



RIZONA AUTHORS ASSOCIATION

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Issue 16

Arizona Authors Association

October-November 2021

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President's Corner by Toby Heathcotte

Hey Members,

Compared to this time last year, we're humming along with the contest, the literary magazine, and the banquet. I'm so glad people are trying to stay healthy during the pandemic.

Congrats to Jane Ruby and all the judges for getting the contest materials in on time and submitting all those qualified to make the finals. It was more work than in previous years due to more entries, particularly in the published book categories.

This year, we broke children's literature into two categories, Children's Picture Books and Juvenile/Young Adult. We also added an Oldie But Goldie category. It seems we'll be able to maintain all three categories in the future, to make our contest even better than before.

We had 25 judges, an amazing number with so many members actively involved in helping the association pull off this feat once again. We can't thank them enough, because there would be no contest without them. We honor the judges by including their photos and bios in the literary magazine. The *2022 Arizona Literary Magazine* is in process. Connie Osterlitz is helping this year. The magazine is larger, too, because of the additional categories.

Congrats to all the finalists – they all are winners. I know it will be fun to celebrate them in person at the banquet this year. The theme for the literary magazine and the banquet will be, "Those were the days, my friend." You will want to participate this special year, which will include last year's winners for twice the prestige of our usual banquets.

continued on the next page

President's Corner, continued

Think of a time or place in your life or the life of a character in the past, or the life yet to come. Come in a costume depicting the same. Creativity in costumes is limitless with this theme. Choose any time or place, past, present, future – real or imagined. Costumes are not required but they make the event far more fun for everyone.

Banquet plans include toasts, book lottery, costume prizes, awards for both years, speeches by winners, photos, and magazine sales. You are invited to wear a covid mask if you like, or other masks with your costume as you desire. We want everyone to feel safe while having fun.

Both the *2021 Arizona Literary Magazine* and the *2022 Arizona Literary Magazine* will be on sale at the banquet. They will also be available for sale on Amazon afterward. Still \$10 each, one of the best values around. Find details about the banquet on page twelve of this newsletter.

See you soon, hopefully at the banquet.

The fall season is finally here with all my favorite holidays and events. Happy Halloween and Happy Thanksgiving!

Yours excitedly,

Toby

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Community Garden,

Cottonwood Arizona

Photo by AAA member

Sharon Sterling

Vocal

Mike Rothmiller suggested an authors' site called Vocal. It's been a while since we promoted that site, so we'd like to offer it as a great medium for both budding and established authors. Open a free account and start writing on any subject. Many authors love it as a launching pad towards wider recognition for their work. A short article or blog is a good way to get started. Just go to [VOCAL](https://vocal.com) and open your free account now.



Doe Outside Home in Yuma, AZ

Photo by AAA member

Sharon Sterling

Arizona Authors Association Leadership

Board of Directors:

President.....Toby Heathcotte
Treasurer/Literary Contest Director.....Jane Ruby
Secretary/Editor.....Kathleen Cook

Unless expressly stated, Arizona Authors Association, including its newsletter staff, neither endorses nor takes responsibility for the opinions expressed in this publication.

Editorial correspondence and newsletter submissions may be emailed to:

faerland@yahoo.com

All other inquiries should be sent to:

Arizona.Authors@yahoo.com

Literary Trivia

(Answers on the Back Page)

1. In 1849, this famous author was sentenced to death by firing squad. At the very last minute as he waited to be executed, the sentence was commuted. Who was he?
2. The subtitle for this famous science fiction novel is, “*The Modern Prometheus.*”
3. This book about fly fishing, brothers, war, and love was written by Norman Maclean and made into an award-winning movie directed by Robert Redford.
4. Which Russian author refused the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1958, for fear of arrest by the Russian government? In 1989, his son finally accepted it in memory of his father.
5. This famous Scotsman wrote most of his epic poem, *Marmion*, while riding horseback.
6. What is the name of Merlin’s owl in the book, *Once and Future King*?

For more trivia, go to:

Kidadl.com

It’s not too late to pick up your copy of the 2021 Arizona Literary Magazine, on sale [HERE](#)



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\$10

Arizona Authors Association

Current Benefits and Submission Guidelines

Membership Benefits

The Arizona Authors Association offers several valuable benefits to our members. This newsletter provides you with a bimonthly guide to workshops, events and activities, many of them free or low cost, designed to hone your skills as a writer. In addition, both our blog and our newsletter offer advice, suggestions, and insight to reinforce your expertise.

