

November-December 2017

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**Meet Tom Corson-Knowles,
Publisher of TCK**

**Reviews!
Reviews!
Reviews!**



**Author Deborah Camp is
AdC's Spotlight Interview**





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Promoting Your Books With or Without a Publisher

by Pamela Ackerson



Everything in this article is important to authors, whether you're self-published or with a publishing house.

You're excited, regardless of whether it's a small press or one of the big guns. Your book has been accepted by a publisher. Celebrate, it's not an easy accomplishment. Go out to dinner, have a party, whatever you want.

Now, get to work.

Unless you're a big gun to start with, the publisher will not promote your book in the manner that you want or deserve. They may not even promote your book at all.

That means you need to do it.

So, take that binder/advance, and use it for marketing and advertising. Use that money to your advantage. Get your name out there. Take all of it, 50%, or even 20% of it. It doesn't matter. The more you spend (correctly), the more it will be to your advantage.

Let's start with marketing:

Marketing strategy is very important. You can throw your money away without realizing it. All because that's what everyone else is doing.

Readers love bookmarks. Bookmarks are awesome gifts to personally give away at a book signing. That's right. Personally

give away. That means you're standing there at the table, greeting, interacting, and handing out bookmarks to readers who do or don't buy your books. (Notice I said standing—not sitting? Unless you have a disability, bad knees, etc., we don't want you doing anything to make things worse.)

Understand that when you send bookmarks to be added to a convention/event goody bag, many get thrown away. It's a lot of dollars going into the trash.

I'm not saying don't send anything for the goody bags. As a matter of fact, you should. However, do something that doesn't cost a lot of money, and something that won't get thrown away.

Keep cost at a minimum. I try to keep my goodies at around \$2.00 per person.

So, what can make your bookmark stand out? Since readers love bookmarks, make it original. Add a charm to it, or feathers, or ribbons, or candy.

What about something besides bookmarks? Notebooks, notepads, booklets, post cards with an excerpt on the back, business cards, pens, coffee mugs, shot glasses, wine glasses, brandy glasses, magnets—the list could go on. You can have the glasses engraved. Or, if you're so inclined, paint, or etch your name, book series, website address, etc. on them.

Use something to promote your books that they won't want to throw away. You want it to be something that will remind them of you.

Now, here's a clincher. I've received more business cards than you can imagine. It's sad to say, but most of them don't have contact information on them. Don't make that mistake. Be available to your readers. It's beneficial to both of you.

That's right, you read that last sentence correctly. The following should be on your business cards.

Your tagline/blurp/bullet

Your website

Your publisher's website

Your email address

Your favorite social media page

Now, let's go to advertising.

Of course, I want you to take advantage of what *Affaire de Coeur* has to offer. Why? Because I'm wonderful, and I'll work hard for you, always striving to give you my best.

However, if you choose not to, that's okay. Just make sure that you do advertise.

It isn't a waste of money. If it was, you wouldn't be seeing so many commercials on television, nor hearing so many on the radio. If advertising didn't work, Facebook, Twitter, Amazon, Barnes and Noble, etc. wouldn't be selling different options to their clientele.



Affaire de Coeur 's Pam Ackerson will be there!

Multi Genre Author Event

VIPs receive a swag bag filled with author goodies you won't be getting at the tables as well as an official event t-shirt.

Option to add on lunch with the authors for VIP only.

www.facebook.com/bookinginbiloxi

They wouldn't be advertising.

Since you're with a publisher, use the advance money they have sent you.

And advertise.

Where is best? Technology and the Internet are moving so fast that if I gave you an answer right now, by next year it could be someone/somewhere completely different.

A few key words and questions you should ask promoters and advertisers before you give them your hard earned money:

What is their reach?

What are their hits?

Do they have print advertising available?

What kind of experience do they have?

How many *active* subscribers do they have? (Go to the website and see for yourself.)

How active are they?

Do they post on popular social media sites?

How aggressive are they with promoting their own page?

Are they only promoting themselves?

Do they have a following?

Where do they advertise? (Sorry, but in my humble opinion—if their answer is "*We only promote on Facebook.*" you don't want them.)

How quickly do they respond to your emails?

And most of all, and this is very important: How long have they been in business?

Advertising your book won't guarantee sales. It can only get people to see your book and name. It cannot make people buy them. It should get you sales but it cannot guarantee sales.

What the readers do when they see it is up to them.

Using the proper advertising words, call-to-actions, and techniques can entice them to purchase your books. An author who may have a catchy phrase or blurb can get the reader to click on the advertisement.

Great!

Now that they're on the page, is it awesome? Does it snag their interest? Does it make them want to open their wallet and spend their hard earned money on your book?

All of the above needs to be the best it can be. If your web page is drab or your book description so-so, you've lost the sale.

That's right. You've lost the sale.

The advertiser did what they were supposed to do. They got the readers to your website. If your website isn't awesome, you need to redo it.

Unless you're sending the reader to a chapter preview, I recommend going directly to a professionally built purchase

Continued on page 23

Meet Tom Corson-Knowles--

Author, Publisher, Teacher and so much more...



I started querying agents in 2005 in hopes of selling my first manuscript to a major publisher. I self-published my first book in 2011, and I started publishing books for other writers at TCK Publishing in 2012. It's been such a wonderful journey so far, and I'm very excited about the future and the positive impact authors are making all over the world.

What type of books do you publish?

TCK Publishing is a mass market trade book publisher. That means we publish books in all major markets or genres, including romance, mystery, science fiction, thriller, fantasy, business, health, self-help, and spirituality.

We don't publish children's picture books, textbooks, or poetry.

What do you look for and expect from an author?

We look for authors with a great book that is uniquely valuable in their market. We love working with authors who are curious, open to feedback, and willing to learn new things. Becoming a successful author requires a commitment to constant growth and learning. That means you have to be willing to try new things, work with a team of experts, and listen to feedback from your team and your readers.

How do you market your authors' books? Where do you distribute them?

We publish books in eBook, print, and audiobook format, so we have a wide range of distributors for our books including Amazon, Audible, Costco, libraries, and international publishers.

What do you recommend to your authors on how to promote their books?

We work with each of our authors to help them create a customized marketing plan based on their strengths and skills. There are a myriad of ways to promote books, so it's easy to get overwhelmed. The key is to understand your audience and how you can connect with them. Then, you want to focus on marketing to your audience in a way that feels more like play for you than work.

For example, some of our writers love speaking, so we help them record YouTube videos and get booked on podcast interviews, radio, TV, and on stages for public speaking. If you are very shy or hate public speaking, that strategy probably wouldn't work out well for you. That's why we help our authors identify their strengths and weaknesses so you can focus on your strengths when it comes to marketing.

We encourage authors to ask the question, "What's the best way to market my book to my specific audience using my strengths and skills?"

Tom Corson-Knowles is the international bestselling author of 27 books including [The Kindle Publishing Bible](#), founder of [TCK Publishing](#), an independent publishing company specializing in digital marketing, and host of *The Publishing Profits Podcast Show*.

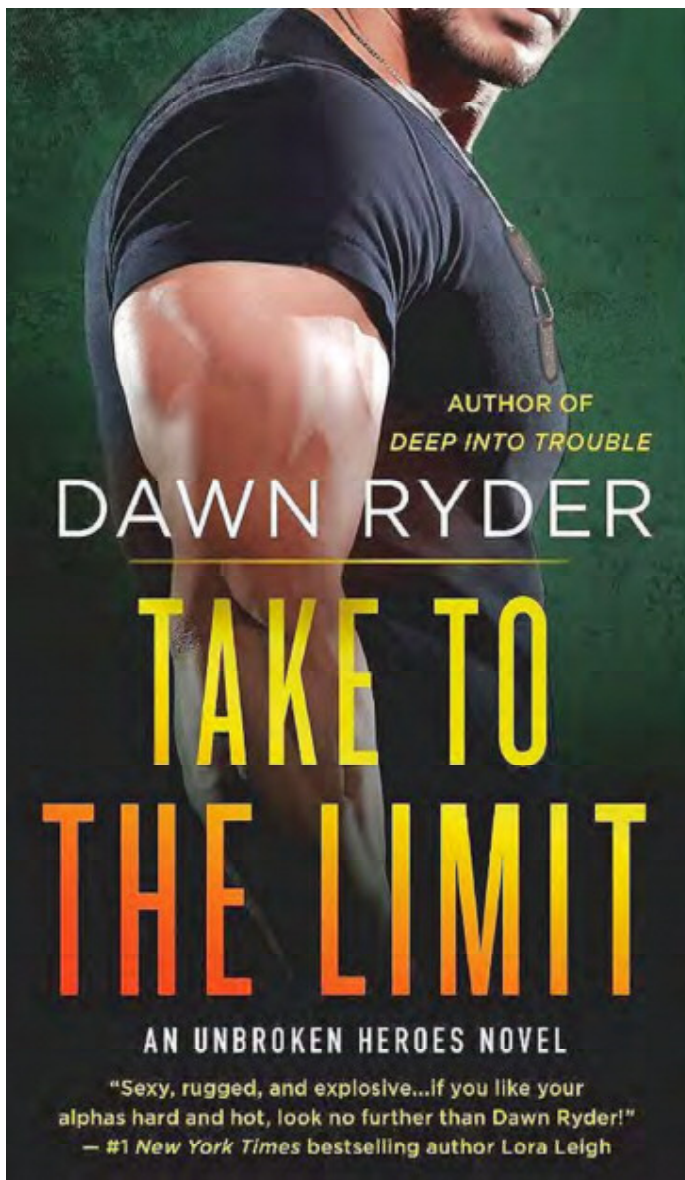
Tom has taught more than 80,000 authors how to write, publish and market their books like professionals through his online training courses, including Ebook Publishing School, a free training program that shows authors how to publish and launch their first book.

The burning questions authors have when looking for a good, honest, and reliable publisher:

When did you know you wanted to help authors with their dreams of becoming a published author?

I spent six years trying to get a traditional book deal with nothing to show for all my hard work. I eventually decided to self-publish my first book because I didn't have any other options to get my book out to the world. In less than a year I started earning thousands of dollars in royalties each month from self-publishing. That's when I knew I wanted to give back and share my success with other.

How long have you been in the publishing business?



Elite, On task, Off grid.

Bram Magnus is a tough, combat-ready, all-American hero.

Danger is not far behind. As a deadly enemy hunts Bram and Jaelyn, their relationship only grows more explosive. It's all Bram can do to keep Jaelyn safe, but with a threat this powerful, will they pay the ultimate price for their passion?

