ebooks Are Sold

EXPLORE A TOMORROW
WHERE HUMANS DON'T
REALIZE THEIR DEPENDENCY
ON AI CREATES FUTURES
WITHOUT THEM IN THIS
COLLECTION OF SCI-FI BY
JULIAN CHRISTIAN





Still reeling from the sudden loss of her FBI agent husband, Violet trades her predictable life for the freedom of an Airstream and the open highway.

But grief isn't the only thing following her from town to town.

Wherever Violet lands—whether it's a picturesque campground or a vineyard at harvest, —trouble has a way of finding her... and it usually involves murder.

Available in ebook, paperback, large print, and casebound large print library editions.

**In their world, some loves are legendary.
And some are worth dying for.**

Roisin Hati has spent her life waiting. Waiting for her power, her purpose, and her place among the legendary gryphon riders. But when a surge of dark magic rips through her world, it doesn't just awaken her inner wolf... It binds her to him.

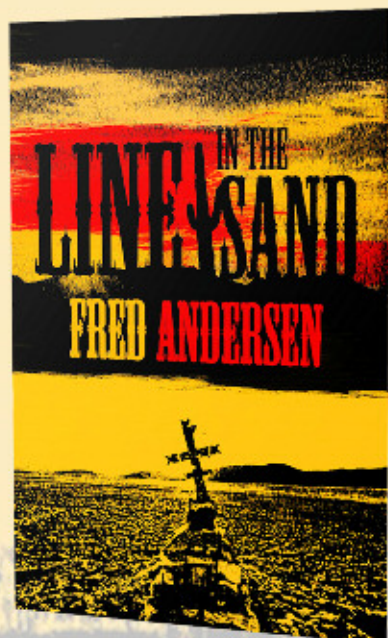
Culgan is a warrior, a protector, and the son of her godparents. He is the last person she expected to find in her mind... in her blood... in her soul.

**Fierce. Possessive.
Unrelenting.**

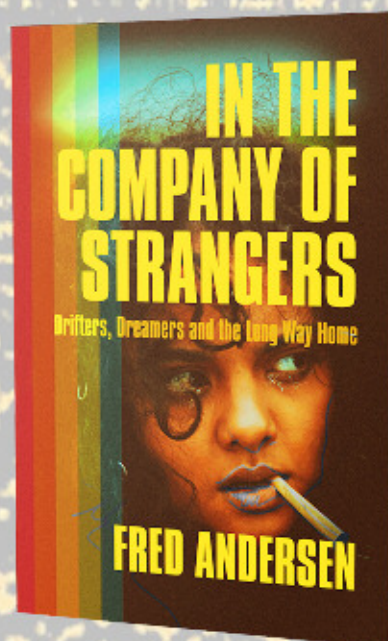


**VictoriaSaccentiWrites.com
@VictoriaSAuthor**





“... an ambitious and successful attempt to relate the reality of how things happen along the US southern border... it instills great suspense and that knot in your stomach. When are the characters, or any of us, truly safe where we are?”
Amazon Reader Review



“A captivating collection of short stories . . . filled with adventure and drama . . . encounters with unforgettable characters. With sharp, progressive prose, Andersen effortlessly brings to life characters who are deeply flawed yet wholly relatable”
Readers' Favorite

FXAndersen.com



Orphan teens set out on
a journey to find a place
they can finally call home.

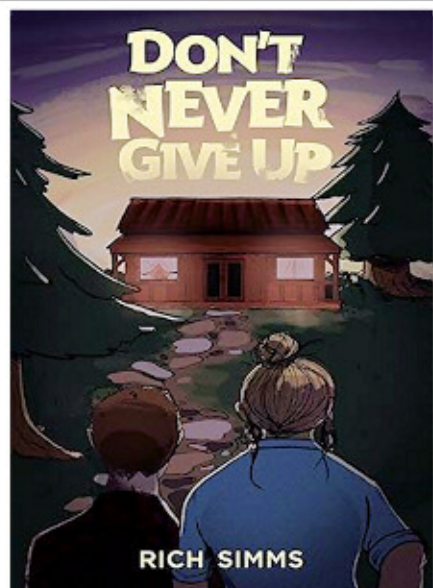
A test of courage and
redefining what family
truly means.



Adventure,
Resilience,
Belonging,
and the
Search for
Family.

Available on Amazon





****Don't Never Give Up**** is a historical romance that begins with ten-year-old Ezekiel "Bonkie" Harrison waking up alone in a hotel, with no sign of his father except for a pocket watch and a few dollars. He sets out on a quest to track down the man who abandoned him.

However, mid-nineteenth-century Missouri is a lawless frontier. Bonkie is immediately robbed and stumbles into the next town, broke, weary, and hungry. After getting caught stealing carrots from a garden, the owner, Mathilda, treats him with gentle kindness that renews Bonkie's hope. When he meets Rufus, a freeman who lives off the land, Bonkie gradually learns how to become the kind of man Mathilda deserves. Yet, as the years go by, the rumors about his father's whereabouts continue to haunt him.

[Available on Amazon](#)



Does the modern world make us all crazy?



**Why do we believe unsupported ideas contrary
to all common sense?**

Answer: We don't directly experience our world. We interpret and twist every encounter according to our own worldview. (Thus we believe what we prefer.)

How worldviews so often become distorted — bringing delusions, depression, and crazy beliefs — is an extremely important new area of psychology.

If you constantly find yourself asking, "How in the world can people really believe that?!" then this book is for you.