The yearly Literary Contest furnishes an opportunity to showcase your work and the possibility of earning prizes that will enhance your reputation as an author. Do you have an older book that never got the recognition it deserved? Our new “Oldie but Goldie” category offers a chance to relaunch and renew interest in it. We also offer online book fairs or other events through our Zoom account. Advertising under the Arizona Authors Association banner allows you to promote your work and increase your visibility with a minimum of expense and effort.

I hope you will take advantage of the newsletter to report your accomplishments. Our “Congratulations” page is designed to applaud your efforts and inspire other members. We also welcome your input on anything author related, such as your own literary news, useful tips, helpful websites, etc. Ask questions that will be answered in the next issue. Together, we will all benefit from the combined knowledge of our diverse membership.

Lastly, one of the biggest benefits of your Arizona Authors Association membership is the ability to reach others with your book releases and advertisements. At present, members may submit a quarter-page ad for author-related services without cost. Books released within the previous six months (or about to be released) will receive a free, full-page ad.



Submissions to the Newsletter

Your input is welcome! The following categories accept submissions through midnight on the **15th** day of odd-numbered months. Send all entries to: faerland@yahoo.com.

Features are generally between 800-1200 words (lengthier or shorter submissions will be considered). We seek articles that motivate and inspire writers, enhance their skills, assist in promoting their works and more.

What Are You Reading? asks members to share their current reading material in 200 words or less. Tell us why you like or dislike a book (written by anyone except yourself). This will help other members in their quest for new reading material.

Road to Imagination seeks finished works of 800 words or less based upon the previous issue's story prompt. **Back Page Quotes** seeks jokes or quotes (200 words or less) on the foibles of writing, editing or publishing. We also need Arizona landscape **photos**, as inspiring space fillers for our newsletter. If we use them, we'll credit you. Please be sure to state in your email that you took the photos.

If you published a book within the last six months, share it with the Arizona Authors Association Newsletter. We'd love to advertise it in our next issue. We will also list any upcoming book-related events, meetings, workshops, book sales, book signings, etc., across the state or in nearby regions as space permits. If you offer editing, proofreading, or other literary services, submit a quarter-page ad with us, currently without cost to members in good standing.

Send your articles in Word, Notepad or Wordpad format. Articles will be standardized to a Times New Roman 11pt font. Pictures may be gif, png or jpegs. Send large pictures, if possible, (no less than 2"x4") since we can shrink any picture without losing quality, but small pictures cannot be enlarged without deterioration. Note that all submissions are subject to light editing/proofreading. You will be informed in advance of publication if extensive edits are needed.

Thank you!

Recent and Upcoming Events

RECENT

The Desert Sleuths [Write Now! Conference](#) was held September 10-11. The guest of honor was Ann Cleeves, an award-winning author of crime novels including *The Heron's Cry*. The conference took place online, due to covid19, and featured workshops, interviews, and more.



Award winning author, consultant and advocate Patricia L. Brooks, MAOM, was featured in a podcast on Recovery On-Air September 17th at the Dave Pratt studios in Scottsdale, AZ. Patricia was interviewed with her three memoirs that delve into her stories of love addiction, domestic violence, grief, and

38 years in recovery from alcohol. Patricia is the president of the Scottsdale Society of Women Writers and Brooks Goldmann Publishing LLC To learn more about her and her books click [HERE](#). You can find her podcast interview, episode 18, on the Recovery On-Air website by clicking [HERE](#).

UPCOMING

Patricia L. Brooks, author, consultant, advocate, will be speaking on Saturday, October 2 at 10:30 am MST, on a virtual Zoom call to the Denver Writers Club on marketing strategies for authors. Her talk is entitled [Marketing Plans Made Magical](#). For more information contact Patricia by email at patricia@plbrooks.com or text 480-250-5556. Her three memoirs and other talks are featured on her website:

www.brooksgoldmannpublishing.com

Do you enjoy learning about military blunders and mess-ups that occurred throughout history? Are you writing a book that might benefit from such knowledge? The Maricopa County Library District is hosting an online event called "Military History Blunders" on October 4th. Find out more [HERE](#).