**Available in print and e-book
8/29/17**

@DawnRyder_write

What type of royalties do they receive and do you offer advances to established authors?

We pay 50% royalties. We don't offer advances.

How much input do you allow your authors? For example, price control, the cover, worldwide distribution, exclusive contracts?

We always welcome input and feedback from our authors on everything from pricing to cover design and marketing, but at the end of the day we make these important business decisions so we can ensure our books have the best chance of selling well and making readers happy.

Are there any author fees that need to be paid upfront? Or future fees? For example, do you give author discounts for books ordered for book signings, etc. or do they have to pay full price for the books?

We're a traditional publisher so we don't charge any fees.

Are you taking author submissions and/or are you hiring?

Yes, we're always open to submissions from agented and unagented authors. You can see our submission guidelines and submit a manuscript for review at www.tckpublishing.com/submission-guidelines.

_____ We are currently hiring for several positions. You can see our current job openings at www.tckpublishing.com/publishing-jobs.

Social media contact information:

[@TCKPublishing](https://www.facebook.com/tckpublishing)





Spotlight Interview



The first spotlight is on...

Kate Angell

Kate Angell lives in beautiful Naples on the Gulf of Mexico, Florida. Appreciative of warm weather, she's an avid reader, sports enthusiast, and animal lover. She presently has five rescue dogs and five showed-up-at-my-door cats. There's always room to feed one more. Barnes and Noble is her second home, buying a latte at in-store Starbucks and browsing the shelves.

AdC: *When did you start writing and why?*

KA: I starting writing when I was in my teens. I liked English and Creative Writing classes. A love for the written word. I wrote several genres – historical, paranormal, young adult – before settling in contemporary romance. This is where I feel most at home. My books all have a happy ending.

AdC: *What have you learned about writing since you started?*

KA: Be consistent. Find time each day to write, otherwise, you get behind and often lose track of your characters and plot.

AdC: *Tell us about your new book or series.*

KA: I'm writing the "Barefoot William" series. Beach, boardwalk, and baseball spring training.

AdC: *What is your idea of a perfect day?*

KA: Writing in the morning and reading in the afternoon. I'll include a nap, if time allows. Often lunch with friends. Perhaps even a movie.

AdC: *Do you have any hobbies?*

KA: Hobbies...I'd rather call them passions. I wish I had more time to dedicate to each one. Painting, photography, jewelry making. I love the metaphysical, meditating, tarot, astrology. Collecting antiques.

AdC: *What is the worst thing about being an author?*

KA: Deadlines. It's a scramble when I get behind in a story. Which pushes me to write early mornings and late



nights.

AdC: *What is your favorite thing about being an author?*

Swing for the Fences in 2017!



*"A perfect balance...
Hilarious and
heartwarming."
—Booklist, Starred Review
on No Breaking My Heart*

No Time to Explain
USA TODAY Bestselling Author
KATE ANGELL

9.26.2017

**The Barefoot William Series
by KATE ANGELL**

Join the Richmond Rogues & their furry friends in Barefoot William, a quaint beachfront Florida town, for more baseball and fun in the sun in *USA Today* bestselling author Kate Angell's charming sports romance series.

KENSINGTONBOOKS.COM
KATEANGELL.COM

KA: Being able to work at home. I have dog beds all over my office. The pups sleep while I write.

magic!

AdC: How many books do you currently have out on the market and what genres do they fall into?

KA: I've written 15 books and participated in 11 anthologies. All my titles are contemporary romance or contemporary sports romance.

AdC: What can we expect from you next?

KA: I'm working on *No Kissing Under the Boardwalk*. The final book in the "Barefoot William" series. A second chance at love story, to be released October, 2018.

AdC: Pass on some words of wisdom, please, to aspiring authors.

KA: Write from the heart and believe in your work. Trends come and go. Find your own voice and create

Please give us the following contact information:

Personal web page: www.kateangell.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/authorkateangell



Famed author/blogger/flight attendant, Judith Hill continues her tales of perils and pleasures of online dating for women 60 and over with “I Make Birdhouses,” For a complete recount of single women’s journey in search of love, get her book Wink--available now as an Amazon Kindle book. Visit her blog at: singleat60sucks.com

“I make birdhouses”

I had been online dating for three months when I encountered a sentence in a dating profile that made me laugh: “I make birdhouses.” It was the response some guy had given in answer to the profile question, “What activities do you most enjoy?” A 58-year-old carpenter by profession, he had posted no photo—a good indication he was a free trawler. (You can’t post a photo unless you pay for a membership.) The rest of his profile was as short and simple as his birdhouse line. In answer to, “What could you not do without?” he had answered, “his kids, his health, his dog.” The remainder of the dating site’s 6 or 7 proprietary personality test type questions were blank.

No photo and no profile to speak of, on top of a statement like “I make birdhouses” for fun? I didn’t see how this guy was going to get much—if any attention—in the Dot Com Dating Realm. At least not from me. Sir Simple was merely that—SIMPLE. And as far from the sophisticated Dark Knight of my personal romance fantasy as any country bumpkin could be. I laughed again, logged off and proceeded with my day.

Funny thing though . . . I kept thinking about him. Not him per se, but rather his guileless, honest response. “I make birdhouses.” Simple subject, verb, direct object. The sentence could not be less complex—nor the man who wrote it probably. Yet he haunted me. Unpretentious, unrefined, uncomplicated. A good man, a common man, he loved his kids and his dog. He worked with his hands. Salt of the earth. Yet I had judged him lacking and unworthy of my attention.

As the day went on, my discomfort grew. I could not get Sir Simple out of my mind. “I make birdhouses” haunted me. As did my conscience. In all



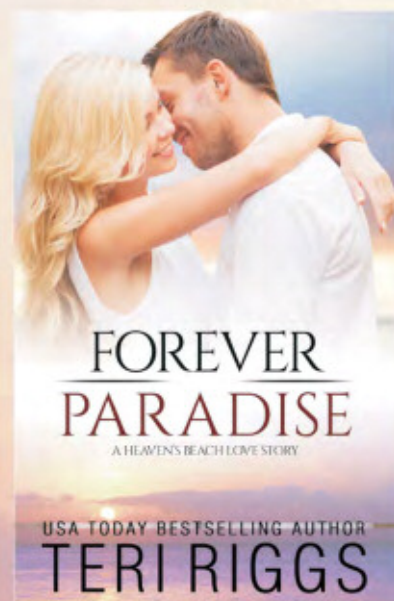
honesty . . . which of us was the deficit individual? He (who was likely a better man than most of the online daters of the male persuasion who touted their many sports, multiple interests and divergent interests) or me—judgmental, snide, smug, condescending . . . And what had I written? I read, knit, write. Whoo-hoo. No more exciting than making birdhouses. And, BTW, what kind of birdhouses *did* he make? Simple, flea-market variety, scrap wood, four-sided boxes with a pitched roof and a peg had been my initial thought. But maybe they were elaborate works of design craftsmanship and woodworking art? Yet I had assumed the worst/least and formed an opinion based upon the smallest bit of information. Moreover, I had formulated, from a drop of data, an entire person—whom I had then proceeded to dismiss.

For weeks I had been bothered by the behavior seemingly engendered by my online dating. Whether it was a callous *action* (i.e. swiping, x-ing or no-ing prospective matches based upon a split second glance at a photo) or a

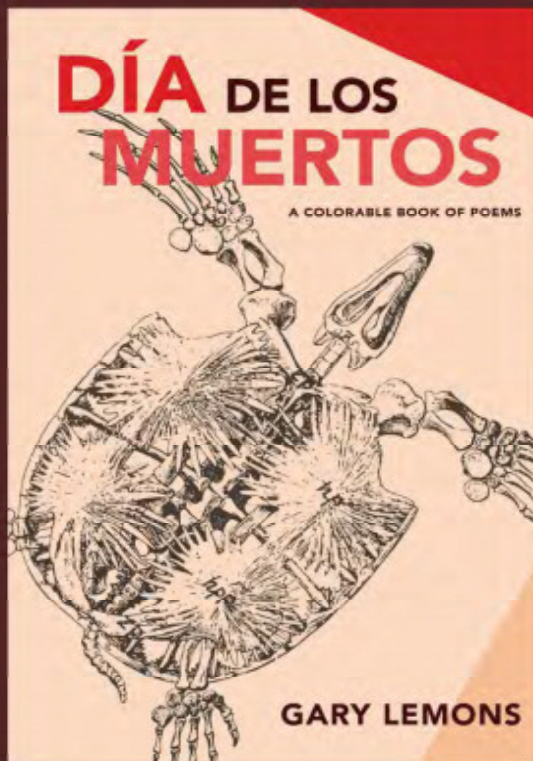
crass *inaction* (i.e. abruptly ghosting and never again replying to some poor schmuck who suddenly started to bore or bother me), I was *doing* something that made me ashamed. Now, with Sir Simple the Birdman, I had sunk even lower. I was *thinking* in a manner that mortified me.

I know I am a better person than that. I have always been proud of my soft, mushy, sentimental, root for the underdog heart hidden (perhaps too well) beneath a strong, hard and necessary exterior. My own sons have called me the Ice Queen. And I am. When I need to be. And I make no apologies for it. Navigating the trials and tragedies of life is like being in

She came to Heaven’s Beach
looking for protection.
Instead she found a love
she couldn’t resist.



Teri-Riggs.com
twitter.com/TeriLRiggs



"There is an odd equator of madness and song in this shadow decahedron where the fresh ideal of what constitutes solid form is taken up with mapping the other side of the river—here, by the way, the river is on fire and its song is one in which we become ecstatic and must drown. There is concealed in this work a flight from headlines and the sovereign silica. Such edgy and memorable new work by Gary Lemons."
-- Norman Dubie

GaryLemons.com

a small boat tossed upon a tempest sea. While everyone else is hanging their heads over the sides and puking, someone has to swallow down their own bile and hold the rudder to steady the course. My boys call it "going cold." I call it going on auto pilot. Do what needs to be done now—and fall apart later. But traversing a damn dating site is not dealing with disaster! So why was I comporting myself like such a shallow, belittling bitch?

The answer may lie within the concept and process of online dating itself. Dot com dating sites and mobile apps have turned a very *emotional action* into a very *mechanical reaction*.

When I was teaching high school English years ago, we hammered home the "5 Universal Conflicts" in literature: man vs man, man vs nature, man vs self, man vs God, man vs machine (technology). Ray Bradbury, George Orwell and Kurt Vonnegut (to name a

few) all wrote so-called science fiction stories set in a future wherein machines would steal or humanity and overtake mankind. In a sense, this is what online dating has done.

