

September/October, 2018

# *Affaire de Coeur*

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**Reviews!**

**Reviews!**

**Reviews!**



Meet Sarah Grimms

She ROCKS! <sup>R</sup>  
OCKS

WINNERS of the Cover  
Art Contest Announced!







*Sometimes  
being psychic is  
**murder.***

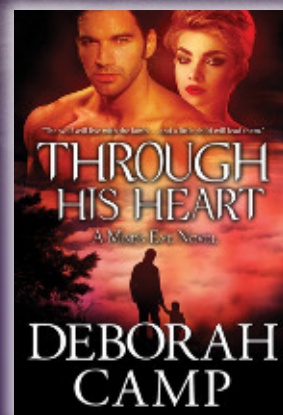
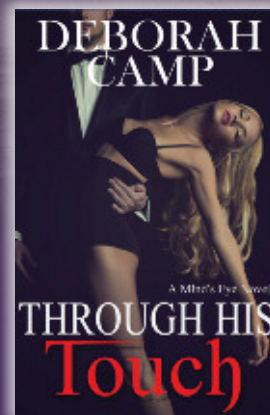
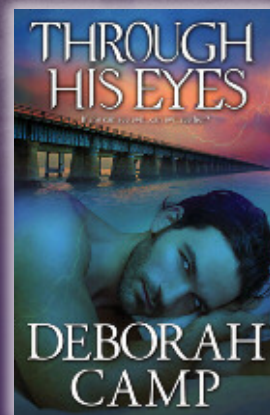
*Especially when you're  
one of the psychics on the  
killer's hit list.*

# THROUGH HER TOUCH DEBORAH CAMP

#5 in the Mind's Eye Series

*Available now on Amazon*

Look for the final book in the series -- *Through Her Heart* -- this fall!



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# How to Make More Sales at Book Signings

**B**ook signings or author/reader events can be pricey. Any business event where you want to sell merchandise will have out-of-pocket costs and that can add up. A decision needs to be made on whether or not the expense will be worth it for you.

Costs will add up. Hotel, food, transportation, event registration, marketing supplies, books for the signing, etc. Is it a reader or author heavy event? What do you want to get out of it? Regardless, you should leave the event with more knowledge than when you arrived.

That's a plus, always a plus.

An author heavy event is when more authors than readers will be there. For me, that's okay. I'm always open to meeting new authors and learning from them. Authors read. Most authors are willing to help other authors. They're willing to share their knowledge, their face-palm moments, and have fun too.

At an author heavy event, you can ask questions and learn. There will be readers there and you'll sell books at the signing.

Here's the plan: You've registered for an event weekend in September. There will be 200 attendees, including fifty authors and their assistants. Order what you need and want for marketing. Buy the books you'll need for the book signing. Sign half or more of the books in advance. Keep the same pen in the box with signed books, so they match when you add the reader's name. At the book signing, you can add the reader's name and not have to worry about signing yours. It's already done.

Pay attention to what's going on and the plans that are being made. Ask questions.

If there are goody bags being handed out, you need to decide if you'll be contributing to it. I don't recommend sending 200 bookmarks.

There are many things you can send. Pens, notepads, magnets with your book name on them, contact information, etc.

The meet and greet is on Friday. You're tired and it's been a long trip, but you must be aware of your presentation. It's so important for you to look like a professional. These are your peers and potential readers/buyers.

You aren't just trying to selling your books. You're also selling yourself.

If there is a speed-dating event or something similar, you should have something to give everyone you greet at the



table. Make sure it has the latest title of your book and your contact information.

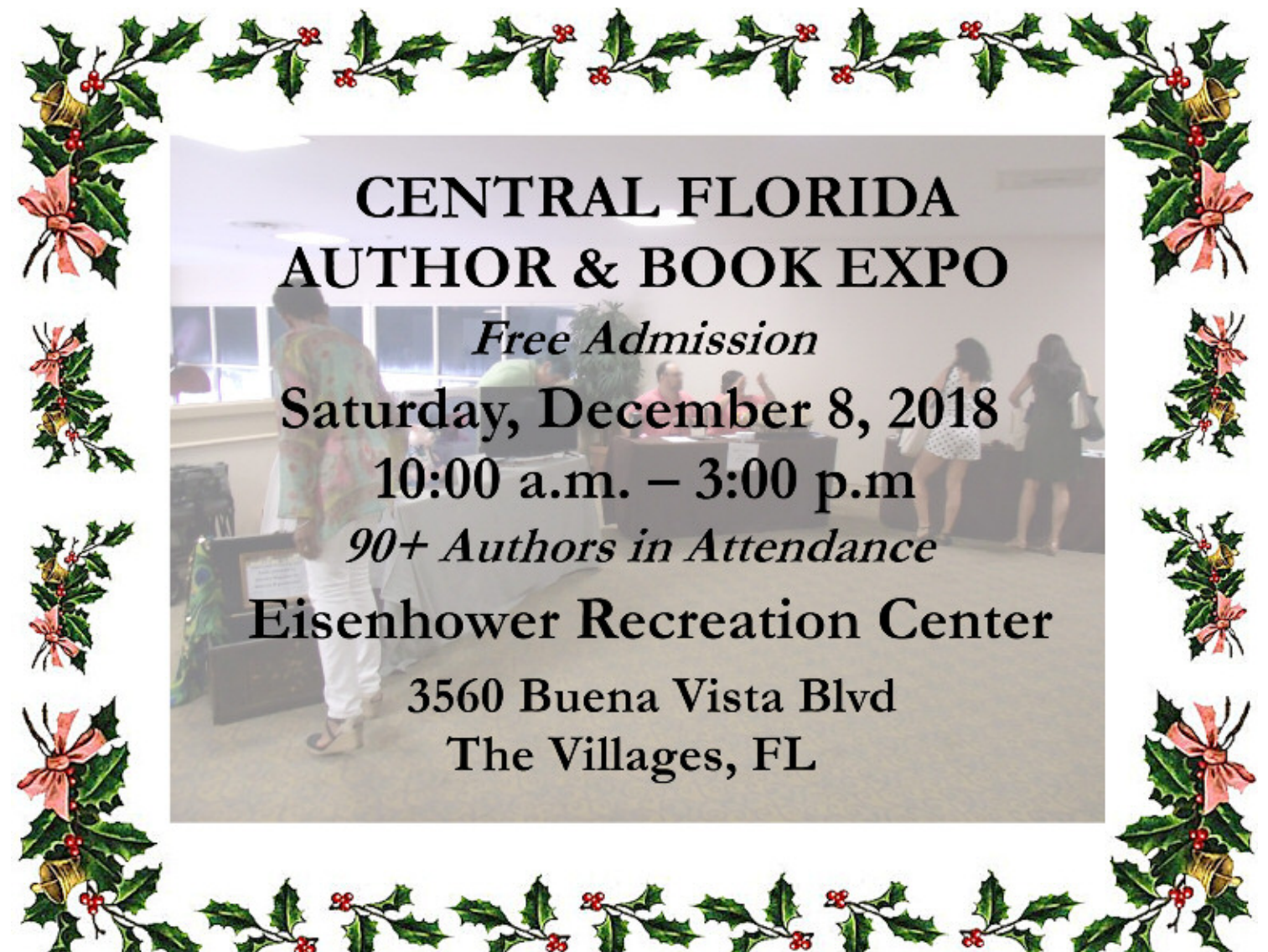
***“You aren't just trying to sell your books. You're also selling yourself.”***

Try to give them something they'll use. That way they'll see you and your name every time they use it.

Interact.

Speed-dating sets can go from two to four minutes, depending on how many people attend. Tell them quickly about your latest book. Practice what you're going to say the night before, or even a few days before.

Leave time to ask them questions. What do they like to read? Where are they from?



They're important to you. Without them what do you have? Thank them for coming and tell them you're glad to meet them.

Remember the big thing is to interact with the readers. You also have to share the table with another author(s), so don't take up her precious time. It's rude and inconsiderate to hog the time. Don't be pushy. Be gracious. If you find yourself taking control of the table make sure everyone gets to talk about their books and ask questions.

## At the book signing:

Be prepared and have everything ready. You'll need a cash draw for change, pens, books, bags, etc.

If you don't have a charge machine, find someone who does and make a deal with them. Offer to pay the charge fee for the credit card slides that you use. If they say no, don't worry about it. At the end of the book signing, if you've used their machine, buy one of their books as a thank you. Or give them one of yours.

You can also see if there's internet connection in the book signing room and have PayPal ready for purchases. Make sure you have bags to give the readers for the mer-

chandise. Have a piece of paper and pen on the table for the readers to sign up for your newsletter.

Dress appropriately. You're a professional and you need to dress like one. Don't look like you're hung over or just got out of bed.

Goodness, no gum chewing.

Make your table presentable to the reader. Picture how window displays are set up in your favorite stores, how pleasing and enticing they are for the shopper. That's what you want to do. Think about what you want the reader to see first.

Get to know your author neighbors on both sides of you and maybe even across the way. Find out what they write.

Most of all, and this is very important. Be friendly to everyone, authors, and readers.

Greet the readers who approach your table. I've seen authors at book signings where they barely acknowledge the reader. They sit there like queens and become unapproachable.

You want to be approachable. Smile. Stand up and greet them. Walk around the table so you're eye to eye. Ask

continued on page 27



## Spotlight Interview

USA Today Bestselling, award winning author of romantic suspense, epic, and historical fantasy romance is C.A. Szarek. C.A. loves to dabble in different genres. If it's a good story, she'll write it, no matter where it seems to fit!

She's a hopeless romantic and always will be. Risking it all for Happily-Ever-After is what she lives by!

C.A. is happily married and has a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. She works with kids when she's not writing.

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

**C.A.:** I don't remember a time when I didn't write. I was very young when I started, I think about seven or eight, and I started with poems, and branched out to novels when I was 14. I wrote one every year after, but the first one I finished was when I was 17. I'd like to do something with it someday, but it needs a lot of work!