The Maricopa County Library District has a venue for veteran authors to share their stories. In October, they will interview US Air Force Captain Dr. Adam McCray. If you miss the October 1st live showing, you can watch it at any time during the month by clicking [HERE](#).



Marilyn June Janson M.S. Ed. CEO of Janson Literary Services, Inc. is offering her literary expertise to both new and veteran authors.

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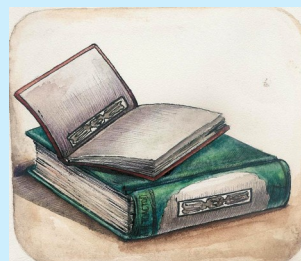
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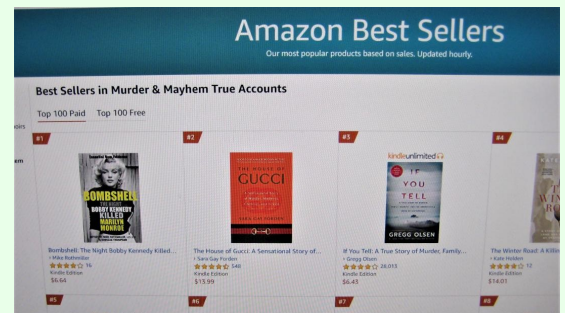
Have questions? Ask Marilyn @ janitserv@cox.net, www.janwrite.com, or call her at 480-699-6389



Congratulations to Our Members



Mike has wildly surpassed last month's successes with his release, [*Bombshell: The Night Bobby Kennedy Killed Marilyn Monroe*](#). In the past month, he has appeared on Australia's *The Today Show* for a 10-minute segment on the book. Germany's version of *Entertainment Tonight* traveled to Prescott to interview Mike for their program. He's been interviewed by media outlets from Britain, Ireland, France, and a host of podcasts and other shows. The foreign language rights for Polish, Hungarian, Czech, German, etc, have been secured by Mike's publisher. *Bombshell* is number one in category in France and Australia. The book continues to sell at the top of the charts in many locations, and Mike has been nominated for a Pulitzer Prize.



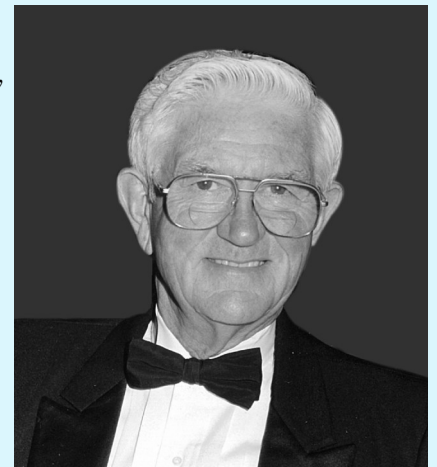
Four of Mike's books are on Amazon's best seller list, including his [*True Crime Chronicles*](#), books one and two, which were published in 2020.

To find out more about Mike, click [HERE](#).

Arizona Authors Association member Jack Hawn has recently signed a contract with a publisher to publish *Insomnia: Two Wives, Childhood Memories and Crazy Dreams*, a memoir of his life and adventures from the 1930s to the present. At 91, Jack is still going strong. He also recently published an article in *Reminisce Magazine*, America's top-selling "nostalgia" magazine.

Jack is a retired L.A. Times sports and entertainment writer, who had no intention of writing another book after [*Blind Journey: A Journalist's Memoirs*](#) was published 10 years ago. But, never say never!

To find out more about Jack, click [HERE](#).



Ashley E. Sweeney is pleased to announce that her second novel, [*Answer Creek*](#), which won last year's Arizona Authors Association Literary Award, recently won Best Second Novel in the Next Generation Indies Book Award and Best Mountain-West Fiction in the Independent Publishers Association Book Award (IPPYS). The novel also placed as one of five finalists in this year's Western Fictioneers Peacemaker Award and in the WILLA Literary Award for Historical Fiction.

To find out more about Ashley and her works, visit her website at: <https://ashleysweeneyauthor.com/>

Congratulations, continued

Arizona Authors Association columnist Mark D. Walker has had several successes lately. First, he was named a finalist in the Arizona Authors Association Literary Contest for his essay, “Ramon and Moritz: A Partnership On The Black Coast.”