Men and women have turned one another into inanimate commodities to be blithely swept up and discarded. (Is it a coincidence that's the *actual* terminology used?) These are "profiles" not "people"—therefore it's easy. No need or obligation to fuss with the common courtesies we practice person to person *in person*. And that—in the proverbial nutshell—is the problem with online dating: IT'S NOT IN PERSON. The practice of online dating is, in fact, so different from "in person" dating that the latter now has its own modern quantifier: "organic" dating. (This has nothing to do with pesticide free—but rather the dictionary definition of organic: of or related to living matter.) In other words, dating a real person in the real world as opposed

to a virtual world.

Ergo, the failing of online dating: IT'S NOT A REAL PERSON. It's a photo, a profile, a prospective match. A prospective match can't crack a joke or banter back. A profile can't refuse to take "no" for an answer. A photo can't "grow on you" in time. Say no and he's gone—a photo, profile, prospective match swiped left, not a human being swept aside. Which brings me back to the beginning of this story . . .

Ashamed of myself for my actions and thoughts, and humbled by a birdhouse, I resolved to refocus on the importance of human kindness. I also made a promise to myself: to remember the photo or profile I was looking at is someone's son, father, grandfather. Someone has loved him in the past and someone probably loves him now. All he wants is what I do . . . a someone who just might love him in the future, too.

The Magic of the Season

No matter what you call this time of year, this season, it is magical. If you don't believe that, think about this. Everywhere you turn, people are struggling. Never is that more evident than on my periodic journeys to Office Depot where I pass literally hundreds of homeless people who are living in the squalor and rat infested areas under the freeways. Even if your exposure isn't that dramatic, we all know people who are having financial, physical and/or emotional difficulties. You will admit we are more polarized than we have ever been in my lifetime, separated by

sitting are doing so.

There seems to be enough blame to go around. Politicians seem to thrive on dissension, Rich blame the poor for sucking the system dry; the poor blame the rich for being greedy. Old people are old school and rigid--our way was the right way. Millennials only seek instant gratification and don't know or care about long-term goals. We can't even agree on whether or not there is a phenomena called climate change that directly affects the weather.

All of this is true. Yet, there really is magic in the season. Have you spoken to strangers? Smiled at people you don't know?



A SantaCom couple enjoying their day



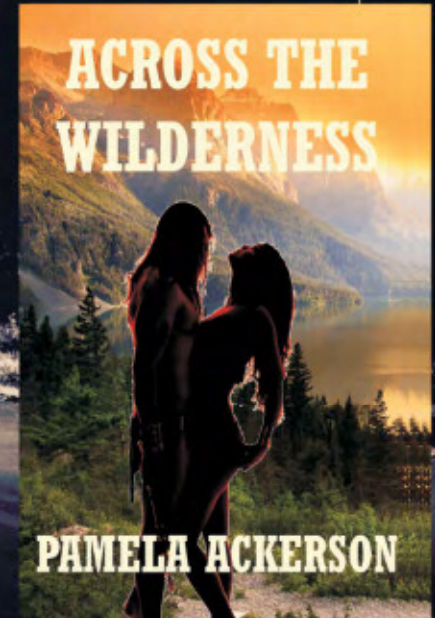
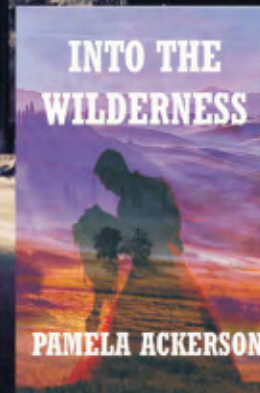
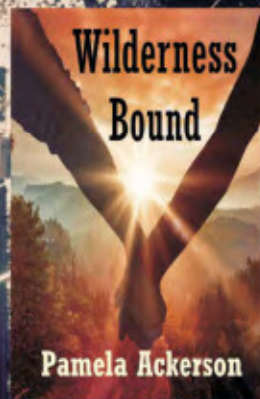
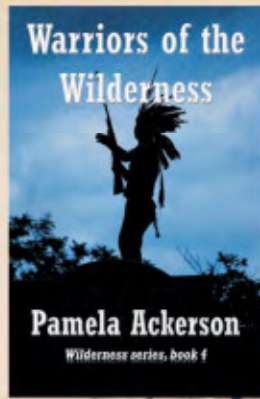
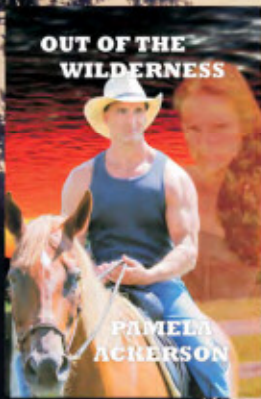
Even Santa's helpers need a break

politics, race, income and age. We are fighting over not only if one can sit during the national anthem but there is disagreement on why those who are

Helped someone who really needed it? Donated something? The next question if you answered a "yes" is

Why? "Because it felt right;" "It felt good." "I wanted to help someone." While these reasons may lay dormant and need a little prodding to surface, they are there. It's no shame to acknowledge them. We not only need to let the magic of the season happen, we need to nurture it so that it extends beyond New Year's Day.

If I may be so presumptive, I would like to offer a couple of suggestions about bringing out the magic: Instead of looking past the unfortunate homeless and/or



The Wilderness Series

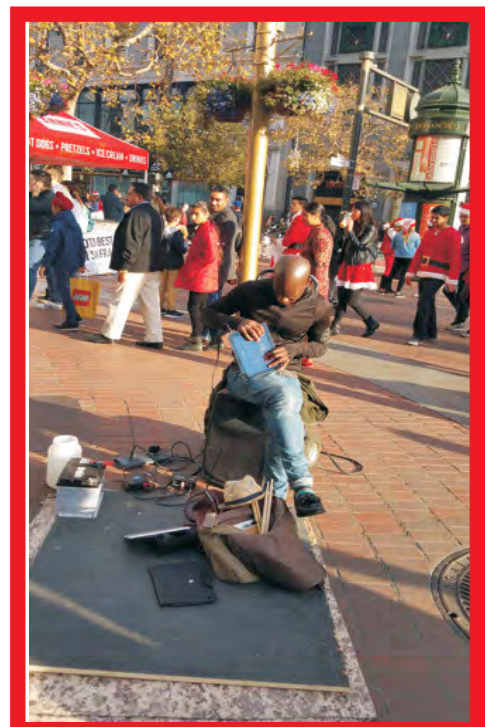
Discover how exciting
it is to travel back in time.

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*Everybody wanted to see or be Santa!
Or
The man with the beat on his Ipad*

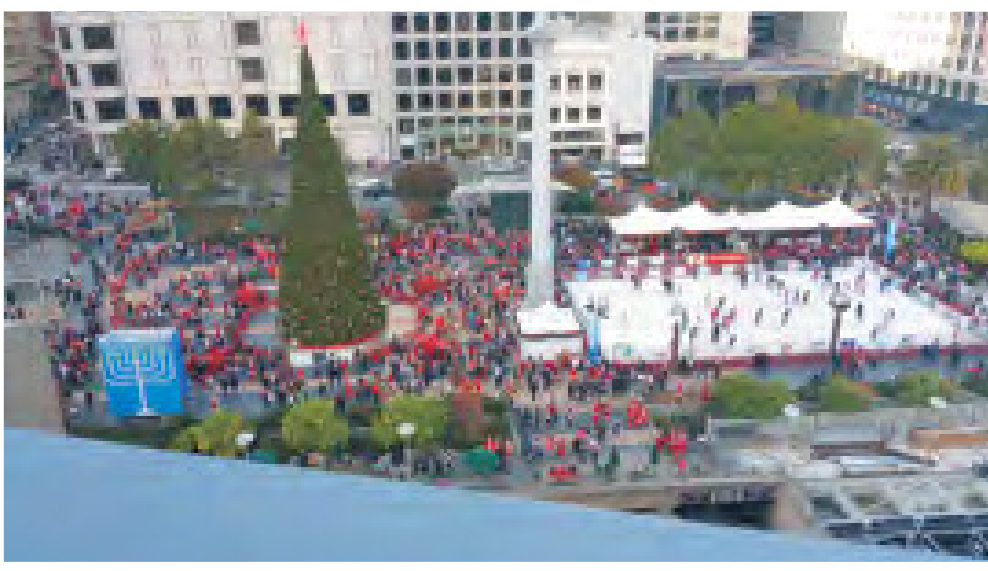


panhandlers, remember first of all that they are human beings who are down on their luck. Imagine how they feel who people passing them look through them as if they don't exist. Nod or say "hello" or smile. It cost you nothing, but a small gesture like that can make someone else's day. If you cannot afford to buy something new, clean out your closets and donate the contents that you haven't worn ever or in the past couple of years.

Yesterday, I took two little boys shopping in San Francisco, both of whom have dubbed me "Grandma Snead," (which I find both endearing and hilarious). We took BART (Bay Area Rapid Transit) where I learned, previously unbeknownst to me,



Ice skating in 70 degree weather? It's magic!



An aerial view of Union Square in San Francisco. Note the sheer number of Santas!

about Santacom (a la Comicon) Day. Santacom is the day whereby literally thousands of people dress up like Santa, Mrs. Santa, elves, and Santa's helpers. Some of the costumes are traditions; others proocative. Some are just down right funny. In yesterday's perfect 70 degree weather, Santas visited stores, gave candy to children, all while winding their way to their ultimate destination of The Whiskey Bar, strategically located across the street from Union Square's giant Christmas

tree, ice skating rink and Macy's, who really has marketing down to a science. You see, the San Francisco ASPCA adoption program starts the day after Thanksgiving, and as a result, kittens and puppies who are up for adoption are featured in Macy's windows and are impossible to pass. But fear not, if you make it past the window display of the cutest creatures you have ever seen, there are more...next to the North Pole station on the sixth floor where they encourage you to play with and hold

the little ones. They get you coming and going. The only reason I didn't get one was (1) I had too many bags and couldn't carry anything else and (2) I have two dogs and feed a colony of feral cats who would look at me like I had lost my mind if I brought home another cat. It was crowded, and as a result service was slower, but the magic of the season was there. I saw it in the smiles, the donations and the adoption of homeless animals. I heard it in the street music and the "Ahs" from people I didn't know. We were exhausted when we got back, but it was one of the best days I've ever had. It was magical!



My two shopping buddies in front of a decorated trolley car.



Union Square Christmas Tree

Happy Holidays!