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

**C.A.:** Oh, so so so much! I guess the most valuable/important thing is to listen to my subconscious. Especially when I'm stuck, with the dreaded writer's block. I've learned I'm just the navigator, the characters tell me what needs to happen in the story. It's a trip, but if I listen to the characters, it's a better story.

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

**C.A.:** I've rebranded and re-released my five-book romantic suspense series, and the new covers are GORGEOUS! I



C.A. Szarek

am super excited the series is revitalized. It's called "Crossing Forces," and it takes place in small town Texas. They're steamy and character driven, and I am currently doing audiobooks. Books one and two are out in audio, and book three will be soon! I have a duet, male and female doing them and they are AWESOME! There will be more books, as well.

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

**C.A.:** Everyone leaving me alone, LOL! I just need my laptop and my music and some alone time.

**AdC:** *How/where do you get your plot ideas?*

**C.A.:** Not sure. Everywhere and nowhere. I think inspiration comes from all sources. I don't think it's conscious for me. My characters introduce themselves to me. Then the story develops around that.

**AdC:** *What is the most difficult thing about creating and developing characters?*

**C.A.:** My characters generally "introduce" themselves to me, and as I write, the character becomes more developed. For me it has to be organic. So I don't think it's really that difficult. If I struggle with a story, it's not usually about the characters, it's more plot related.

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

**C.A.:** Sharing the stories and characters in my head. They're real to me, so when a reader expresses that they got some kind



of pleasure from one of my stories/characters, it's my favorite! I love sharing that kinda stuff with readers.

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

**C.A.:** Sixteen! I can't believe it! I write epic fantasy romance, historical fantasy (Scottish Highlander Time Travels) and romantic suspense. I also write other things, other genres that I'm not yet published in, but I will be. I can't seem to pick a lane.

**AdC:** *Will you be attending any book signings or conventions?*

**C.A.:** Yes! I tend to do several a year. My next event is the second weekend in November and is in the Dallas area. It's called Readers

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Sneak Peek

Collision Force

by C. A. Szarek

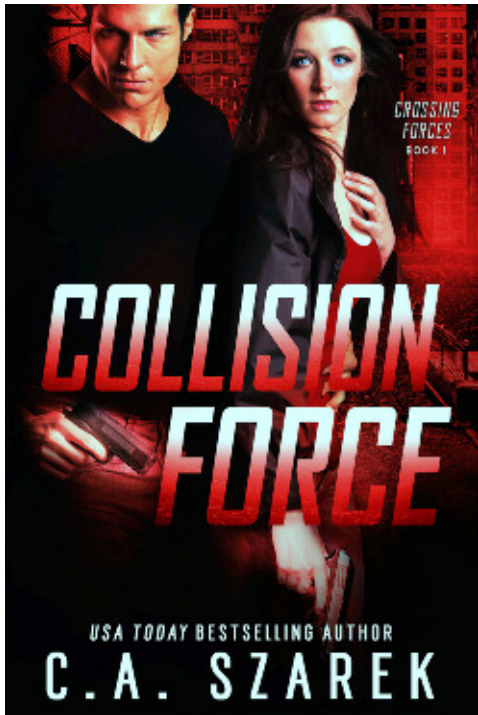
The last thing Andi needs is a cocky FBI agent.... Badboy FBI agent Cole Lucas always gets his man. So when the unthinkable happens and one gets away, Cole grits his teeth and hunts the human trafficker all the way to Antioch, Texas, where he collides with Detective Andi MacLaren. Cole doesn't do small towns and he doesn't get involved with women he works with, but Andi tempts him in ways he doesn't want to acknowledge.

Two murders, her partner shot and leading the investigation on her own, the last thing Andi needs is a cocky FBI agent that sees her as no more than a tagalong.

As a widow and single mother, she's used to being on her own. When Cole gets stuck without a place to stay, crashing on her couch puts them in dangerous territory. Attraction and passion bring Andi to a place she left behind when her husband died.

Her three-year-old son quickly wiggles his way into Cole's heart, and he starts contemplating .things— family, love—that he'd never planned for himself.

Can being forced to work together make them stronger or will their differences jeopardize their case and their hearts?



Sneak Peek

Excerpt: from *No Kissing Under the Boardwalk*

Barefoot William Beach, Fall 1999

“Oswald! That bikini top better have come from the lost and found at the lifeguard station.” Zane Cates’s words reached Tori Rollins across a wide expanse of sugar sand. His tone was stern, concerned, and directed toward a Dalmatian pup. She cringed. Scrunched her nose. She followed astrology. Mercury was in retrograde. She blamed life’s screw- ups, impacts, and aftershocks on the planet. Mercury could be a prankster. She’d been puppy- pranked.

A playful Oswald had tugged and stolen her polka-dot swimsuit top. She presently lay face-down on a beach towel on the smooth expanse of white sand. It was October, and the snowbirds had yet to flock south. She’d located a secluded spot and untied her top, not wanting tan lines. She hadn’t planned on falling asleep, but she had. Attending high school, then working the night shift at Zinotti’s Pizza, ate up her time, exhausting her. Saturday afternoon, and the warmth of the sun soothed. Had lulled her. One unexpected pull on her top from Ozzie, and it slid beneath her breasts before she could grab it. Gone.

Escaping puppy paws kicked sand on her Hawaiian Tropic– oiled arm. The roly-poly Dalmatian scampered off, with her top in tow. Tripping over the white on black polka- dot cups. Tumbling forward, nose in the sand, quickly recovering, then picking up speed.

Oswald. Zane’s sneaky pup. Spotted chaos. Notorious for his antics. Cute and conniving, Oz stole whatever he could wrap his little mouth around. Zane had yet to break him of the habit. Beachgoers lost Frisbees, flip-flops, paperback books, water bottles, whistles, and sunglasses to the scamp. Items Zane then apologetically returned to the owners. The Dalmatian had now gotten the best of Tori. Great, just great.

She desperately needed to cover herself. She hadn’t worn a T-shirt over her bikini top. So she grabbed a pair of cutoff shorts, white-seamed and fringed. She pressed them to her chest. Rolling onto her hip, she sat up. Wishing she’d come to the beach better prepared, she called after the pup, “Not funny, Ozzie. Stop!”

There was no stopping Oswald. The Dalmatian’s tail wagged as he scooted around the corner of the boardwalk. Disappearing. She sucked air. Set her jaw. Waited for Zane to

appear. He did within seconds.

Zane Cates was a presence unto himself.

His reputation preceded him. A good-looking guy, clean- cut, smart, athletic, friendly, and outgoing. Whereas she was aloof. Always kept to herself. It was a protective measure, taken to hide the fact that she was an outsider. Always had been. Her parents had difficulty holding jobs, which forced the family to relocate each year. She’d abandoned friendships with every move. There’d be no future attachments in the resort town. She did alone just fine.

He walked toward her now. He was careful where he stepped. Rambunctious Oz ran circles around his feet, nipping at his ankles. She took him in. A solid six- foot, broad-shouldered, bared- chest, wearing black board shorts. He was mature for eighteen. Confident. He recognized his place in life. The Cates name was well-known. His ancestry, deep -rooted. His great-great-great grandfather had founded Barefoot William. Zane had three brothers and one sister. All equally popular.

He soon reached her. His toes touched the frayed, faded edges of her beach towel. He had big feet. He towered over her. Casting shade. He twirled one strap of her bikini top around his finger. “This belong to you?” he asked, knowing the answer.

“See anyone else topless?” Her tone was dry.

He glanced over her shoulder. “Only you. Dogs aren’t allowed on the boardwalk and beach. We were coming from the dog park when Ollie got rowdy and slipped his collar. He ran to you, scored your top.” His sincerity was soon lost to his smile, which was broad and teasing. “Sorry, Tori.”

He knew her name. Surprising. They hadn’t been introduced. She eyed her bikini top. Held out her hand. “Mine. Give.”

“Yours in a sec.” He gazed at her, his dark eyes probing. “You’re new in town.”

Small talk? He had to be kidding. She responded, if only to get her top back. “I’ve been here six weeks.” Since the start of the school year.

He nodded. “Yeah, I’ve seen you around. You’re in my Honors English and World History classes.”

He’d noticed her. Unexpected. She’d given him the discreet side-eye. Not something she’d admit. Girls in the senior class were hot for him. He got a lot of attention. Her appreciation would mean little.

She wiggled her fingers. “My top.”

He held back still. For whatever reason, he was prolonging her unease, taking advantage of her situation. “So





Book Obsessed Babes Author Signing Event

March 9, 2019

St Augustine, Florida

Mark Lance Armory

Fun activities, games, give-aways  
and lots of books!

Facebook.com/groups/609015262803274

who’s Tori Rollins?”

She was far from special. She heaved a sigh. “What you see is what you get.”

He lowered his gaze to her chest. Gave her a hot look. “You’re more than a nip slip,” he teased.

A nip slip. She startled. Pale, hard-tipped, her right nipple peeked at him through the denim fringe. She didn’t embarrass easily. She hated the heat in her cheeks now. She quickly adjusted her cutoffs. Then eyed his board shorts. Stared at his groin. A substantial bulge. She was a virgin, but big was big. Her nipple turned him on.

“I like what I saw.” No shame whatsoever from Zane. Full smile and single dimple. He shook out his legs. Shifted his stance. Actually laughed at himself, deep and masculine. “Some things are harder to hide than others.”

Her throat had gone dry. Her palms were now sweaty. “My top,” she said insistently. More a demand than a request.

He released it.

She caught it.

“Privacy?” she asked.

He didn’t move.

# Rock with Sarah Grimm



Sarah Grimm is an award-winning contemporary romance author addicted to fast cars, reading and laughter. She lives in West Michigan with her husband, two sons, and three dogs and has a penchant for dropping F-bombs like the rock stars she loves to write about. Sarah can't remember a time when she wasn't writing. In fact, her siblings believe she began writing in utero to pass the time. As a child, Sarah wrote constantly, littering the house with bulging spiral notebooks and ignoring the ribbing of her mother and sister who routinely said 'romances?' in a somewhat scornful tone. Sarah believes in love, not just as a fundamental part of human relationships, but as a force that can heal emotional scars. She truly believes someone exists for each of us—a person we are destined to find. Our other half. A soul mate. The road to happy-ever-after isn’t always an easy one, so when you pick up one of Sarah’s books, expect her characters to have to earn their happy ending.