Additionally, his article, “Crossing Borders, Building Bridges,” was published in *Revue Magazine*. Next month, they will also publish his article, “Uncovering the Art of Francisco Goldman.”

With all that, Mark still found time to lecture at the Peace Corps Seminar at ASU, which is part of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. The seminar took place on September 9th, 2021.

Mark has written over sixty book reviews as well as his memoir, *Different Latitudes: My Life in the Peace Corps and Beyond*. He is also the producer of the film documentary, *Trouble in the Highlands*.

To find out more about Mark, check out his website at: millionmilewalker.com



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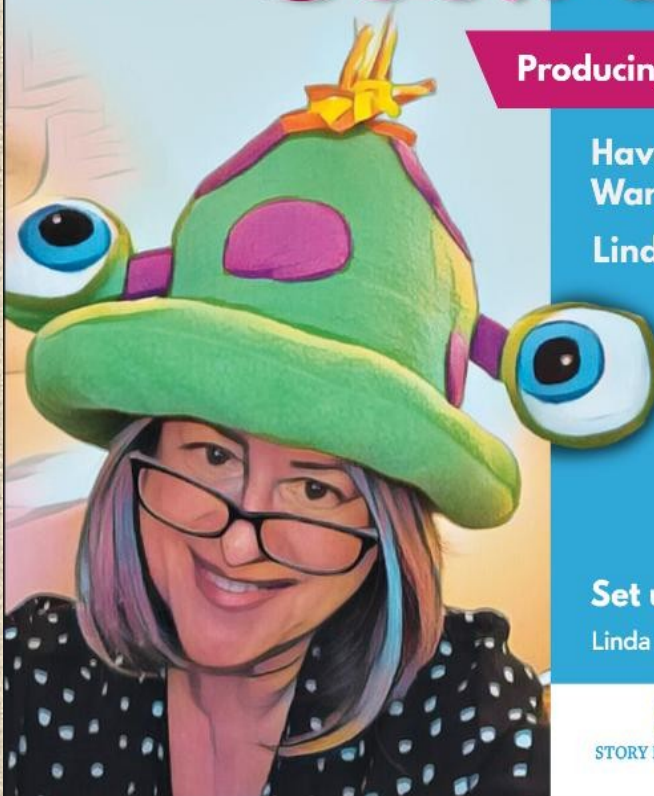
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Literary Contest Report

by Jane Ruby

Here's the current list of finalists as of September 12
(Authors listed in alphabetical order):

Published Categories:

Children's Picture Book

Stephanie Barton – Above The Clouds: What Really Happens In Heaven During A Thunderstorm?
 Judy L. Paris – Who Will Save The Desert?
 Sande Roberts – Blake's Big Day
 Analynn Sardella – The Little White Lie

Fiction

Dianne Ebertt Beeff – On Tràigh Lar Beach
 Vali Benson – Blood And Silver
 Bill Coates – Needles Arizona
 Robert Marek – Desert Fountainhead: A Tale About The Borderlands

Nonfiction

Marsha Arzberger – One Hundred Sixty Acres Of Dirt
 Jan Cleere – Military Wives In Arizona Territory
 Maureen Scanlon – My Dog is My Relationship Coach
 Lia Woodall – Remove to Play

Juvenile/Young Adult

Rico Austin – Boy To Successful Man
 Vali Benson – Blood And Silver
 Lynn Marie Lusch – Sally The Stray Puppy
 William Lynam – Shorty, The Alien Dog

Oldie But Goldie

Jeri Castronova – Symbols Of The Grid
 Marcia Fine – Paris Lamb
 Lynn Marie Lusch – You Want My Dog To Get A Job?
 Penny Orloff – Jewish Thighs On Broadway

Unpublished Categories:

Novel

Cherrie Anderson-Smith – The Long Now: Aldin
 Janet Crum – Delta Dawn
 John Hansen – The Mystery Of The Unseen Hand
 Todd Herzog – Walking Across Walden

continued on the next page

Literary Contest Report, continuedPoetry

Lori DiGuardi – Church Of Summer Desire
Marty Feess – The Adventure Of 1914

Essay

Terri Dunn – Hike
Terri Dunn – A Summer Gift
Jan Nichols – Rush
Mark Walker – Ramon And Moritz: A Partnership On The Black Coast