Cover Model Corner with Debra Parmley

Featuring cover model David Russo



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

David: My first cover is actually on the novel *Hollis* coming in 2018. It's one of four books in the "Agency" series by author Golden Czermak.

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?

David: I'm a sucker for old castles to be honest. It would have to be either Ireland or Germany for me.

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

David: Well, I'm actually a photographer. I own my own business and it is by far my greatest passion. However, I also enjoy practicing wilderness survival, kayaking, hiking, martial arts, and sketch art.

Debra: What's one question you wish an interviewer would ask you?

David: That's actually a hard question.

I guess it would have to be for them ask what drives me.

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

David: I would definitely write post-apocalyptic novels.

Debra: This question is almost always asked in interviews because 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?

David: My day jobs keep me pretty fit to be honest. As far as workouts I do all home fitness. Push-ups, pull-ups, long



walks, and martial arts.

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

David: Getting a good amount of sleep every night, eating the right power foods and drinks (Cutting out processed

sugars and what not), and a steady 30-60 minute workout daily.

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

David: Italian dinner with a rich glass of Pinot Noir.

Debra: Describe the perfect romantic evening:

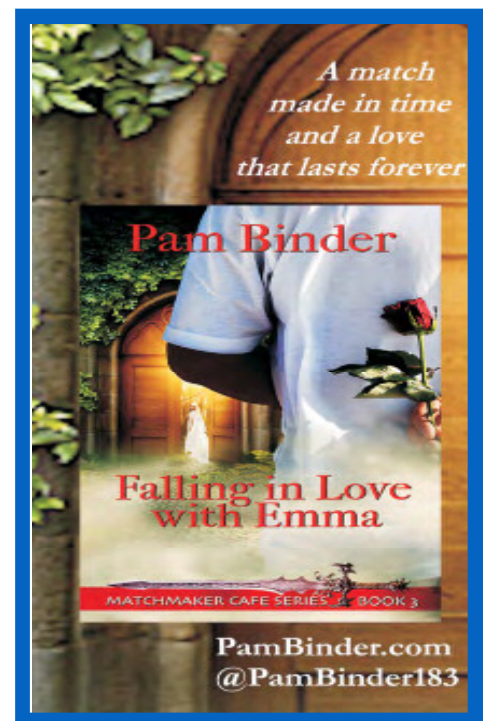
David: Dinner and wine at a quiet downtown location with live music followed by a stroll down the city streets to see the city.

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

David: If it weren't for me having two left feet, I would have wanted to take up ballet.

Debra: Eight Quickie questions: Watching the sunrise or watching the sunset and the stars?

David: Sunrise.





Debra: The beach or the mountains?

David: Mountains.

Debra: Primitive camping or luxury hotel?

David: Primitive camping

Debra: Snow skiing or water skiing?

David: Snow Skiing.

Debra: Favorite movie?

David: I honestly don't have a favorite movie.

Debra: Best book you ever read?

David: *The Memoirs Of Sherlock Holmes*.

Debra: Fav. Sport to play:

David: Don't participate in sports.

Debra: Fav. Sport to watch:

David: UFC/MMA (Connor McGregor fan)

Thank you, David! Readers can learn more about David by visiting and see his photography at www.rlsimagesphotography.com.

Debra Parmley is known for her Cover Model Corner Interviews, which

are often featured in *Affaire de Coeur* magazine. A hybrid author, Debra is a multi-genre author of historical romance ranging from the 1800's to the 1920's, contemporary romance with military heroes, romantic suspense and fairy tale romance. Damsel in distress stories are some of her favorites and her westerns have been described as gritty. An Air Force veteran's wife, Debra enjoys writing military heroes. Fascinated by fairy tales and folk tales since she was a young girl, she has always ended her stories with a happy ever after. You can learn more about Debra at www.debraparmley.com.

Friend/Follow David on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/david.russo.18>

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Spotlight Interview



This month the spotlight is on...

Deborah Camp

*Whatever type of romance you love to read, Deborah Camp writes it!--
From sweet to sexy, contemporary to historical.*



Deborah Camp

Author of more than 50 romances, both contemporary and historical, Ms. Camp received the very first Janet Dailey Award (given to a romance novel

that best addressed a social problem). *My Wild Rose* deals with battered women and children in the 1800's with Carrie Nation as a character in the novel. Deborah loves writing stories that are centered on brave women and honorable men.

Her "Mind's Eye" series is a contemporary mixture of paranormal, romantic suspense, and detective/thriller with two talented psychics chasing serial killers.

Ms. Camp's books have been praised by reviewers, bloggers, and readers who love complex characters and clever plotting. She always mixes in a bit of humor, even in her romantic suspense novels.

***"The best thing about writing
is when I'm into their world and
become the characters I've created.
Characters know their lines, and they
live exciting lives!"***

She has been a full-time writer since graduating from the University of Tulsa. Her first novel was published in the late 1970's, and her books have been published by Jove, New American Library, Harlequin, Silhouette, Avon, and Amazon. She was inducted into



the Oklahoma Authors Hall of Fame, and she's a charter member of the Romance Writers of America. She's also a member of the Author's Guild.

Communicating with readers and other writers is something she enjoys, so don't be shy about visiting her online.

Be sure to join her Happy Campers Super Cool Reader Group on her website to receive a copy of *Through Her Eyes* FREE and participate in it on Goodreads, too.

Best and Worst of Being an Author:

The best thing about writing is when I'm into their world and become the characters I've created. Characters know their lines and they live exciting lives! When I'm writing the "Mind's Eye" series, I often would wish I could actually be Trudy and go a round or two with Levi Wolfe!

As it is with most writers, all of my characters have a piece of me in them, but the heroines are usually more like me than other characters. They share my hopes, dreams, passions, and self-doubts. But they're much prettier than me and not as sharp-tongued as I tend to be, although they are sassy! They are a better me, so it's understandable why I would wish to be one of them every so often.

The hardest parts of writing for me are developing a good plot and believable and sustainable conflicts! That's what I'm doing now for the next novel I have planned for the series. The thinking and casting aside and thinking and crossing out and thinking! Aaagggrh! It's like building a structure out of blocks, only to knock it down over and over again because it's too wobbly. I'm usually anxious to get to writing, but I know if I don't take the time to really think through the plot and characters, it will bite me in the backside and I'll end up having to do massive rewrites or start over altogether.

So, the beginning process of plotting is tedious, but necessary.

What's next?

Through Her Eyes is out now, and it's the fourth book in the "Mind's Eye" series. These began as a trilogy, but I haven't finished getting to know my main characters—Trudy Tucker and Levi Wolfe. When I created this series and these characters, I did so with the aim to make them complex because they would be in three entire novels. Well, I think I made them *so* complex that I've barely scratched the surface of them in the three books.

This series packs in a lot of plot elements. Trudy is psychic and can channel murderers, kidnappers, and other evil people. She sees through their eyes, but has little control over how it happens and when it happens. Levi is also psychic, but he channels the deceased. He can commune with the dead victims of crimes. Together, they can investigate both the perpetrator and his/her victims.

Trudy is just starting out and learning to harness her psychic abilities. Levi is a well-known psychic and a successful entrepreneur. He works with Trudy the first time in Book 1, although he's had his eye on her for almost a year. There is an instant attraction between them that leads to a sizzling hot sexual connection. But Levi has a lot of hang-ups because of his traumatic upbringing, and Trudy isn't willing to settle for only knowing the emotional parts of him he's willing to show her.

Each novel deals with a different case they're investigating.

Beginning with *THROUGH HER EYES*, I'm focusing Trudy's talents as she stops struggling against them and opens up to what she can do. I have two more books planned – *THROUGH HER TOUCH* and *THROUGH HER HEART*. They will both be released in 2018, winding up the series with six books.

In the last book, I'll introduce a new psychic character to spin off a brand new romantic suspense series. It will be sad to say goodbye to Levi and Trudy, but I'll be leaving them in a happy place and I'm looking forward to introducing you to new characters!

THROUGH HIS EYES is available now as an audio book and I had a lot of fun doing it. Next year, I hope to release *THROUGH HIS TOUCH* as an audio book. The very talented Matt Haynes is the narrator.



Go to Audible and listen to the sample to hear Matt in action. He's simply terrific.

Contact information:

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FACEBOOK: <http://www.facebook.com/officialdeborahcamp>

PINTEREST: <http://www.pinterest.com/debbycamp44/>

BLOG: www.deborahcampwritersdesk.blogspot.com

TWITTER: www.twitter.com/authordebcamp

GOODREADS: <https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/198990>.

“Lonestar’s Lady”

By DEBORAH CAMP

Lonestar.

His name fit him perfectly. It fed every fantasy that Gussie Horton had conjured about Indians and forbidden love.

His neighbors whispered that he was a murdering half-breed, which was true. But Gussie believed in second chances, and more importantly, her heart told her to believe in Max Lonestar.

Was she a fool to hitch her wagon to his star? Would he be her one, true love or her final downfall?

Look for it on Amazon!

https://www.amazon.com/Deborah-Camp/e/B001HOGDMW/ref=sr_tc_2_0?qid=1504893649&sr=1-2-ent



www.deborah-camp.com



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



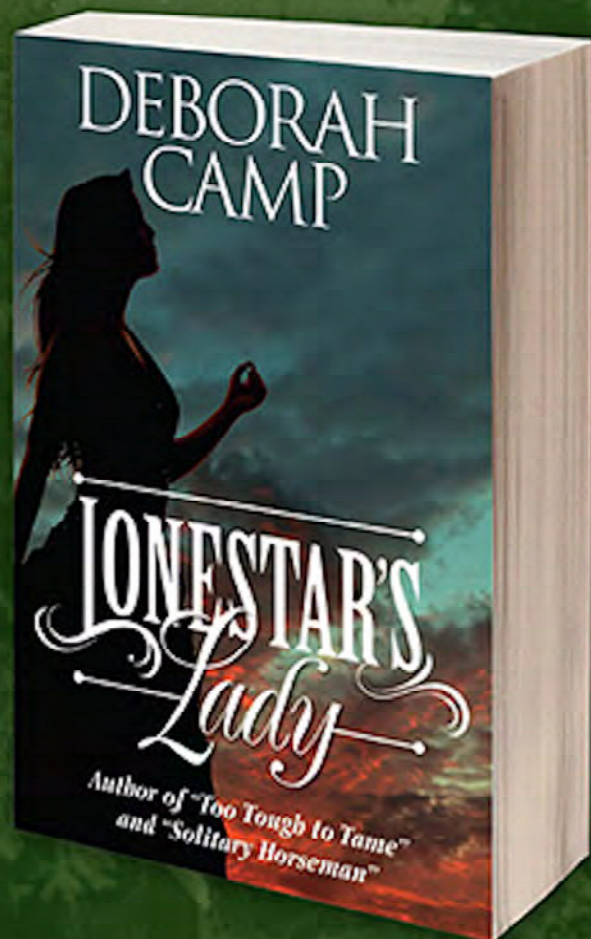
<https://twitter.com/AuthorDebCamp>



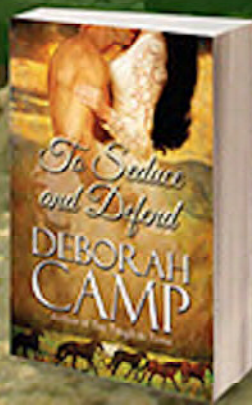
<https://www.pinterest.com/debbycamp44/>



https://www.goodreads.com/author/list/198990.Deborah_Camp



“The author does a beautiful job of capturing the readers’ interest, building full characters, while telling an intriguing story.” – Romance Authors That Rock