Sarah is a member of RWA and NINC. She loves to hear from her readers. You can find her on Facebook, Instagram, Google+, Twitter, Goodreads, and Pinterest. Contact information: SarahGrimm.com @SarahGrimmAuthor

SARAH GRIMM

Rockin' Romance

WWW.SARAHGRIMM.COM



Announcing: the *Affaire de Coeur* 2018 Cover Art Contest

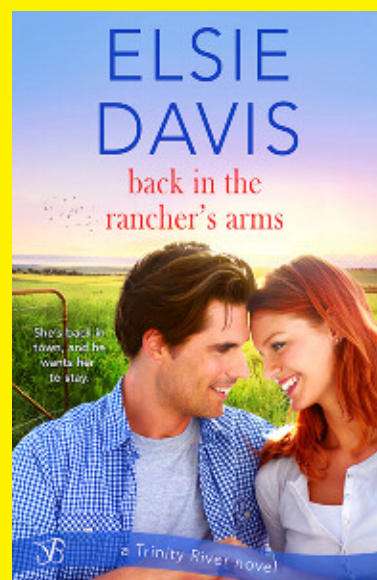
# Winners

## First Place

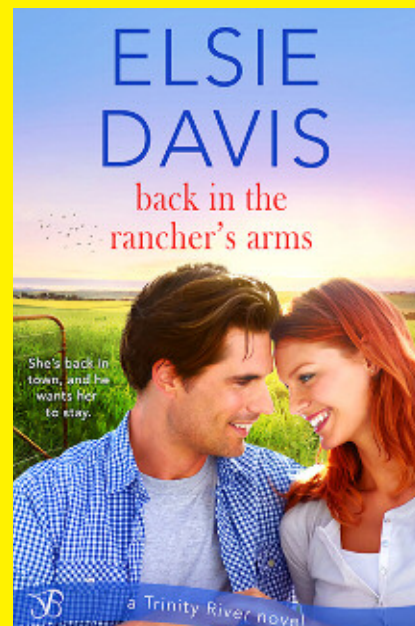
Category: Almost a Kiss



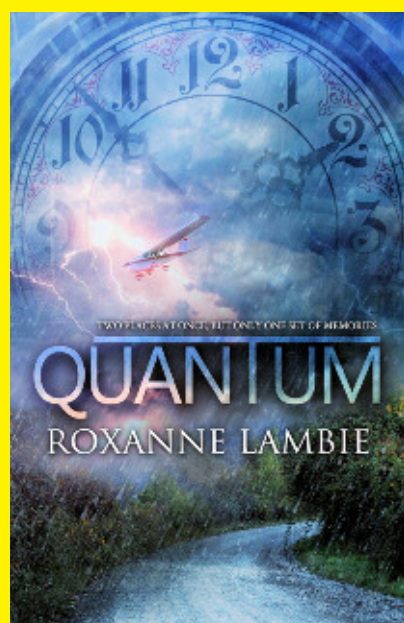
Category: Gorgeous Gals



Category: Hot Guyz Patrol



Category: Uniquely Yours



## Second and Third Place Winners

Category: Almost a Kiss



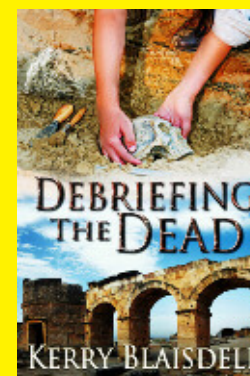
Category: Gorgeous Gals



Category: Hot Guyz Patrol



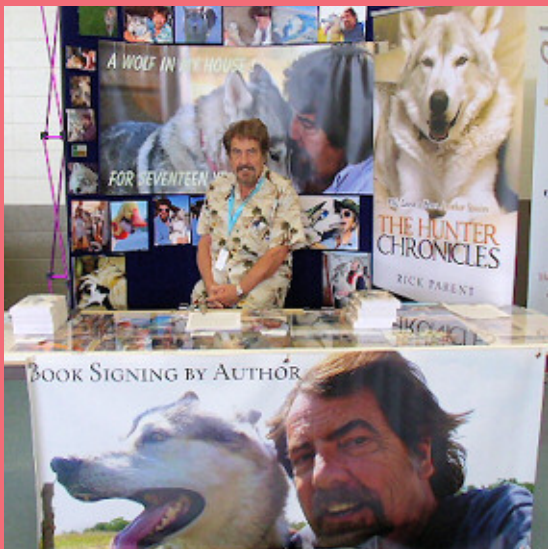
Category: Uniquely Yours





# East Texas Book Bash--Book Signing Event

Harvey Hall in Tyler, Texas, East Texas, Hosted by Laura Folkes Goff



Rick Parent



Cheryl Lynn Dyes and Johnny



A TIME TRAVELER'S JOURNEY

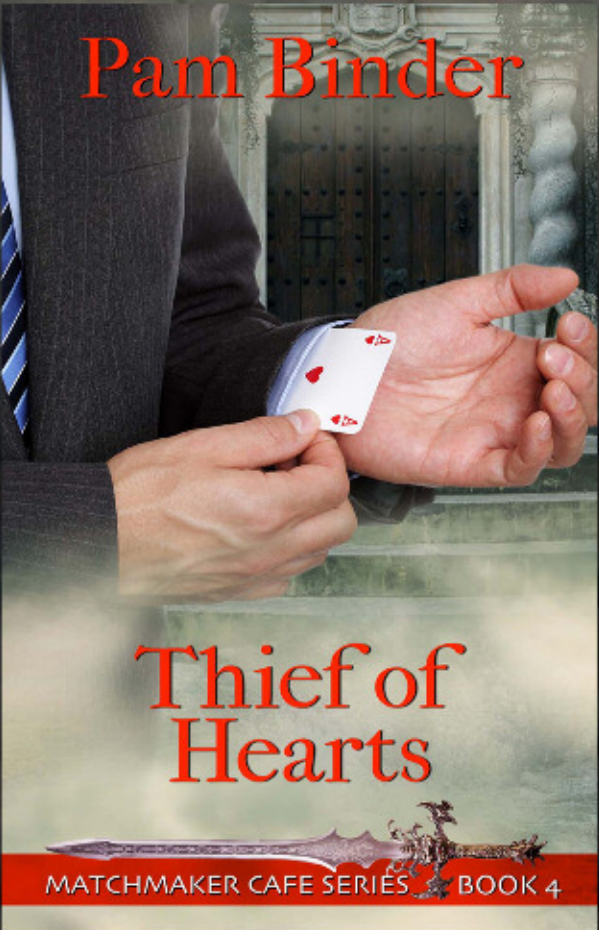
Kathryn Hills

*Time is but a destination.*

## Hellfire and Handbaskets

When the past comes searching for you,  
there's no escape.

KathrynHills.com @AuthorKathrynH



Thief of Hearts

Pam Binder

When Genevieve Grey discovers that the famous—and deliciously handsome—Hunter Longfellow is tracking down a story but needs a girlfriend for an undercover assignment, she jumps at the chance.

He claims it could be dangerous. She doesn't care.

Will the story threaten not only her life but her heart as well?

PamBinder.com  
@PamBinder183



Author, Jaime W. Powell

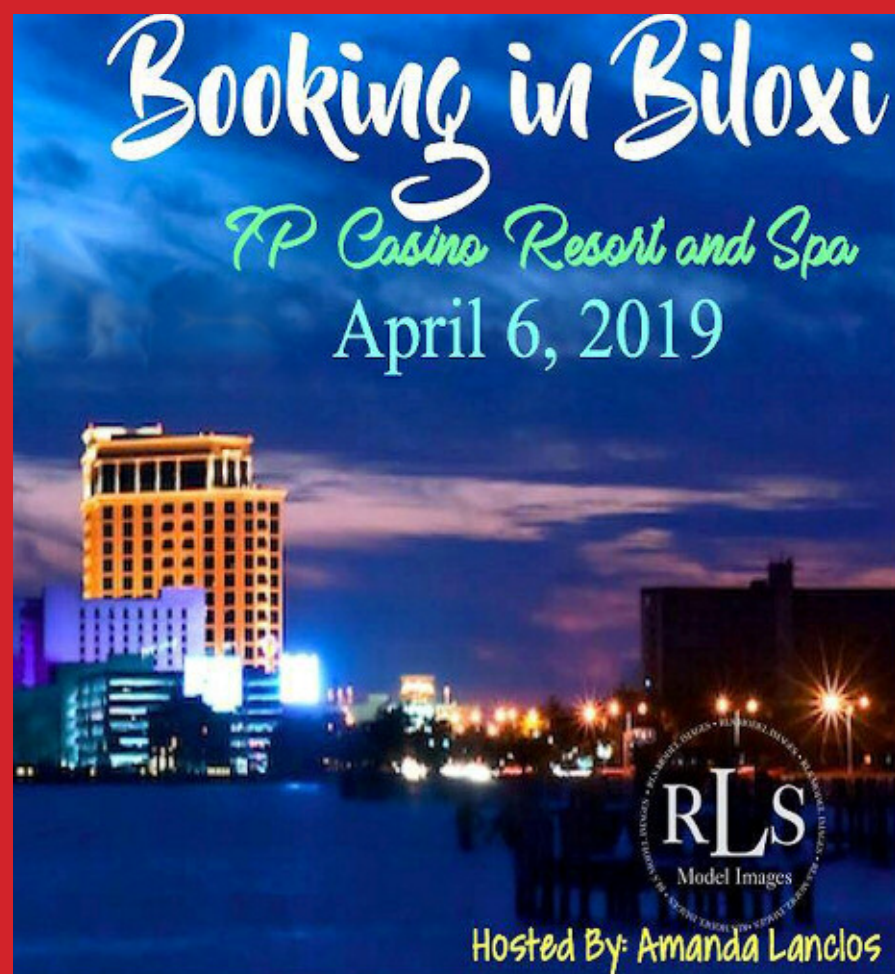


Hostess, Jasmine Lee



Alyssa Bailey





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.