Short Story

Rico Austin – Dog
Mark Ford – The Dual On Granite Mountain
T.J. Michael – Christmas At Topock Hobo Jungle
Barb Renner – Escape

This year's contest was full of quality and competitive entries. We had seventy-two entries this year. The most popular category, **Oldie But Goldie**, had twenty-two entries and scoring was very tight: separation between the top 8 entries didn't differ by more than a couple points. Congrats to finalists as well as entrants in that category.

I recognized many names as entrants, and it was also nice to see some newbies. Good to see our authors still authoring!

On November 6, 2021 we will announce the award winners at our awards banquet. Toby has been busily securing the Glendale Civic Center and buffet dinner for the event. It should be fun since we plan to honor both last year's and this year's winners (see her column for more details).

I can't thank our twenty-five judges enough for toughing it out. Some received their packets in the mail without a hitch, while others waited 6 weeks or more! For many of the delayed unpublished entries, I was able to email text files to the judges, but I was really sweating buckets about possible delays for the published entries. Thankfully the published judges got their books in a timely manner. Most got their results to me weeks before the deadline, which definitely made my job easier.

The contest raised over \$1575 (after accounting for prize money). Part of that revenue came from six critique requests. Again, kudos to the judges who offered their expertise advice for those critiques.

Jane Ruby, Treasurer and Literary Contest Coordinator, Arizona Authors Association

Jane Ruby is an award-winning novelist, essayist, and short story writer. She was the Secretary and Literary Contest Director for the past three years and will continue to serve the Arizona Authors Association as the Literary Contest Director and as the new Treasurer. Learn more about Jane [HERE](#).





The Road to Imagination

by Cherie Lee

Do you ever need a prompt to get you started? Try Cherie Lee's story starter to spur your imagination and get the sentences flowing. An award-winning author, Cherie wrote the following paragraph as a guide:

"This fictional teaser can be used by teachers or by anyone (recommend sixth grade and up through all adult ages) who wants a creative writing exercise or to jump start a new work. This idea is not meant to be genre specific, but left to the writer's imagination. There are no specific rules to follow. All the listed questions do not need answers. There is no order for preferred reading."

If you would like to share a story you create with this prompt (800 words or less), please send it no later than November 15 to faerland@yahoo.com and we may publish it.

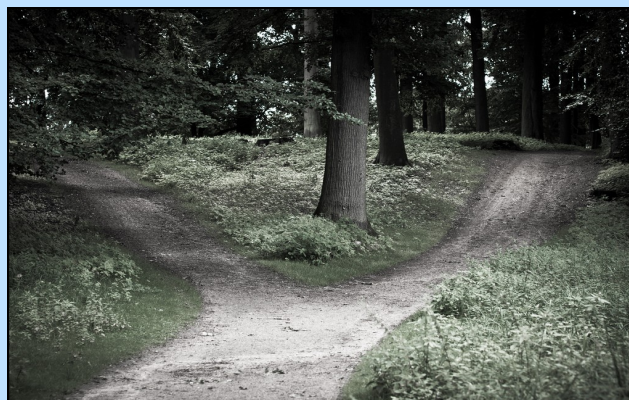
The Pumpkin Patch

I loved to take my children to this special place every autumn. It was a small farm and pumpkins could be bought for carving or making pies, or for autumn decorations. The petting enclosure was often busy and the children had to wait their turn to visit a cow, a pony, a sheep, a lama, a pig, and sometimes a chicken or two. If chickens were inside, I cautioned my three children not to touch them. Of course one did and got pecked. That was the last time he ventured near the chickens. But the best place on this farm was the maze, especially at night. I didn't convince my children to try that out until they were much older, but after their first trip through the maze they never forgot it, especially when....

Questions:

1. What happened on that trip through the maze?
2. How long ago did this woman take her children through the maze? Was it many years ago?
3. Who was the farmer who created this maze, and what was he like?
4. Did that farmer do these things to make money to support his farm or did he do it because he loved this season or Halloween?
5. What would be the scariest things to encounter in a maze?
6. Are the memories of that maze happy, sad, exciting or fearful?