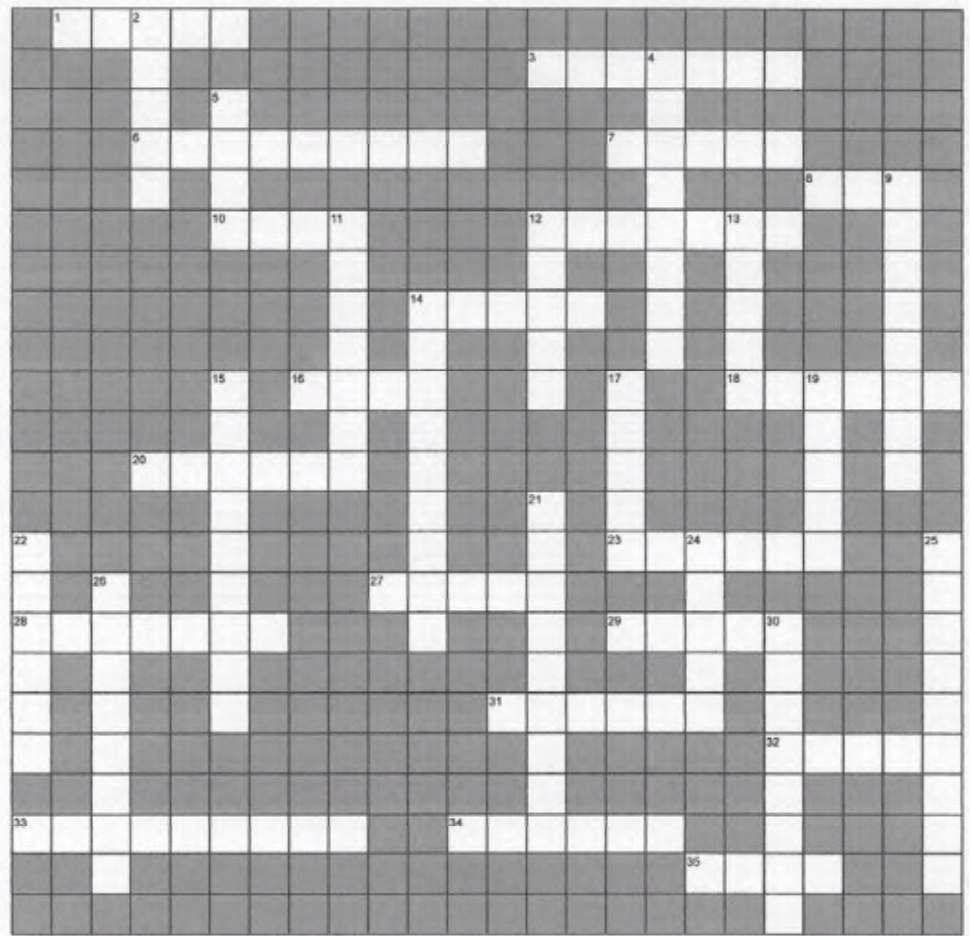
Let's Eat!

Across

1. "Bring me some _____ pudding."
3. A main meat dish at Hanukah.
6. A singing group or legumes that bring good luck peas.
7. Drink that is often spiked.
8. Honey-baked _____.
10. Often first course, eaten with a spoon.
12. The whites of the eggs keep this dish puffed up.
14. Apple drink.
16. The slimy veggie.
18. Drink made with milk/cream and chick ova.
20. _____ chocolate cake.
23. Butterball is a brand of _____.
27. Oft dreaded dessert, Grandma's _____ cake.
28. Left for Santa.
29. Ambrosia, Caesar, Tuna, chicken, green _____.
31. Collards, kale, turnip, etc.
32. Bakers need a lot more of this condiment during the holidays.
33. "_____ roasting on an open fire"
34. Not margarine.
35. Port, Chablis, Riesling, Merlot.

"Let's Eat!" Holiday Specials

Louise



Down

2. New Orleans dish made with sausage, chicken, and/or seafood.
4. Bread mix that goes inside the bird when it's cooked.
5. These African tubers are made with brown sugar and butter.
9. _____ and cheese.
11. This squash is often served in pies.
12. This tuber is popular for pies--

_____ potato.

13. A Hannukah potato dish
14. This New England fruit grows in bogs and is made into sauce.
15. An alternative to other breads, made with meal.
17. Pot, beef, or pork _____
19. Often difficult for newbies to make, it's made of meat drippings.
21. This squash makes a great soup.
22. Popular nut for the season.
24. Parker House _____
25. This green bean dish is made with onions.
26. Served mashed during the holiday.
30. Bleu cheese, ranch, vinegar and oil are types of salad _____.

Promoting (cont. from page 5)

site. Why? Because most authors' websites aren't usually a high profile marketing page.

Use Amazon or Barnes and Noble as an example to improve your page. They're big business and they know how to entice readers to buy. I, personally, take advantage of that.

Take advantage of their expertise, how the page is built, and mimic them. Go to the number one bestselling author's web page in your genre. What are they doing differently than you? What's their book description like on Amazon? What keywords are they using?

Compare, tweak, fix, rewrite.

There's a 1% rule that I use. (Especially if you don't have the proper keywords and tools.)

Let's do some math.

You purchase an ad from someone who says they have a 50,000 readership reach and you pay for one day of advertising.

1% of the people will see your ad. (500 people)

1% of those people need to see your advertisement ten times before they react. (5 people) *"That looks interesting—nice cover, etc."*

1% of them will click on the link/image. (.05 people)

1% of them will either purchase or want to return and possibly purchase the book. (.0005)

You read that right. It trickles down pretty low doesn't it? That's why you need repetition. Sorry, but if you want readers to buy your book, you can never stop promoting or advertising.

So, if you did the ad for five days: The trickle down—possible purchase of your book would be .0025.

If you've got great blurbs, copy, book description, and landing page, you can increase that 1% to 2% or 3%. Remember the landing page is the page where the link brings the reader.

Let's say you've got it all exactly the way it should be. 50,000 readership reach for one day.

3% of the people will see your ad. (1500 people)

3% of those people will see your advertisement ten times (45 people)

3% of them will click on the link/image. (1.35 people)

3% of them will purchase or want to come back and possibly purchase the book. (.04 people)

Your goal? You want the largest and longest readership reach, for the least amount of money. Why do I keep saying readership reach? Because you want to be advertising to people either in the industry or people who read. It's not going to do you any good to advertise with someone who has 250,000

subscribers if only 20,000 of them read, or they don't even read your genre.

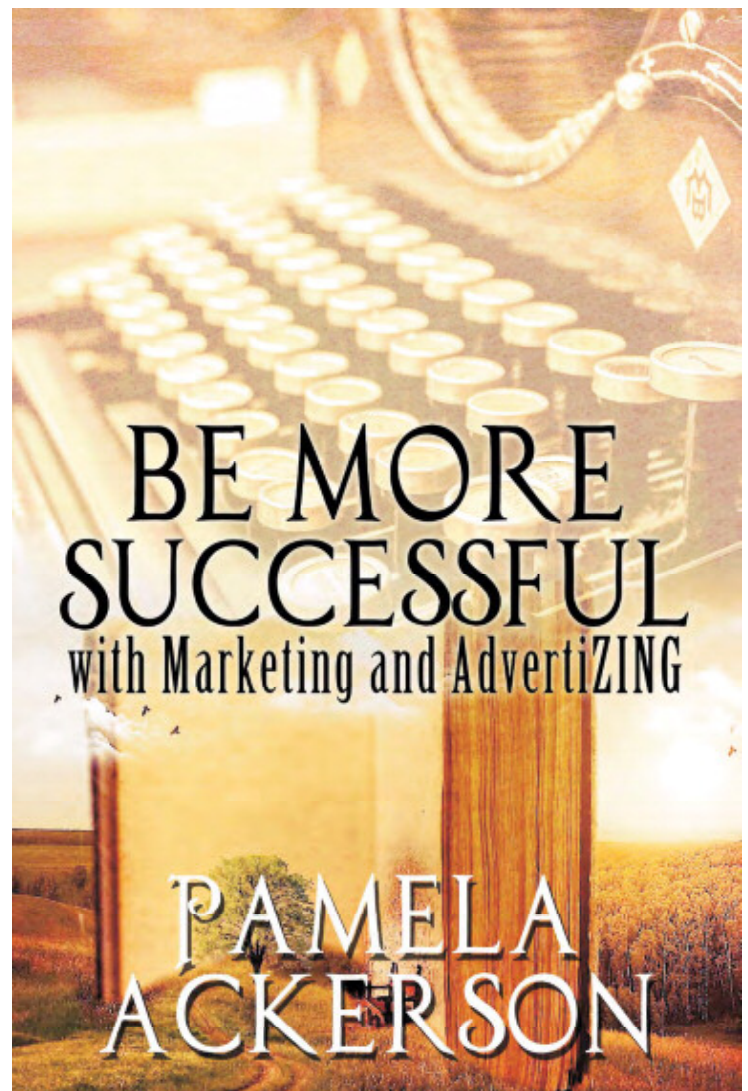
Let me tell you what happens when you don't advertise. Absolutely nothing! The chance of a reader finding you without promotion and advertising is slim to none. You have to go and find them. You have to put yourself and your book in front of them. They have to see it or they won't know it even exists.