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## October Fun and the Writers Who Keep it Scary

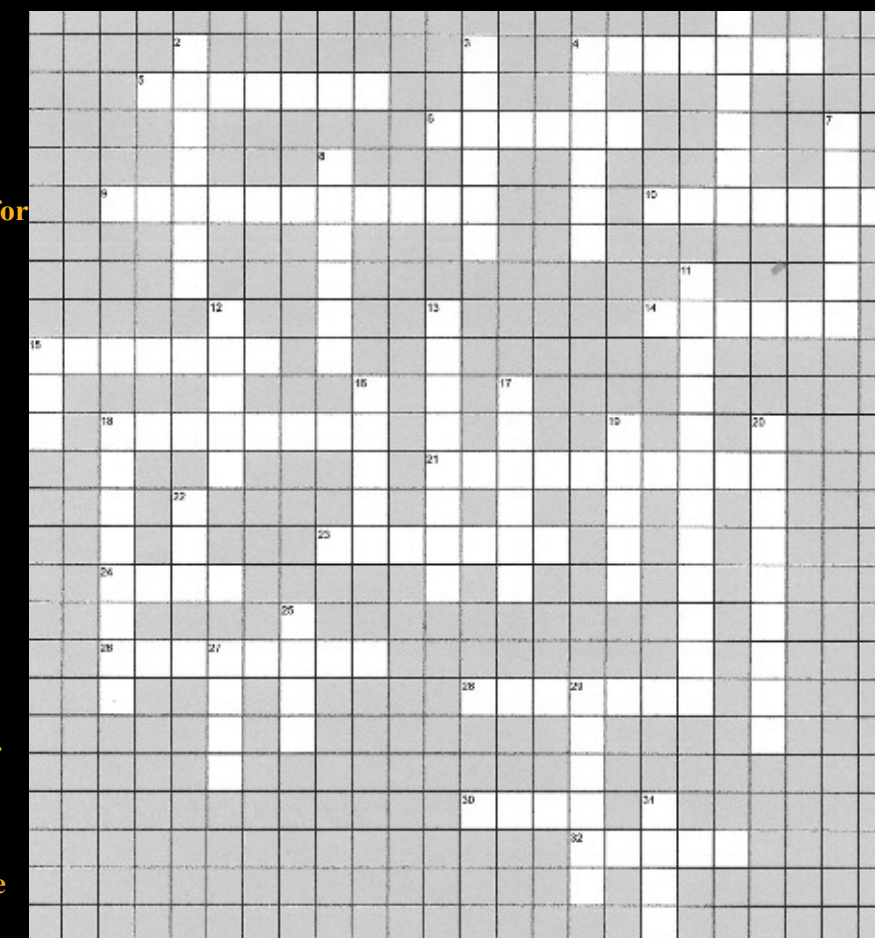
### Across

4. The male witch.
5. Most popular type of party in this season.
6. The only NFL team named after a horror writer's poem.
9. This celebration began in Germany.
10. Many celebrations are related to the crops.
14. Wrote *Books of Blood*
15. The most popular vegetable of the season.
18. Sport of Boys of Summer who play championships in October.
21. Newspaper comic character who smokes a cigar, guzzles beer and chases men.
23. Created *Frankenstein*.
24. Most popular alcoholic drink of the season.
26. The Mother of Gothic
28. Wrote "The Lottery."
30. Candy of the season.
32. \_\_\_\_ or treat!

25. She conducted an *Interview with a Vampire*.
27. The dog of horror.
29. *The Demon Seed*
31. The most popular writer of horror since the 1960's.

### Down

1. Wrote *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*.
2. 1962 dance introduced by Bobby Picket for Halloween, the \_\_\_\_ Mash.
3. He wrote *The Exorcist*
4. \_\_\_\_ Woman was the most popular costume of 2017.
7. He's the friendly ghost.
8. Wrote the *Legend of Sleepy Hollow*.
11. Decorated pumpkin.
12. Most popular non-achololic drink of the season.
13. This popular sport starts in the fall.
15. Probably the most famous horror writer of them all.
16. *Psycho*
17. Early writer of *Dracula*.
18. Creator of *Star Trek* and some horror lit.
19. Movie starring Swazy, Moore and Goldberg.
20. October 31st
22. Contemporary African-American female writer of horror, Tananrive \_\_\_\_.



Author, David Miller



Authors, L.M. Mann (l) and C.J. Peterson (r)





## Contemporary Romance Reviews

### Aloha Cowboy

Lexi Post

Self Published

Trade Paperback

978-19490070503

★★★★

Why did temptation have to come in a sixfoot, brown-haired cowboy with the nicest smile and the biggest heart?

Lord and Leah Pennington share more than just a last name; they share a desire to escape, one from being only known for their family name and the other from a past they would rather forget. The chemistry between them grows with each passing day, but when a little white lie causes a rift between them, these lovers are left with a choice--give up and move on or to forgive and take a chance on love and a lifetime of adventures.

*Aloha Cowboy* by Lexi Post is a beautiful sweet romance with just enough heat to make this the perfect beach or pool side read! Highly recommend!

*Sharing what I love,*  
Veronica

### The Christmas Wishing Tree (Eternity Springs - Book 15)

Emily March

St. Martin's Press

Mass Market

978-1250131720

★★★★

All Reilly Stockton wants for Christmas is a daddy. All his mom, Jenna, wants is for her stalker to go away. It begins with phone calls and escalates. On New Year's Eve, Jenna's door is kicked in and Reilly's hurt. 911 received a call saying a child was in imminent danger at their address. This leads to their first move. But soon the harassment begins again and Jenna and Reilly move for the second time.

While visiting his parents in Eternity Springs, Devin Murphy's phone rings. A boy asks if he's Santa. Devin doesn't want to break a child's heart on Christmas Eve, so he says yes. "Santa" and Reilly talk frequently over the next few days. So do "Santa" and Reilly's mom. An attraction develops. Then Devin returns to Australia and the calls stop.

*Affaire de Coeur*

### Defensive Instructor

Debra Parmley

Belo Dia Publishing

Ebook

B07G33G1ZK

★★★★



Chyna Taylor was on a bus running away to a hideway and a new life where she would learn how to live without fear--a real fear that her ex, Phineas Robbins, and his cousins would find her and bring her back. Finn believed no women had a right to divorce him. She sees him in her mind stalking her, but is relieved when her ride to the very out-of-the way Three C's ranch arrives at the bus station.

The Three C's mission was to protect women from abuse and train them to be able to fend for themselves. She was fortunate that she was able to sell her house and could afford to go into hiding. She meets others at the ranch with similar problems and is paired up to train in self-defense, surrounding awareness, and gun handling, along with counselors to help change their mindsets toward a better life. Barrett Williams is one of the defensive instructors at the Three C's. He used to be a Green Beret. After he left the army, he found a positive use for his special skills. The Three C's ranch was just what needed; he liked helping those who needed the skills to carry on, and he could provide those skills. A complete professional, he finds himself taxed when he realizes Chyna is more than just another patron. As they work together in training, he withholds the building feelings he has for her. Chyna is beginning to notice him as well, but she still worries, as her ex is resourceful. A chance meeting in town confirms all her fears when she escapes Robbins' grasp with her newly learned skills. Finn, not to be deterred, calls his three cousins and discovers the hidden ranch.

*Defensive Instructor* moves well. The characters are well defined, and readers can feel Chyna's trepidations as a victim who has not been able to leave a bad situation even after the divorce and putting distance between her and Finn. The author has done well to portray the seriousness and feelings in this abusive relationship. She's made it easy to put oneself in the head of someone with this type of distress so that others will understand as well.

*Lauren Calder*

Jenna and Reilly are preparing for Valentine's Day when their door's kicked in again. They go off-grid. Jenna and Reilly land in Eternity Springs. They run into Devin and Jenna quickly realizes he's "phone Santa."

Jenna has hired private investigators before, but Devin's friends have better connections. One's even a

former spy! Jenna and Reilly won't be safe until the stalker's captured. But how can Devin stand by and watch the woman he loves being used as bait?

This would've been a better book if the stalker's identity wasn't so far-fetched.

*Sheila Griffin*

*Affaire de Coeur*

## Contemporaries

### Daredevil's Mistress (Fire & Ice Book One)

Charlene Namdhari

The Wild Rose Press, Inc.

Ebook

9781509221073

★★★1/2

Sheltered, inexperienced, Samantha Harman longs for freedom from her controlling and overbearing South African father who is determined to marry her off. A summer visiting her best friend is the perfect escape. Her father forces her agreement to an arranged marriage in exchange for traveling to Arizona.

At the ranch, Samantha experiences an intense attraction to her friend's brother Cody Bentley. They are fire and ice from first contact. Their chemistry and interactions are charged and nicely developed. Samantha is smart, independent, strong willed, and knows herself and what she wants for her life.

Cody is a driven, muleheaded, workaholic, control freak completely focused on running the family ranch and taking care of his younger siblings. Abandoned by their mother at a young age and betrayed by his first love, Cody deeply mistrusts and harbors bitterness toward women. Because he is so deeply drawn to Sam, he takes his anger and pain out on her. Cody's determination to believe the worst about Sam is aggravating.

*Daredevil's Mistress* is an enjoyable, steamy, angsty, and drama-filled Harlequinesque romance that readers who love multicultural romance and feisty heroines who aren't afraid to stand up to cold, dominating control freaks won't be able to resist.

*Lacy Hill*



## Love, Lust & Life

Tiffani Lynn

Self Published

E-book, Kindle Edition

B01NCJIG04

★★★★★



Chicago native, Lizzie Martinson is tired of always having to prove herself to her affluent family. Seeking a getaway from always being known as one of “the Martinson’s,” she heads to Miami where she meets Beckett McGregor, a contractor from what her family would consider the other side of town.. Throwing caution to the wind, Lizzie escapes into the arms of this handsome man who shows her loving like no other. As with all good things, Lizzie’s vacation comes to an end, and she must return home with only her memories of a magical time spent with a man who loved her and not her family’s money.