**Available on Amazon
Anthony E. Meadors Ph. D.**



Debra Parmley's New Romantasy Series: The Reenactment Realm



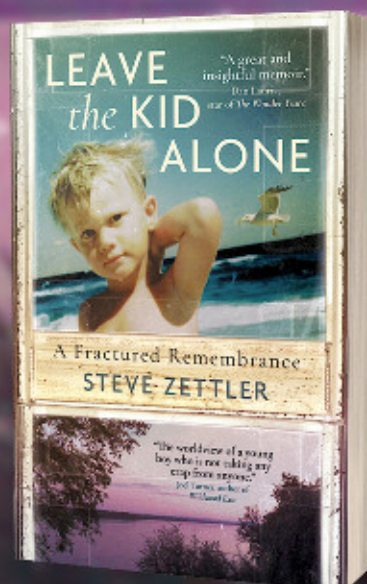
Where history is only the beginning, magic walks unseen, danger lurks, and love may be the greatest risk of all.



DebraParmley.com



1950s: A golden age of television, sports and the American family dream.



Bucks County, PA

Stevie's life is about to change in a way no one could have predicted.

Growing up can be hard to do, but there seems to be no way of avoiding it.

SteveZettler.com
[@SZettlerAuthor](https://twitter.com/SZettlerAuthor)





Little Horses

Pepper becomes a mom to a curious horse who may have to learn the hard way.



The Adventures of Charlie and Ellie

The escapades of two friends who have each others' backs.



Affy and Milo

A lonely Pekin duck meets a new friend and learns survival skills.



Across the Big Ocean

Escaping the famine in Ireland brings a young girl on a journey and adventure.

EsterLopez.com

[@EsterLopez1](https://www.instagram.com/EsterLopez1)



Scooter the gator runs a hardworking farm with fish-filled tanks and a big red barn. He works hard from morning till noon, until he meets Otto, a blue raccoon.

Mary Beville



This is the first edition of Scooter's Farm, a series of friendship, problem solving, and farmyard adventures that bring smiles and cheer!

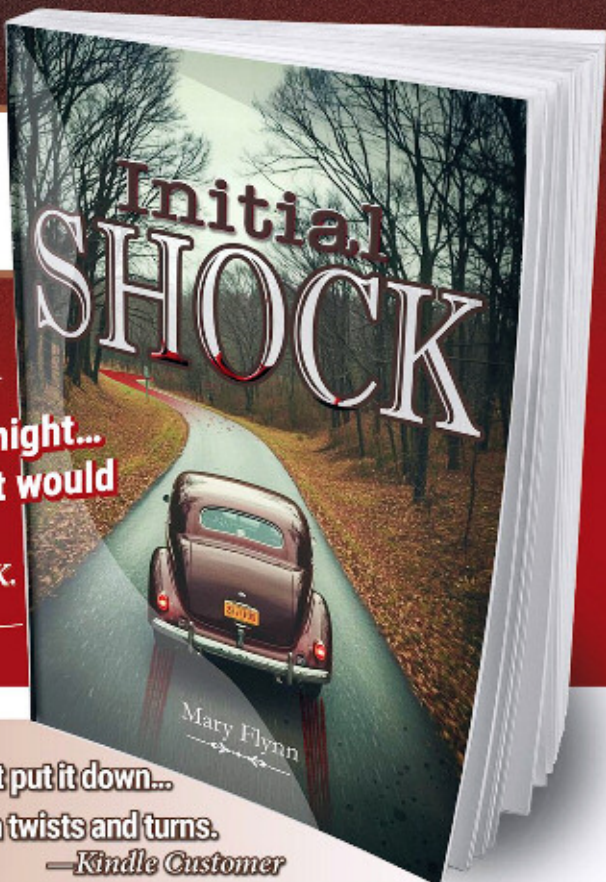
What a great roller coaster ride this book turned out to be. The author is a master at suspense.

—Eager Reader

From
AWARD WINNING AUTHOR
MARY FLYNN

**I stayed up all night...
to find out what would
happen next...**

—George K.



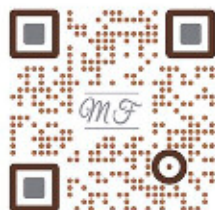
Page turner. Couldn't put it down...

Packed with twists and turns.

—Kindle Customer

When Claire Fournaris heads east to settle her beloved aunt's affairs, she is nearly killed in a terrifying car accident. No one believes her when she insists that someone tried to kill her, until someone close to her is found dead. Would the dying last words of the victim be enough to save Claire in that final moment when her fate hangs in the balance? A spellbinding tale of deception and murder, with unexpected twists at every turn and a cast of characters that will keep you guessing till the end.

GET YOUR COPY NOW! »»



WWW.MARYFLYNNWRITES.COM

Not every dish should be served.



Karmen Artos, a sous chef at Feline Fine Retirement Home, is horrified when two of the residents hijack her kitchen. Worse yet, they've created an Internet cooking show that has gone viral. The recipes are revolting, but viewers are wild for 'Grandma's Witchin' Kitchen!'

Devon Winger, a down-on-his-luck showrunner, arrives in Cat's Paw Cove to convince the eccentric elderly Internet stars to take the show to the next level -- a ShowFlix series. The magical stars are tickled at the idea, but Karmen is dead set against revealing the sanctuary for supernaturals to the world.

Can Karmen convince the sexy Devon that the show will be a dud? Or will Devon realize there's more to the quirky retirement home than meets the camera's eye?

Coming in July! *Secrets of the Cryptids*
SharonBuchbinder.com



PAMELA ACKERSON

Drakine is rising.
The only hope is the hero
no one expected.



PamelaAckerson.net
@PamAckerson