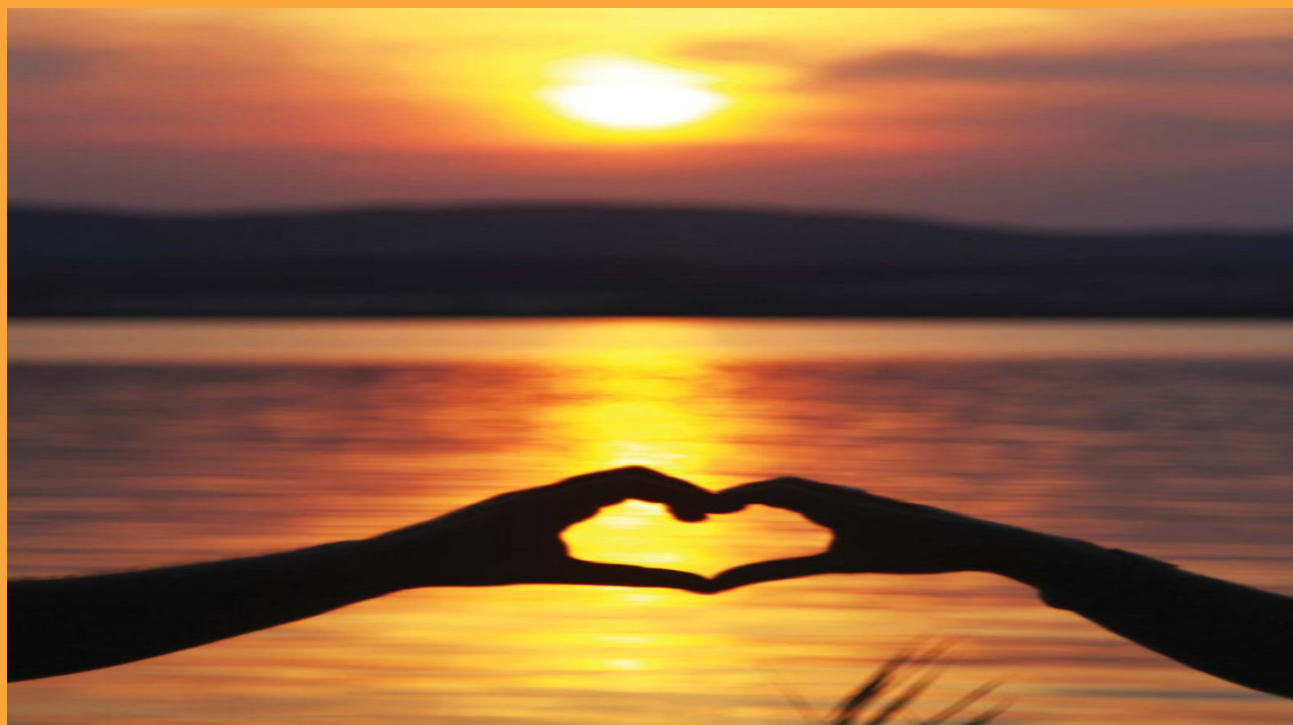
Psst. Shameless plug coming. *Affaire de Coeur* has an incredible readership reach and it's continuously increasing. Our page hits average 2000 and up a day, with the readers averaging three to five pages while visiting our web site.

Not only does Pamela Ackerson work for *Affaire de Coeur* in the marketing and advertising department, she is an international best-selling author of historical fiction, non-fiction, and time-travel books. Look for her newest non-fiction release, *Be More Successful with Marketing and AdvertiZING* available in print and ebook.

Website: PamelaAckerson.com

Twitter: [@PamAckerson](https://twitter.com/PamAckerson)





Contemporary Romance Reviews

The Christmas Cowboy Hero

Donna Grant

St. Martin's Press

Mass Market

978-1205165428

★★★★

Abby Harper has raised her brothers since childhood. One particular brother is in trouble again for stealing cattle and has been arrested. His only chance is Clayton East who is back home for the holidays. Clayton is an Ex-Navy Seal who must take care of his ill father and the family ranch. Upon hiring Brice, he meets Abby and finds the home he has been missing. Can going home bring love back to Clayton?

If you are the opposite of this reviewer and you love cowboys, this will be a five-star read. *The Christmas Cowboy Hero* is well written and well-paced. Donna Grant writes very believable characters and scenarios. This is a good read that was enjoyable on all other areas except the cowboy theme. So, really it could be a five, depending on your personal tastes.

Lenore Lovecraft

Cowboy, It's Cold Outside

Lori Wilde

Avon

Mass Market

978-0062468239

★★★★1/2

Paige MacGregor had been burned in love. Her one brush with romance ended in an ugly manner, with him taking her money and stealing her identity. Now she fights to make ends meet while she has no money and crippled credit. She has no intention of letting anyone into her heart again. Then she meets Cash Colton.

Cash is a famous country star who has been in Peru for the past year, struggling to find the music again. His girlfriend left him for his drummer, breaking up the band in the process. He's in Twilight, Texas, for a Christmas fundraiser when he meets a woman who sends music flooding into his soul. She's not his usual type, but he craves being near his muse.

Lori Wilde's latest "Twilight, Texas" novel has secondary characters who will be familiar to fans, but this tale stands alone. Empathetic characters and strong chemistry between the leads will keep readers turning the pages, and a moving subplot involving Paige's grandmother adds to the beauty of the tale. Fans and new readers alike should pick this up for a holiday treat!

Heather Nordahl Files

Contemporaries

So Over You

Kate Meader

Pocket Star

E-book

978-1501168567

★★★★★

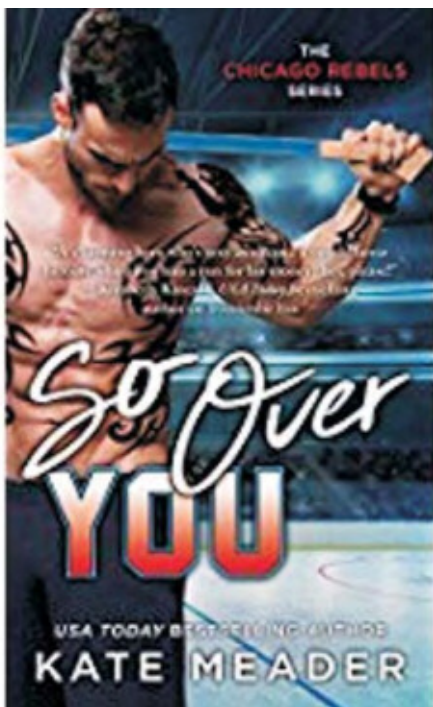


Isobel Chase has lived her life bearing the heavy weight of her father's expectations. He made her a substitute for the son he never had. Her talent on the ice was meant to culminate in a successful career in professional hockey, but that ended in disaster when she suffered a career-ending injury in her first professional game.

Vadim Petrov knew her when she was young. He was her first lover and did not exactly set her world on fire. Now she's part-owner and one of the coaches for the Chicago Rebels, and Vadim is on the team, recovering from an injury. The last thing she wants is contact with him, but she needs to help him with his conditioning. Once he learns that he did not please her all those years ago, he is determined to get another shot. Will she be able to resist his now legendary charms?

The second title in Kate Meader's "Chicago Rebels" series is even better than the first. This standalone tale features strong conflict, spectacular dialogue, and riveting love scenes. Ms. Meader's knowledge of the game shines in scene after scene. The author's humor is also showcased, and readers will find themselves laughing out loud. Don't miss this one!

Heather Nordahl Files



Take Down

Tara Wyatt and Harper St. George

Pocket Star

E-book

978-1501170201

★★★★

Megan Sinclair is a cervical cancer survivor, and her experience with the disease has left its mark on her body and soul. She now wants to make the most of every minute. She is a journalist, and her current story series covers the WFC, an MMA league. Her first story centers around light heavyweight champion Gabe Maddox, "The Sandman," but he's not the easiest subject to interview.

Tragedy marked Gabe's life some years ago, and since then he has channeled his pain into his fighting, creating a successful career. He won't talk about his past with Megan, but he can't shut off his desire for her. They make an agreement that it will be just sex with a kinky flavor between them. Gabe doesn't think he deserves happiness because he blames himself for the accident that took the lives of his wife and child. But being with Megan feels so good....

Tara Wyatt and Harper St. George's second title in their "Blood and Glory" series features a hero and heroine who richly deserve love and happiness. There are ongoing plot threads from the prior tale, but no one will be lost if they start with this one. Add in erotic love scenes, and most readers will be satisfied by this reading experience.

Heather Nordahl Files



Historical Romance Reviews

The Right Kind of Rogue (Playful Brides-Book 8)

Valerie Bowman

St. Martin's Press

Mass Market

978-1250121714

★★★★

Meg remembers the exact moment she fell in love. She was sixteen and, as usual, Meg's mother was berating her. Meg's best friend's brother, Hart, defended her and Meg lost her heart. Unfortunately, he doesn't return Meg's affection. To Hart, she is nothing more than his little sister's friend.

Hart's lack of interest is not the only thing standing in the way of a romance with Meg. Their families have been bitter enemies for years. Something to do with an unpaid gambling debt. Oh, and that's another problem. Meg's father gambled away her dowry. In fact, his gambling has gotten so bad that Meg and her family must flee to the Continent to escape his creditors. They leave in a fortnight.

This doesn't leave Meg much time to make Hart fall for her. She enlists the aid of her friend, the Duchess of Claringdon, the matchmaker of the ton. Lucy assures Meg that Hart will propose before Meg and her family leave. She must entrust herself to Lucy's care. Step one: make Hart jealous by finding Meg another beau.

Hart doesn't understand why he's so upset that Meg has a suitor. Could he be developing a *tendre* for his baby sister's best friend?

This is a continuation of a series. It can be read alone. It's a good book.

Sheila Griffin

The Scandalous Flirt (Cinderella Sisterhood #6)

Olivia Drake

St. Martin's Press

Mass Market

978-1250060310

☆☆☆1/2

Aurora Paxton's naïve flirtation during debutante season ended in scandal, a ruined reputation, and banishment to the country to live with her aunt. When her stepmother is blackmailed over an indiscretion, Aurora returns to London to keep it from ruining her sister's engagement.

The last person Lucas Vale, Marquess of Dashedell, expects to return or come to his door is Aurora, who may be his first love. Especially when he's close to marriage to save his family from his father's gambling debts. Aurora and Lucas team up to discover the identity of the blackmailer to keep their families from further scandal should the affair between her stepmother and his father come out.