When Beck shows up knocking on her door asking to give them a chance, Lizzie is happier than she ever dreamed possible. But even the best of dreams can transform into nightmares. Can these two lovers from opposite sides of the tracks survive the prejudices of their families? Or will their love be doomed from the start?

*Love, Lust & Life* by Tiffani Lynn is a story similar to that of Romeo and Juliet--two people desperately in love but constantly fighting their families to stay together. I devoured this book and can’t recommend it enough! To the moon and back I loved it and didn’t want it to end!

*Sharing what I love,*  
Veronica

## Maybe for You (Whiskey and Weddings Book 3)

Nicole McLaughlin

St. Martin’s Press

Mass Market

978-1250140029

★★★★ 1/2

Shortly before her deployment to Italy, Alexis Parker’s fiancé was killed. While there, she begins texting her brother’s life-long friend, Jake Cooper. Maybe it’s because they’re not face-to-face or maybe it’s because they won’t see each other for a year, but Alexis tells him about her battle with depression.

Alexis’s tour of duty ends and she returns home. Soon Alexis will be starting a fantastic job out of state. Until then she’s hanging out with Jake, the PR guy for a whiskey distillery. Part of his job involves traveling to festivals and handing out samples. Alexis decides that sounds like fun. Jake’s loverboy ways have caused some trouble in the past, so a chaperone for him isn’t a bad idea. But it turns out that Jake’s not the person who needs one!

Alexis isn’t ready for a relationship, but she just might be ready for a fling. Jake’s a love-‘em-and-leave-‘em kind of guy, and Alexis is leaving in a few months. What could be better? Then the rules change. The two begin to fall in

## Contemporaries

love. Can Jake ask Alexis to give up her dream job? Can she trust that he’s ready to settle down with just one woman?

This is the continuation of a series. It can be read alone. It’s a typical boy-meets-girl story.

*Sheila Griffin*

## Second Chance at Two Love Lane (Two Love Lane Book 3)

Kieran Kramer

St. Martin’s Press

Mass Market

978-1250111081

★★★★

Ella Mancini and Hank Rogers were struggling actors when they began dating. Well, he was struggling. She was doing pretty well. In fact, Ella was offered a part in a film in Australia which would take her away for months.

Ella knew if she took it, Hank would be even more discouraged. Ella was in love; so she turned it down. The next day, he was offered a role in a movie shooting in Hawaii for three months. Hank accepted it and broke Ella’s heart.

Ella hasn’t seen Hank in ten years except on the big screen. The Hawaiian movie led to bigger projects. Now he’s a star. Ella owns her own business and does some community theater. Does she sometimes wonder what would have happened if she’d taken that role? Sure. But Ella’s happy. Then a movie starring Hank is scheduled to shoot in her town.

Ella gets a small role in the film. Proximity revives old feelings. But how can Hank ask Ella to leave everything she loves and follow him from one location shoot to the next?

## The Soul Shaker

(Alpha Aviators Book 4)

Tara L. Ames

Self Published

Ebook, Kindle Edition

B07FC5CZC4

★★★★★



Hometown hero, Tory Nolan has one dream to become a Top Gun aviator. Rather than try to keep up the long distance relationship with his high school sweetheart, Gwen Ivey, Tory opts to break it off with her over the phone with no explanation beyond his need to focus on completing his Top Gun training and becoming the best of the best.

Heartbroken, but still so in love with Tory and wanting his dream to come true, Gwen hides the fact that she is pregnant with his child. She knows that if she tells Tory, he will quit his training and come back to ranch life and most likely grow to resent her and their child for costing him his dream. So rather than tell the truth, Gwen starts a rumor that she cheated on Tory to hide from him and the community the father’s identity. But life in a small town becomes hard on Gwen especially when labeled a cheat.

About eight years pass, and a family emergency brings Tory back home. He has never gotten over the hurt Gwen caused him with her cheating, but once he sees her, old habits become hard to break. Gwen and Tory find themselves back to being friends and lovers. But Gwen’s lie has left her with a secret that she must share with Tory and pray it’s not too late for him to forgive.

*The Soul Shaker* by Tara Ames is a story of young love of broken hearts of second chances and of happily-ever-afters! While this is the fourth installment of the “Alpha Aviators” series, it can be read stand alone. Highly recommend!

*Sharing what I love,*  
Veronica

Ella wonders if she can trust Hank or if he’ll put his career ahead of their relationship again.

This is the continuation of a series. It can be read alone. There’s a subplot of a woman under a curse that saves this from being a typical boy-meets-girl story.

*Sheila Griffin*

## Vendetta (An Eve Duncan Novel)

Iris Johansen

St. Martin’s Press

Hardcover

978-1250075871

★★★★

As CIA agent Carl Venable lays dying, he tells his associate, Jude Brandon, that terrorist Max Huber is responsible. Venable and Brandon have been trying to destroy Huber for years. Venable says that

## Contemporaries

the key to taking down Huber is Venable’s daughter, Rachel.

Rachel is a doctor with a humanitarian group. She’s in a neighboring village treating a little girl and preparing to evacuate. Rachel hears the evacuation helicopter explode and gunfire coming from the compound! She tells the girl and her mother to hide in nearby caves and that she will find them and finish the treatment later. She runs to the compound. One doctor is missing. Everyone else is dead. Brandon shows up to rescue Rachel. She refuses to leave until he agrees to take the girl, her mother and the missing doctor to safety. If Brandon rescues them, Rachel promises to help him destroy Huber.

The CIA has received credible intel that Huber is preparing to change the CA coastline forever. Brandon, Rachel and several of her old friends must stop Huber. Meanwhile, she finds herself falling for Brandon. But can Rachel love a man who lives in the shadows just like her father did?

Eve Duncan’s friends and associates appear in this book, but she does not. Although part of a series, it can be read alone. It’s a very good book.

*Sheila Griffin*



## Contemporaries

### The Woman Trapped in the Dark

JD Mason

St. Martin's Press

Trade Paperback

978-1250052278

★★★★

Jordan Gatewood is a very powerful man with one weakness: Abby Rhodes. An enemy of over thirty years has hatched a plan for revenge, which involves hitting at Jordan through his love for Abby. And a woman who has never felt helpless, finds herself trapped in a small room, at the mercy of kidnappers who may or may not let her live when they get what they want. Jordan will give up everything to get her back, but will he have the time to find and rescue her?

*The Woman Trapped in the Dark* is fast-moving

suspense with a love story at its center. The characters are all multi-faceted and well developed. Abby is a strong woman who finds herself a victim but is determined not to submit to despair or her captor's whims. Jordan is a man who has climbed to the top through less than savory means, but his love for Abby makes him want to be a better man. The secondary characters, including the kidnappers, are also given depth.

This is contemporary African American fiction that will appeal to readers looking for a meaty suspense story with interesting characters and who like a bit of nighttime soap opera drama.

*Danielle Hill*



## Historical Romance Reviews

### First Earl I See Tonight (Debutante Diaries #1)

Anna Bennett

St. Martin's Press

E-book

B079DTVYVM

★★★★



*"Sometimes love is measured in altogether different ways like shared secrets, understanding smiles and reassuring touches..."*

The Earl of Ravenport, known by his friends and family as Gray, is a powerful Earl and future Count, but in name only. Unfortunately, his coffers are all but empty, and his family estate is crumbling down around him. His goal is to bring *The Fortress* back to its original grand splendor for his grandmother's sake, and his reputation be damned.

Fiona Hartley's family is rich as Midas, but since they've earned their money rather than been born with a

title, they're not easily accepted among the *Ton*. Fiona loves her family more than anything. When she receives a blackmail note demanding money or a dark family secret will be revealed to all, Fiona will stop at nothing to pay off the blackmailer. Desperate for funds, Fiona pens a letter to the Earl of Ravenport propositioning him to a marriage of convenience. This will allow Fiona to gain access to her dowry to pay off the blackmailer and give Gray the much needed funds to repair his estate.

Gray can't believe the boldness behind Fiona's proposal. Vowing to never love or be loved, he invites the Hartley's and his closest friends to a house party at his estate in hopes of scaring her away. As the days go by, he's slowly realizing that there's so much more to Fiona, and she may just well be the one to melt his frozen heart.

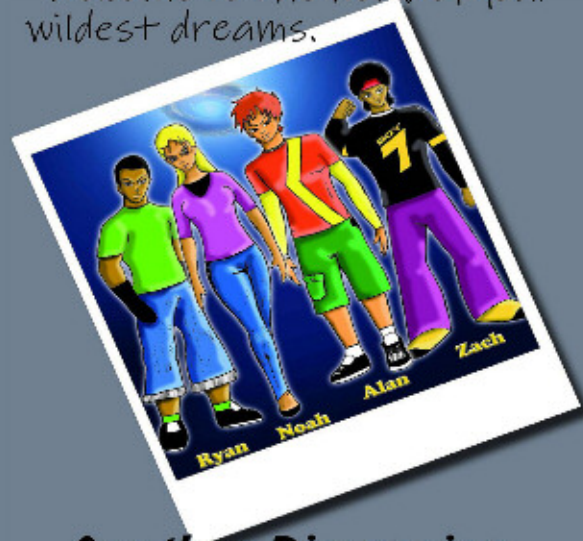
*First Earl I See Tonight* is the first book I've read by Anna Bennett, and I absolutely loved it! Once I started, the pages flew by, and I couldn't put it down. Highly recommend to lovers of historical romance, and I look forward to reading more from this author!