Now it's your turn. Go forth and write!



Calling All Authors!

Sign up for slots at the Glendale Sparkle



Our members, Barbara Renner and Eileen Pieczonka, are looking for a few children’s book and YA authors to sell their books at their booth for the Glendale Sparkle. Although they would like authors to sign on for a minimum of three time slots, they are flexible. Contact [Barbara](#) or [Eileen](#) for more information.

Place: Arrowhead Towne Center Mall (inside mall near Macy’s)

Contact: Eileen Pieczonka at: eileen.blueberrybeartales@gmail.com

Barbara Renner at: barb.renner@gmail.com

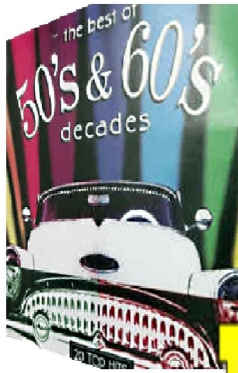
The 10x 25 booth will be set up for 17 days, November 26-December 12, and decorated for the holiday season with a small Christmas tree and story time area. Two tent frames (no canopies), 2 tables, and 2 chairs will be provided.

VENDORS: Authors handle own sales
 Only AZ State TPT license is required
 Sparkle will have insurance; no insurance required by vendor
 Estimated vendors for entire event: 100

SCHEDULING: Authors sign up for a minimum of 3 time slots, 1 of which must be a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday. There will be 2 authors per time slot.

Fridays: 11/26, 12/3, 12/10	10am – 3:30pm	3:30pm – 9:00pm
Saturdays: 11/27, 12/4, 12/11	10am – 3:30pm	3:30pm – 9:00pm
Sundays: 11/28, 12/5, 12/12	11am – 2:30pm	2:30pm – 6:00pm
Mondays: 11/29, 12/6	10am – 3:30pm	3:30pm – 9:00pm
Tuesdays: 11/30, 12/7	10am – 3:30pm	3:30pm – 9:00pm
Wednesdays: 12/1, 12/8	10am – 3:30pm	3:30pm – 9:00pm
Thursdays: 12/2, 12/9	10am – 3:30pm	3:30pm – 9:00pm

FEES: \$25 per time slot
 Fee must be paid upon sign up
 If author can't participate, they must find a replacement for their time slots and handle the fee exchange
 No refunds unless Glendale Sparkle cancels event



Those Were The Days, My Friend!

Arizona Authors Literary Awards Banquet

Celebrate Winners of 2020 and 2021 Literary Contest

November 6, 2021

Glendale Civic Center

5 to 9 PM

Dinner – Bar – Awards – Costumes – Prizes – Photos –

Literary Magazines

Theme: “Those were the days, my friend.”

Think of a time or place in your life or the life of a character in the past or the life yet to come. Come in a costume depicting the same. Creativity in costumes is limitless with this theme! Choose any time or place, past, present, future – real or imagined. Costumes are not required but make the event far more fun for everyone.

For Map and Directions, go to: <https://glendaleciviccenter.com/>

We hope all winners from 2020 and 2021 will attend and share their stories about their winning books. Winners from both years will be asked to speak and honored equally. Authors are invited to bring one of their books for the lottery. We will have prizes for the best costumes; come and share your costume story with us!

Buffet:

Southwestern Salad, Beef or Shrimp Fajitas, Tortillas, Black Beans, Spinach and Cheese Enchiladas, Spanish Rice, Mixed Greens, Chips and Salsa, New York Cheesecake with Strawberry Sauce.

Tickets to the Buffet: \$50.



Reserve through toby@tobyheathcotte.com no later than November 1st.

Pay to arizona.authors@yahoo.com at Venmo or send check or money order to:

Arizona Authors Association
6145 West Echo Lane
Glendale, AZ 85302-5709





The Million Mile Walker Review What We're Reading and Why

By Mark D. Walker



I picked up this book in search of a similar presentation of a writer's life to a book I'm working on, *The Moritz Thomsen Reader*, to strengthen my proposal to attract a publisher. Moritz wrote *Living Poor*, and my book will be an anthology of the writers who knew him best. "Gabo," Gabriel Garcia Marquez, is one of the great writers of Latin America, recognized with the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1982. Both irreverent and hopeful, the book *solitude & company* recounts the life of a boy from the provinces who decided to become a writer. This is the story of how he did it.