The interactions between Aurora and Lucas are well-written with nice chemistry, dialogue, and development of the romance and connection. Although the novel features a nicely developed mystery plot while exploring some of the quirks and downsides of society, it creeps along at times with nothing much of interest happening. The Cinderella theme is barely noticeable/underutilized and mostly falls flat. Nevertheless, readers who enjoy historical romances set in London society with mystery/intrigue, sweet second chance romance, and a touch of social justice should, for the most part, enjoy this one.

Lacy Hill

Historicals

Wilde in Love

Eloisa James

Avon

Mass Market

978-0062389473

☆☆☆☆1/2

Unlike her friend Lavinia, Willa Ffynche is not impressed by Lord Alaric Wilde. His fame has spread throughout England. Many have read the books recounting his travels, but it's the play about him (or at least a fictionalized version of him), as well as his incredible good looks, that have captured the imaginations of ladies far and wide.

Alaric would dearly love to have Willa's admiration but, instead, has to contend with hordes of women seduced by a fictional portrayal. And it only gets worse when the only true piece of the play-- the missionary's daughter--appears in the flesh, insisting that he loves her and will marry her! Happily for him, Willa is able to help in a scheme that he would like to make real.

Eloisa James has a writing voice like no other, and that glorious voice is on full display here. The Georgian setting will delight many, and while this is part of a series, the tale stands alone. Exquisite scenes, outstanding chemistry, and wonderful characters round out a tale you do not want to miss.

Heather Nordahl Files



Paranormal Romance Reviews



Hard Breaker

Christine Warren

St. Martin's Press

Mass Market

978-1250077394

★★★★1/2

Ivy Beckett had been blessed with a gift. Of course, she didn't think of it as a blessing, just a nuisance that was no good to anybody. Her Native American grandmother had told her otherwise, though, and insisted she learn to use her gift wisely. Out of all the gifts in her family of Wardens, Ivy had Clairaudial empathy. She could only hear the future, not visualize it. And emotion seemed to trigger it. The more painful, more terrified, etc., the person was, the clearer Ivy could hear it. But she couldn't pinpoint when or where the event in her vision happened. So what use was it?

Then she had a vision of her Uncle George, a powerful Warden, and his son being killed by demons,

although when and where it had happened, she had no idea. So, she dedicated her life to getting all the other Wardens to safety and away from the demon population trying to eliminate them. She wasn't a Warden, but it was the least she could do for her uncle and cousin.

Baen was suddenly awakened from his centuries' old sleep as a gargoyle by an overwhelming protective urge. He didn't know what had awakened him, but knew someone needed his help. Then he spotted the tiny human female in the alleyway bravely battling three demons while a human male figure vomited close by. With a roar like an avenging angel, Baen quickly dispatched the demons. Now all he needed was somebody to explain to him what was going on and why, as a Guardian, a summoning spell hadn't been used to wake him and, since no female had ever been a Warden, why was he feeling so protective towards the tiny human?

Hard Breaker is the final book in Christine Warren's "Gargoyle" series and neatly wraps up the epic adventure of Guardians and Wardens vs. Demons. And although there are several books preceding this one, it is easy to follow without

Paranormals

having to read any of the previous novels. Ivy is from a family of Wardens and has a gift, but, being female, knows she is not a Warden. However, her gargoyle Guardian doesn't have any such reservations and following their journey to save the world while he valiantly tries to convince her that she is his Warden is humorous and touching. Then, throw in the "end-of-the-world by ultimate evil" mission on top of it, and you get an epic story that will keep you reading well into the night. The only drawback for this reviewer was Lily's constant insistence and reluctance to believe her own worth no matter what she was told. All in all, a very good read.

Lani Roberts

Wicked Vampire (Last True Vampire Series-Book 6)

Kate Baxter

St. Martin's Press

Mass Market

978-1250125439

☆☆☆

new thrills, Sasha checks out a supernatural fight club. Across the arena, she sees Ewan, and Sasha's soul is returned to her. Instead of being happy, she's appalled! He's a berserker and vampires and berserkers are mortal enemies. But Sasha doesn't care. The only thing she can think of is sex with Ewan.

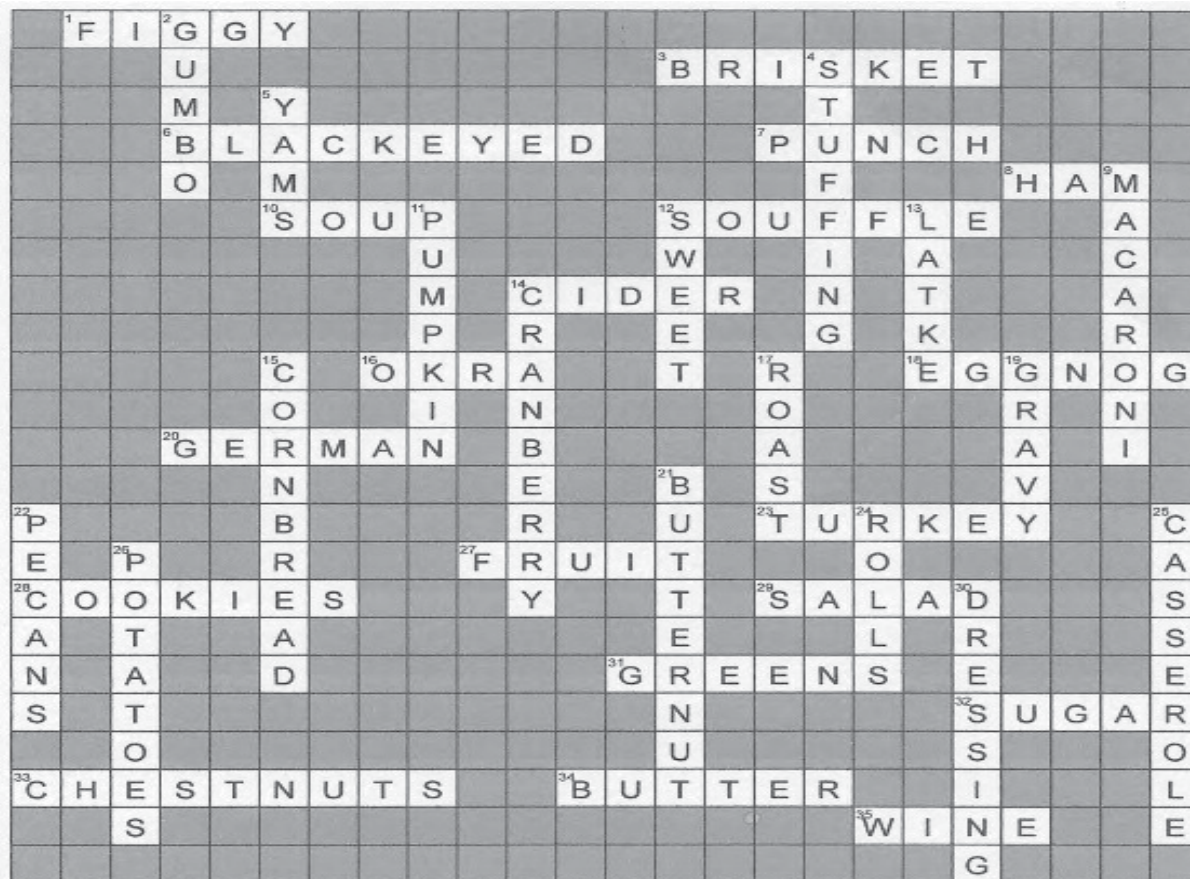
Ewan doesn't feel the mate bond, but he does feel compelled to have sex with Sasha. Each time they're together, Ewan becomes more obsessed with her. He's insanely jealous and insists that Sasha give herself to him in every way. She eagerly submits to each of his demands.

The mate bond encourages tender feelings, and Sasha begins to fall for Ewan. But if their masters find out about the affair, it will mean a torturous death for both of them.

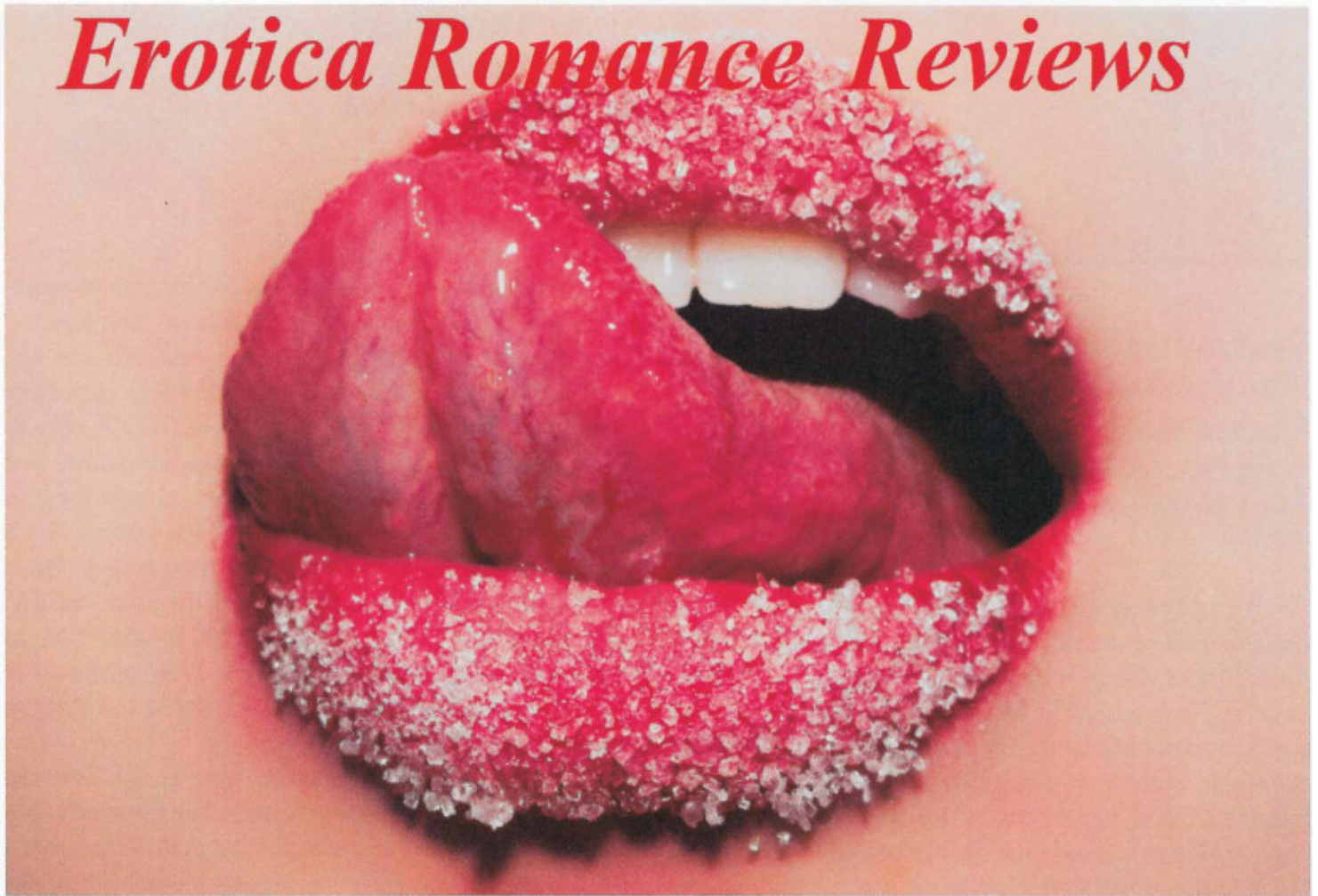
This is a continuation of a series. It's imperative to read the previous stories before beginning this one. There are many subplots that will be meaningless without background information. This book has lots of foul language and graphic sex but little romance. The hero has no loving feelings for the heroine until the last third of the book. Prior to that, there's just lust and possessiveness. It's a disappointing addition to an enjoyable series.