*Sharing what I love,*

*Veronica*

*Affaire de Coeur*

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Available in print and Ebook

## Historicals

### The Good, the Bad, and the Duke ( The Cavensham Heiresses -Book 4)

Janna MacGregor

St. Martin's Press

Mass Market

978-1250295972

☆☆☆ 1/2

Lady Daphne Hallworth is in the park when her reticule is stolen. It contains Daphne's journal. If the contents of the notebook are made public she and her family will be ruined. Daphne follows the thief to a gambling hell. Before she can stop the boy, Daphne is spotted by one of her brother Alex's former friends, Paul Barstowe, the Duke of Southart. The men had a fight years ago and haven't spoken since. Alex consid-

ers Paul the worst sort of cad.

Paul knows he must get Daphne out of the area before her reputation is ruined. Paul assures Daphne he will retrieve the journal. But she cannot leave well enough alone. Daphne returns to the gambling hell time and time again. At one point Paul saves Daphne from discovery by kissing her senseless. The kiss ignites feelings he has never known before. But Daphne's family will never accept Paul. She doesn't care. Daphne is willing to risk everything for their love. Now if only she can convince Paul to take the risk too.

This is a continuation of a series. While it can be read alone, the relationships between the various family members of the main characters will be less confusing if one has read the previous books. People who like predictable historical romances, will enjoy this book.

Sheila Griffin

## Paranormal Romance Reviews



### Ache (Hellish #6)

Charity Parkerson

Punk & Sissy Publications

B07DZM9BC

☆☆☆☆



*"Before you, my life was split between being controlled by other people or being trapped in my loneliness. I don't think you realize how much meeting you has given me. You're my personal miracle."*

The Hellish Clan is a centuries' old vampire pack that hunts and destroys demons that threaten the human race. In the sixth installment of the "Hellish" series, Tamil, a powerful shape shifter that has been demon touched, has been given sanctuary. Tortured and abused by demons in the very pits of Hell, Tamil has never known kindness nor love, but that has not changed the

purity of his soul. Riskel sees the light hidden within Tamil, and is drawn to him. When he realizes he has found his true blood mate, Riskel will fiercely battle any who would cause Tamil harm. But when the demon that owned and tortured Tamil for years rises from Hell to reclaim his property, Tamil is forced to make a choice--allow the Hellish Clan to fight or to sacrifice himself to save his beloved Riskel.

*Ache* absolutely gutted me. Ugly tears were a-flowing while reading Tamil's and Riskel's story. With each installment of the "Hellish" series, we, the reader, are drawn in to a world where the monsters aren't always hiding under the bed, sometimes they live within our darkest memories and sneak out to scare us in our dreams.

If you are a lover of M/M romance with a paranormal element, I highly recommend this series!



## Paranormals

\*Readers' Note: This is Book 6 in the "Hellish" series. I do not consider these as stand-alone books and recommend they be read in order.

*Sharing what I love,  
Veronica*

### Another Dimension: The Ultimate Almagam

*Margaret Newmeli*  
Self published  
E-book  
B076HZXX5N  
★★★★★

Alan, Noah, Zach, and Ryan had dreams of going to space. Sneaking onto a rocket ship before liftoff, they soon discovered their plans had gone awry. Instead of going to the space station like they'd believed, the teens ended up going out into unknown and undiscovered space where they landed on a world of super heroes, with comic book and cartoon characters.

Then, the trouble began and the teens were thrown into controversy and danger.

In a unique script-style type of writing, the author sets the reader up for a wondrous adventure. This is a good read for young adults who love science fiction and fantasy.

*Lauren Calder*

### The Glow in the Woods (Cedar Creek #2)

*Violet Howe*  
Self-Published  
Kindle Edition  
B07GTQZ3DX  
★★★★★



Rachel Graves has had a very long day. Being a nurse and working long shifts, she's in no mood to hear from her husband calling her at work from a bar drinking with his buds. But if she had only known that Vincent's drunk dial would be the last she would speak to him...that is until she begins to see a glow in the woods.

Certain that this is Vincent's way to contact her from beyond the grave, Rachel hires private investigator-in-training, Sloane Reid. Desperate to have someone listen to her story without judgment, Rachel tells Sloane her theory. But Sloane has a secret of her own: This former Hollywood scream queen has not only seen, but spoken to, a ghost. As the mystery of the glow in the woods unfolds, Rachel and Sloane discover a secret that may very well cost them their lives.

*The Glow in the Woods* is a suspenseful mystery that includes romance and a wee bit of paranormal tossed in to make it a fantastic read! I loved and highly recommend it!

\*Readers note: To enjoy this story fully, I recommend reading the first installment, *The Ghost in the Curve*.

*Sharing what I love,  
Veronica*

### Dark Water

*Tricia Tyler*  
Entangled Publishing LLC  
Trade Paperback  
978-1640636767  
★★★★★

There is an evil lurking in the depths of the Louisiana Bayou...something that is hunting and brutally murdering women. Evangeline Broussard, a powerful psychic, has been asked to assist the local police to help find the killer before he strikes again.

Special Agent Nick Garrison feels that using a psychic is a waste of resources, and their time would be better spent hunting down an actual suspect rather than consulting a crystal ball. But as the killer continues to taunt the local police,

and the body count rises, Nick realizes he's going to have to put his prejudices aside and take a leap of faith in believing in Evangeline... before it's too late.

As a reviewer, I always find it difficult to write up a proper one for mystery stories. One never wants to give too much away and spoil the suspense for others. So, I will leave it at this...Dark Water is a well-written romantic suspense/paranormal story fans will devour! Within these pages lies a mystery filled with intrigue, paranormal elements, and a romance as hot as its setting. I highly recommend it, and with this being the first book I've read from this author, look forward to reading more!

*Sharing what I love,  
Veronica*

## Paranormals

### Hellfire and Handbaskets

*Kathryn Hills*  
The Wild Rose Press  
E-Book  
B07C1DMDFT  
★★★★1/2

Amelia Pennington was the daughter of the Pennington family. Although their family was known for their generosity and open-minded beliefs, Amelia felt trapped by Boston society. She had dreams of becoming a doctor. Unfortunately, that wasn't for respectable ladies in the 19th century. Attacked by her professor who was after her rune stone, she'd barely gotten away from him. At first, she thought it was a nightmare, a hallucination. As she sat in the ER, disoriented and not knowing where she was, reaching for a doctor who would help her, she found Dr. Rick Hauser, a combat veteran, now working at Massachusetts General.

Rick's work kept him grounded. He wasn't sure what was going on, but he knew this woman was about to up-end everything he'd been working toward.

*Hellfire and Handbaskets* is a pure and entertaining time-travel romance. The intriguing journey between past and present opens a magical mix from this talented author. A must read!

*Kitty Lane*

### Under a Celtic Moon (Blood Moon Magic Book 2)

*Kellee Richards*  
Self-Published  
Trade Paperback  
978-0463623817  
★★★★★

Daegan Scott, a powerful warrior who just happens to also be a Scottish vampire, has been harboring a deep hurt for centuries after his blood mate, an Irish fire witch named Ahnya O'Faelain, leaves him without word or reason. When the Fates put them in each other's path once again, Ahnya's and Daegan's all-consuming passion for each other erases the years apart, and Daegan threatens all that would separate them ever again. But when a mysterious and powerful being from

Ahnya's past shows up, Ahnya must tell all her secrets and pray to the Goddess that all will be forgiven.

Kellee Richards has weaved a magical story told under a Celtic moon, showcasing the miracle of true love enduring all things. The chemistry between Ahnya and Daegan is so hot, you'll swear that the little fire witch has cast a spell on you! With each installment to the "Blood Moon Magic" series, the author leaves you hungry for more! *Under a Celtic Moon* can be read as a stand-alone, and there are no cliffhangers.

This addictive paranormal romance comes highly recommended from this reviewer!

*Sharing what I love,  
Veronica*

### How to Make More Sales.. (cont.)

read what your neighbor writes? Tell them. Bring them to the table and introduce them. They will appreciate it. They'll remember how gracious you were, and the author you send them to will think you rock!

If you can, discount your books or merchandise. Who doesn't love a bargain? When they buy one of your books, ask them how they want it signed, and make sure you have their name spelled correctly. Ask. Even if it's a normal name, you never know, it could be spelled very differently than you expected.

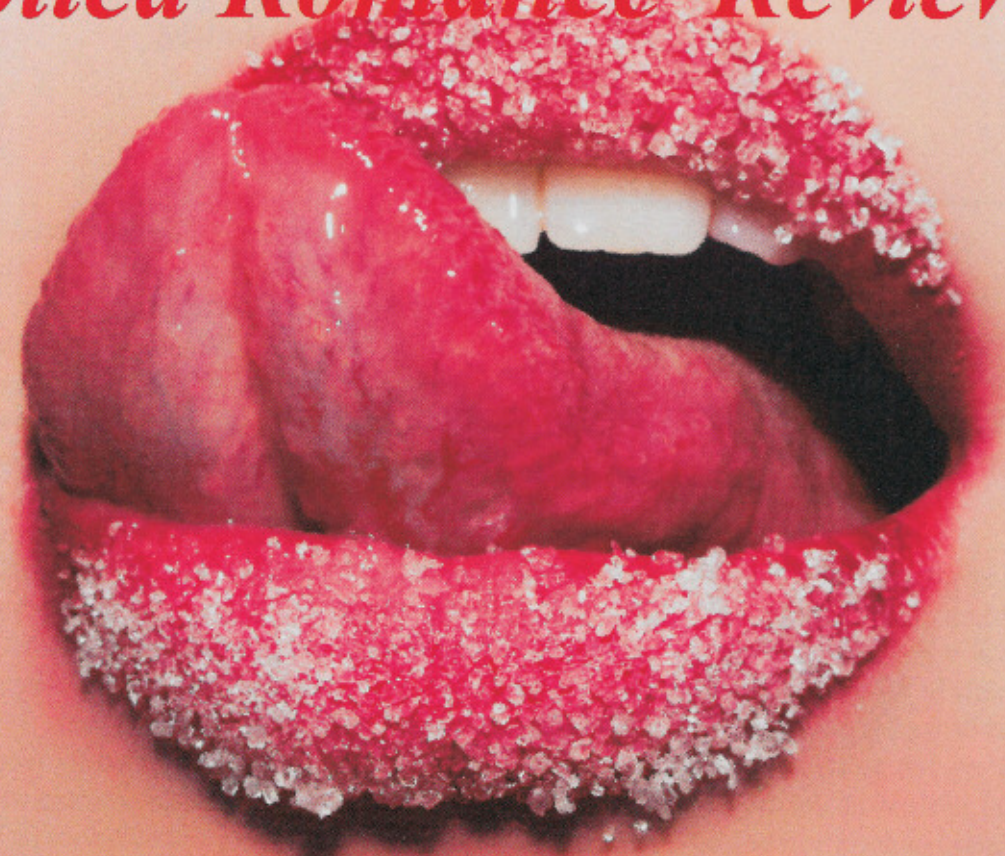
Give them a bookmark with the book you signed for them and a pen if you have extra. Readers love goodies.

Make sure they walk away from your table with a smile.

Pamela Ackerson works for *Affaire de Coeur* in the marketing and advertising department. She's an international best-selling author of historical fiction, non-fiction, and time-travel books. Look for her non-fiction release, *Be More Successful with Marketing and AdvertiZING* available in print and ebook. Website: PamelaAckerson.com Twitter: @PamAckerson



# Erotica Romance Reviews



## Naughty Librarian: A Naughty Novella

Tara Vasser

Winter Musings LLC

Trade Paperback

978-1947882195

★★★★1/2

*“You’re too nice of a guy for a girl like me.”*

Some rules are meant to be broken, and when bartender Vanessa hooks up with Mick in the \*gasp\* restroom of her workplace, she knows she’s about to break her number one rule “one night, no attachments.”

Fate has a way of bringing these two together, and slowly Mick begins to melt the ice around Vanessa’s heart. But Vanessa is headstrong and determined not to get her heart broken...no matter how naughty the librarian may be...

Wow! This quick smexxy read was a thrill from page one! I highly recommend it and can’t wait for the next installment in the “Naughty Novellas” series from Tara Vasser!

*Sharing what I love,  
Veronica*

All work and no play  
make Jade a dull girl.



GayleLeeson.com  
@GayleTrent



## A Very Merry Murder (A Professor Prather Mystery -Book 3)

Mary Angela

Camel Press

Trade Paperback

978-1603816557

★★★

In the midst of the end of the semester craziness, all college professor Emmeline Prather can think about is a kiss, the one she got from co-worker Lenny Jenkins several months ago. Sadly, there have been no repeats. Sure, Lenny is super busy establishing himself on the tenure track, but if he were interested in Emmeline, wouldn’t Lenny make time for her? As the students prepare for their finals, the music department is planning a holiday performance by a jazz quartet. Lenny has been friends with the group’s pianist since they were kids. She invites him to perform with them during the concert.

At an open house for the quartet and the music faculty, Miles, the leader of the quartet, is persistent in his pursuit of Emmeline. She rebuffs Mile’s advances, but his come-ons become progressively more aggressive. Finally, she pushes Miles away. He literally drops

dead.

Since Emmeline was the only one in the room when Miles died, she’s a prime suspect. To satisfy her nosiness and keep her neck out of the noose, Emmeline sets out to find the real killer. Motives abound: clandestine kisses, muffled arguments, professional jealousy and, that old standby, financial gain.

This is the continuation of a series that can be read alone. The solution to the mystery comes completely out of left field. This makes for a disappointing story.

*Sheila Griffin*





# Booty from the Other Genre



## Dead If You Don't

Peter James

Macmillan

Hardcover

978-1509816361

★★★★★



*Dead If You Don't* is part of a series involving the exploits of Detective Superintendent Roy Glass. Other titles in this series are: *Like You Dead*, *Want You Dead*, *Not Dead Enough*, *You are Dead*, etc, 14 books in all.

In *Dead If You Don't* Roy Glass has his work cut out for him. Starting out, a man named Kipp Brown reports to the police that his son Mungo was kidnaped at a stadium. One moment he was there, and the next he was gone. About the same time the stadium gets a bomb threat. Pay up or else. You will never find out what seat the bomb is hidden under.

The story becomes more and more complex. We find out that there was not kidnaping. Mungo set the whole thing up because he hated his father. He though his father was mean. But shortly thereafter, he gets kidnaped for real, and he may die if a ransom isn't paid.

As I said, Roy Glass has his work cut out for him. He and his team have to solve multiple problems at the same time. He has to catch a bomber and a kidnapper. Are the same people involved? One thing is for sure. He is running out of time. If he is too late, many could die.

This story is fast moving and very well done.

Paul Zunino

## Quiet Strong

Cynthia Byrd Conner

Let it Flow Publishing

E-Book

B079LH9V4T

★★★★

*Quiet Strong* follows the life of Sherman Byrd as he grows up during the prevalent Jim Crow years in Mississippi. His encounters with both blacks and whites who must follow the rules or be punished, shows the reader the true struggles of prejudice in his time just after the WW2, and the difficulties of coping under such pressure. The promise of a better life comes to him when he connects with a navy recruiter. The recruiter sees his potential and gives him a direction in the navy. Sherman's struggles with prejudice continue in each step of his career, to which he completes most of the time with quiet resolve and his faith. The story referred to this method throughout the book as his source of strength. Eventually, he finds that he

## Booty from the Other Genre

wants to be a navy diver, and enters a field dominated by a clique of the best in the navy, who don't perceive him to be of the same cut of cloth. The story shows the emotions and their differences, and the success of perseverance on Sherman's part.

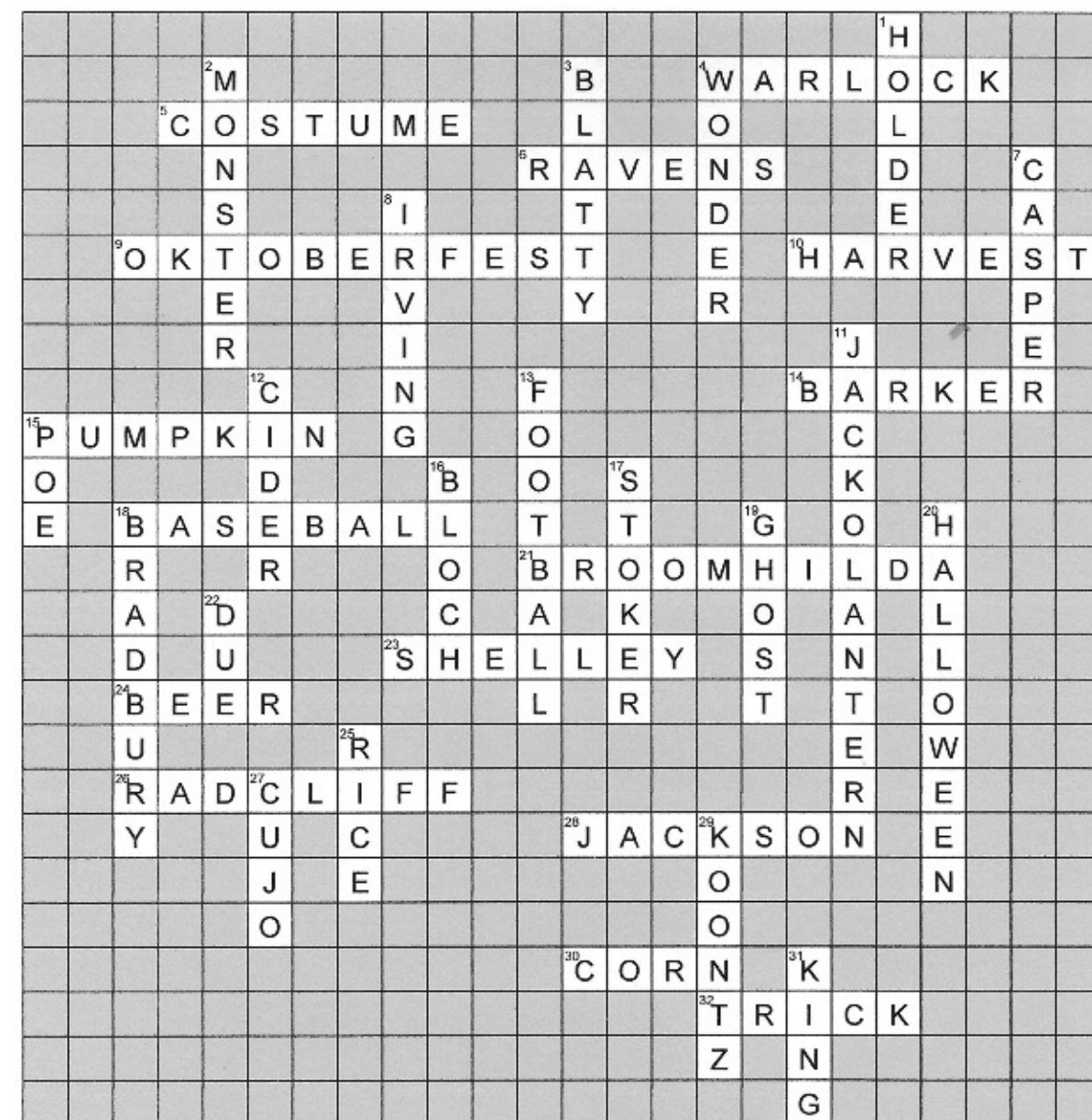
Eventually, he and his comrades see eye-to-eye and he proceeds to the explosive ordinance department (EOD) where he shows a keen interest and excels. Handling nuclear devices, he's involved in a critical moment where he's assigned with the recovery of a lost

nuclear torpedo.

*Quiet Strong* reads easily and moves ahead at a fair pace. It gives an accurate description of the methods and requirements of the way the navy does what it does. The story delved into Sherman's head quite a few times to his *Quiet Strong* in order to cope with the daily issues of being where he wasn't appreciated. The book's inspirational and informative and this reader cannot wait for the second and third of the trilogy

to come out.