Sheila Griffin

Sasha lost her soul when she became a vampire and drinking and meaningless sex have lost their appeal. Seeking



Erotica Romance Reviews



The Billionaires: The Stepbrothers

Calista Fox

St. Martin's Griffin

Trade Paperback

978-1250096449

★★★★1/2

Michael Vandenberg's art has been stolen, or so he has claimed to insurance investigator Scarlet Drake. It is her job to make sure it has been stolen and not a fraudulent claim. This would all be simple if chemistry was not complicating matters. During her investigation, Michael and his brother Sam have an affair with Scarlet. It will take a heavy dose of the truth for this to be a happily ever after for any of them.

This is a lovely read with lots of steamy action. The plot of the female investigator was appealing to me as well. Also, the rich brother sexy side plot was fun and kept the interest going until the end. *The Billionaires: The Stepbrothers* has a good, well- paced plot without boring lulls so often seen. The men are so very different in attitude as may be the case in extended families. It's not all black and

white.

Lenore Lovecraft



The Dark Side (Replay Book 8)

Nia Farrell

Amazon Digital

E-pub

B0762SFXM3

★★★★

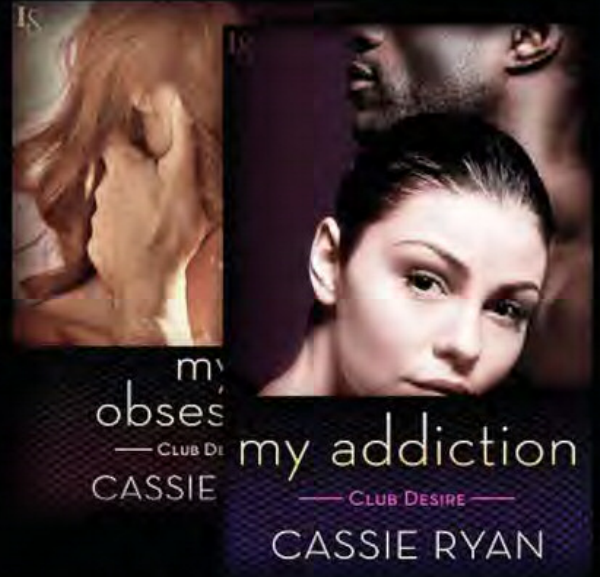
Ashley Slade was a young, beautiful movie star with her first failed movie under her belt. It wouldn't have been too bad, except she and her now ex-boyfriend had financially backed the movie. He had another project in the works so wasn't feeling the financial pinch too badly, but, Ashley? She was broke. So, when a new project came along that required research into the seedier side of life, she knew exactly where she could go--the BDSM resort where they had spent two weeks filming scenes for part of her movie. They had only used the SCC (Safe, Sane and Consensual) side for those scenes, but for this research, she needed to go the RACK (Risk Award Consensual Kink) side. She couldn't wait.

Master Sorin was the Dominant assigned to escort Ashley in her research. He was tall, good-looking and an experienced Dom who specialized in vampire fantasies. In his vanilla life, he was a well-known neurosurgeon who had just as much need for anonymity as Ashley, but was more than capable of leading her into the life of a submissive. But the question was, how far was she willing to go in the name of research?

Nia Farrell's eighth book in the "Replay" series is definitely intriguing. Replay is the name of a BDSM-themed resort island with two sides--one side rather tame and mild; the other darker and heavier. Each previous book deals with various aspects of the resort and its occupants with lots of characters involved. But due to the skilled writing of Ms. Farrell, a first-time reader like myself will not feel lost. However, for being on the wild side of the island, the actual BDSM scenes were definitely mild and almost vanilla. I was a little disappointed that the sex scenes were not steamier, but for a novella, it was very well done and I definitely will be reading the first seven of this series.

Lani Roberts

Erotica



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Surrender to his healing touch

Kate meets Dex Alexander
a very different kind of
Dom—an undercover agent
one whose quiet confidence,
strength, and command
bring her most willingly
to her knees.

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Bloodstains with Bronte

Katherine Bolger Hyde

Minotaur Books

Hardcover

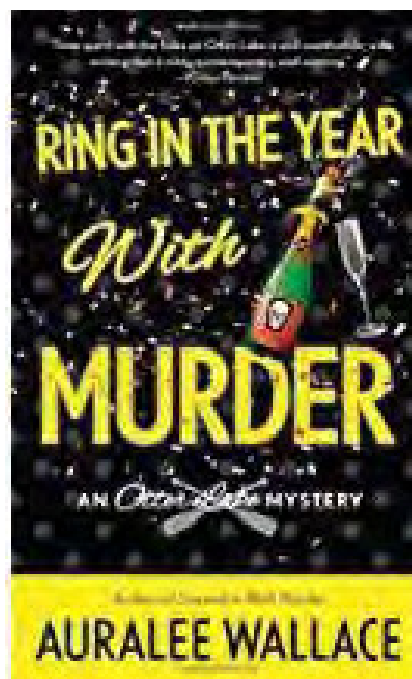
978-1250065483

☆☆☆1/2

Retired college literature professor Emily Cavanaugh's amateur sleuthing hits literally close to home when Jake, a young man notorious for his behavior with young women, is killed in her inherited house, Windy Corner, during a murder mystery. Multiple people have a motive for killing him, including Emily's troubled young housekeeper Katie. Emily is working to find the murderer with the intent of clearing Katie's name, even though it might put her newly reconciled relationship with her beau and police detective Luke in jeopardy.

Bloodstains with Bronte strays from cozy mystery territory to Agatha Christie-style traditional mystery. The storyline is quite sinister, with the heinous nature of the murder, revelations of how badly Jake behaved, and an incisive look at religious zealotry-fueled intolerance and prejudice towards others. Emily's loyalties are torn between Katie, who is like a daughter to her, and her beloved Luke, and she faces a moral dilemma in how much evidence she should turn over. At times, Emily's behavior and obstruction of justice is frustrating to the reader.

Bloodstains with Bronte is an enjoyable mystery, despite the culprit not being difficult to guess. Readers who enjoy more traditional style mystery will appreciate this book, especially fans who enjoy the Victorian literature motif.
Danielle Hill



MYSTERIES

Ring in the Year with Murder

Auralee Wallace

St. Martin's Press

Mass Market

978-1250151452

★★★★

Erica Bloom and her BFF Freddie Ng are back to solve more crimes in small town Otter Lake, New Hampshire, this time on New Year's Eve. Their security company has been hired to oversee a New Year's bash. Freddie's temporary dog Stanley gets sick from drinking an appletini intended for Erica's ex, Sheriff Grady Forrester's, new girlfriend Candace. Erica and Freddie have to keep Candace safe and catch the culprit before they strike again, all before the clock strikes midnight. Hopefully it's not Grady himself, since Erica isn't over him as it is.

Auralee Wallace never fails to deliver with her zany cozy mystery series featuring Erica and Freddie. The laughs keep coming, paired with a mystery that is well-plotted and will have the reader on his/her toes guessing whodunit. The characters in this book are all kooky in their own way, but Erica and Freddie always steal the show, in their unique, enduring friendship and their unusual approaches to solving mysteries. Wallace employs a slightly different format which is very fitting for a New Year's Eve setting. Readers who enjoy humorous cozy mysteries should definitely check out the "Otter Lake Mystery" series. Fans will enjoy this new installment.

Danielle Hill



Booty from the Other Genre



Angels In The Sky
Robert Gandt
W. W. Norton & Company
Hardcover
978-0393254778
★★★★★



All the activities in this non-fiction chronicle of Israel fighting for its independence are true! Robert Gandt is a rock-'em-sock-'em type of writer. His descriptive passages of how the non-Israeli pilots delivered their flight expertise to the enemies of Israel earned them the title of "Angels in the Sky!"

In 1947 and 1948, Israel had to fight for credibility to become a State of Israel. It was not enough that the United Nations partitioned Palestine, creating both Jewish and Arab States, which were to exist side by side. No, it was a time when even with this mandate Israel had to physically fight with its surrounding neighbors in a death struggle both on the ground and in the air. This book is about the air battles, how they fought, how pilots flew, and most of all where the planes came from. *Angels* also is a memorial to those who gave the ultimate sacrifice in pursuit of freedom for the Israeli people.

Though many of the pilots who died were Israeli, many came from other countries--Britain, Canada, United States, and South Africa were the countries of origin for members of the fellowship of conscientious air force fighters tagged with the title of "Bagel Lancers."

Robert Gandt describes, with exacting detail, the airfields which housed the many different planes flown by this specialized squadron. He visited each of them and

spent considerable time doing his research chronicled in the extensive bibliography, which lists not only his sources, but also describes life after the war of many of those whom he wrote about in the pages of this epic tale.

What you will like best about this book is the manner in which history is interspersed with descriptive passages about air battles and bombing raids. How the ingenuity of some men in the acquisition of planes from Czechoslovakia led to the founding of the air force. Planes obtained from the United States government had their own unique acquisition.

No story about the foundation of the Jewish State would be complete without mentioning the various transporting of guns, ammunition, and crews that performed the day-to-day laborious tasks involved. These people are front and center, but one element not left out is that many of those who were a part of Angels in the Sky were not Jewish! They were patriots who felt the need to insure freedom to the people of Israel!

This is a FIVE Star book you cannot put down; highly recommended.
Clark Isaacs

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