Lauren Calder





# Young Adult Reads!



## Flip the Beat

Roxanne D. Howard  
Boroughs Publishing Group  
Kindle Edition  
B07F91975X  
★★★★1/2

*“This is what she’d imagined love felt like. Raw, consuming, tender.”*

Molly Ivers has mapped out in her mind what the ideal man would be like, and rock star Evan Castle is not it. But there is just something about him, and a night of passion turns into so much more.

Evan becomes her friend, her lover and the man who promises to make all her dreams come true. But can Molly let go of her idealist image of her perfect man and give Evan the chance to be more than just a friend with benefits? Or will she let her perceptions of Evan’s rock star life cost her a chance at true love?

Roxanne Howard has written a romance with everything you could possibly want in it...friendship, humor, sex and love! I most highly recommend *Flip the Beat* and look forward to reading more from this author!  
*Sharing what I love,*  
Veronica

## Who Were the Tuskegee Airmen?

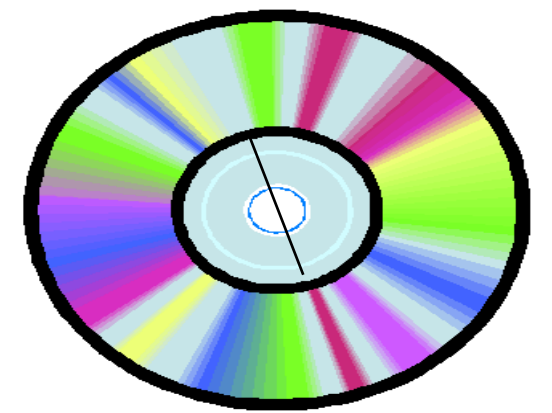
Sherri L. Smith  
Penguin Random House  
Trade Paperback  
978-0399541940  
★★★★★



US Airman Larry Fleischer flew bombers during WWII. His plane had been badly damaged and he and his crew needed to find somewhere to safely land. As he desperately searched the Italian countryside below him for anything that looked like a landing strip (even if it was in German hands), he suddenly saw, not only an airstrip, but an entire base suddenly appear! He knew it wasn’t an American base because he had a list and a map of all the bases in the area, but he had no choice but to land. Imagine his surprise when he and his crew got out of the plane and found American planes lined up along the landing field and black men coming out to see if they were all right! Who were these guys and where did they come from? And why was their base a secret? Meet the Tuskegee Airmen.

As a direct descendant and an historical presenter of Tuskegee Airmen, I have to say that Ms. Smith has done one of the most outstanding jobs of explaining who the Tuskegee Airmen were, how their existence came about and the trials and tribulations that they had to go through that I have ever read. And it’s all done in simple explanations for young people who have no concept of what Jim Crow laws or true segregation is all about. I have to say, Ms. Smith definitely did her research before writing this book and I, personally, think they should be in every elementary and middle school in America. A job well done, Sherri!

Lani Roberts



## AUDIO BOOK REVIEWS

### The Barefoot Summer

Carolyn Brown  
Brilliance Audio

8 CDs

Read by Donna Postel

978-1531868871

★★★★1/2

Three women, one husband, and a moving story about friendship and recovery from heartache. Kate Steele knows her dead husband Conrad was a con man, but she never imagined that he would leave behind two other wives and children before he divorced her. The cabin they bought in Bootleg, Texas, is the one place she wants to keep, but the other wives have the same idea. Jamie wants the property for her daughter and herself, though she wishes Conrad was still alive so she could kill him herself. Amanda, on the other hand, is grieving the loss of the love of her life Conrad who left her pregnant at the age of 28. When all three women arrive in Bootleg at the same time, there is also a devoted detective on their tails, sure that one of these women is his killer.

The Barefoot Summer is one of the best books I have read this year. Carolyn Brown knows how to keep the reader engaged with her brilliant characters, and descriptive prose. I loved this book from beginning to end, getting to know each of these women as well as the

secondary cast of characters that contributed to the story completely.  
Lettetia

### Come Home to Me

Liz Talley  
Brilliance Audio

9 CD’s

Read by Shannon McManus

9781543671483

★★★★

*Come Home to Me* is an emotionally charged book that is sure to please readers of romance and those who love Women’s Fiction.

Summer, Rhett, and Hunt have been connected since they were kids. They each have their own issues, some that have been dealt with and some that have not. Each is flawed but fully redeemable, and each feels like a real person that I have met at one time. I was completely drawn in from the opening chapter and was rewarded with many twists and turns that kept me guessing. Liz Talley is an author I am happy to recommend.

Lettetia



Audio Book Reviews

Raine Miller  
Brilliance Audio  
7 CDs  
Read by Jeremy York and Sienna Frances  
978-1531837358  
☆☆

Opposites attract in this novel by Raine Miller when privileged billionaire, Caleb Blackstone sees Brooke Casterly and is filled with the need to possess her. Brooke doesn't want love, and she doesn't trust Caleb or his type.

It was very hard to make it through this book, as it was so full of "F-Bombs." I lost track of the story so many times, distracted by the language. Here's a clue from this reader; you don't have to use the "F" word to have a good story. Caleb's and Brooke's road to romance could have been more enjoyable to me, had I not had to hear so much cussing. *Lettetia*

A Glimpse of the Dream  
L.A. Fiore  
Brilliance Audio  
9 CD's

Read by Cris Dukehart and Will Damron  
9781491598504  
☆☆☆½

Two abandoned children Teagan and Kane are living in a world of loneliness and fear until they form a friendship at an estate called Raven's Peak. Then, as the years pass, their bond grows stronger.

Prior to Teagan going off to college, they become engaged and made promises for a life together. When she returns home, it is to find that Kane has moved on with someone else.

Reeling from unbearable heartache, Teagan cuts ties with everyone she holds dear. Will she move on with her life, or will she choose to fight for the only person she has ever loved?

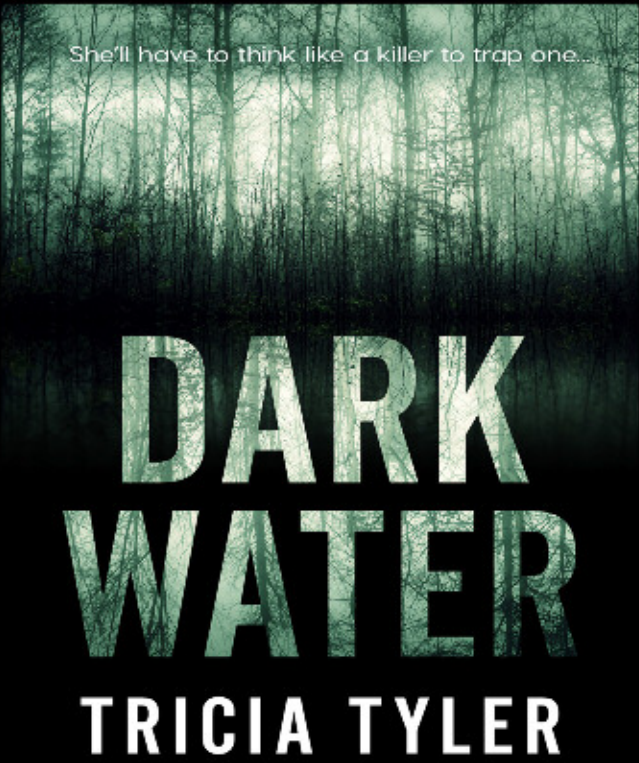
L.A. Fiore has penned a magnificent story of love and loss, of pain and sorrow, and the lives of two wounded souls that touched my heart. The characterization was brilliantly developed, drawing me into their lives from the beginning. I laughed with them, cried for them, and rejoiced when I felt the need. I started listening to this audiobook in my car, then couldn't not listen once I got home until I finished the entire 9 hours. The voices of Dukehart and Damron brought the characters' voices and emotions to life. I am a new fan of this gifted author. *Lettetia*



Late Reviews

(Those that sent too late to make the last issue.)

Sexy, Sassy, Romantic Suspense with an Edge



Nick Garrison's opinion of so-called psychics is carved in stone, as well as on his heart, which puts his best friend's little cousin squarely off limits.

But when Evangeline Broussard's supposed sixth sense puts her in the crosshairs of the killer, she's the only one who can save them all.

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Set the Night on Fire  
Laura Trentham  
St. Martin's Press  
Mass Market  
978-1250131300  
☆☆☆☆



Ella Boudreaux was starting over. After finally divorcing her abusive husband, she had taken her impressive real estate and financial skills (that had made her husband rich) and struck out on her own. She had money, thanks to her divorce, and an impressive portfolio. So, when the opportunity came up to buy into a local car garage, she jumped at it. She knew nothing about fixing cars, but the acquisition of it had struck a childhood memory chord. Her late brother loved working on cars, and she bought into it in his memory. Little did she know that her buying the 25% of the Abbott Brothers Garage would almost start a war between her and the remaining 75% owners of the garage!

Mack Abbott was beyond furious when he found out that his brother Ford had sold his part of their father's garage to cover some outstanding gambling debts. Unfortunately, he didn't have the cash available to purchase the 25% himself to keep it in the family. When the young lady in her sophisticated clothes and

high heels got out of her tiny convertible and announced she was a part owner of his family's garage, all he could see was red! As far as he was concerned, Ms. Ella Boudreaux would never be a part of their garage, even if she had legs that went on forever and caused his lonely, hurting heart to beat a little faster every time he saw her.

Set the Night on Fire is a fun, contemporary small Southern town romance that will make your heart feel good from the start. Set in Cottonbloom, Louisiana/ Mississippi (the Mississippi River runs through the town, splitting the town between the two states), it covers the gamut from spousal abuse, deep family divides over misunderstandings, small town Southern charm and hospitality and overcoming fears of rejection, all of which are neatly rolled up in a sexy romance between the two antagonists. Ms. Trentham covers all the aspects of living in the South—the marvelous food, the rivalry between the two halves of the town, the concern about the citizens who are in need of help, even the Abbott cousin of “a darker tone” who is unconditionally accepted by everyone without question regarding his origins. I loved this book and can't wait for the next in the series!

Lani Roberts