A note in the first chapter reveals much of Gabo's political persuasions in life. He reportedly changed his date of birth to coincide to the "Banana Massacre" in 1928, when the Colombian Army killed workers of the United Fruit Company who were protesting poor working conditions. He wrote about it in his classic, *One Hundred Years of Solitude*, and according to the book, 3,000 workers were killed, and this account entered the annals of Colombian history in a twist of "magical realism," for which he's most known.

Close to fifty friends, family and writers share their stories about Gabo—some of which seem somewhat frivolous, but some real gems appeared, such as which writers impacted his work. Guillermo Angulo, a Colombian writer, orchid grower and a close friend of the author reveals the influence of one author from the South of the U.S., "...He sees the true Faulkner. He sees him in images. But he already knows Faulkner as a twin soul. I think he's his most important influence from a technical point of view because afterward he invents an entire world..."

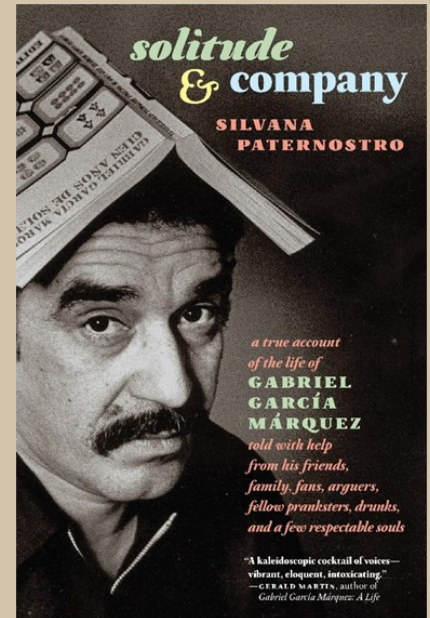
William Styron, an author from the southern U.S. who wrote *Sophie's Choice*, received a Pulitzer Prize, and included both Gabo and Carlos Fuentes among his friends, went on to say,

"Well, I think that's the reason for his great admiration of Faulkner, because Faulkner, without the tag of magic realism, nonetheless visualized and created an entire world, a universe based on an actual world, which was the Mississippi he made his own and called Yoknapatawpha. Macondo is the equivalent of Yoknapatawpha. And I think that was an important contribution of Faulkner to Gabo's own sense of literary creation."

Styron tells of an interesting conversation between Gabo and President Clinton, in which Gabo says that without Faulkner, he wouldn't have been able to write a single word; that Faulkner was his direct inspiration as a writer when he was just beginning to pursue real world literature in Colombia. And that he had made a pilgrimage to Oxford, Mississippi, where many of Faulkner's stories took place.

Among the most revealing review statements on this book:

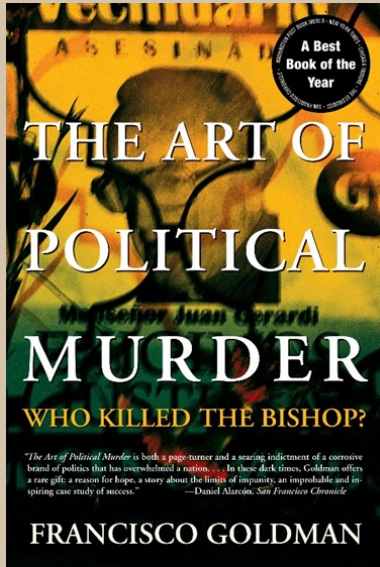
"If I may be allowed to mix up a metaphor: This is a kaleidoscopic cocktail of voices—vibrant, eloquent, intoxicating—inspired by that endlessly fascinating literary magician, Gabriel García Márquez (a.k.a. Gabo/Gabito/etc.). And the cocktail has been mixed and shaken, expertly and knowingly, by Silvana Paternostro. ¡Salud!" —Gerald Martin, author of *Gabriel García Márquez: A Life*



continued on the next page

The Million Mile Walker, continued

The author, prize-winning journalist Silvana Paternostro, grew up in Barranquilla, Colombia, home to García Márquez’s fabled literary group, La Cueva. In 1999, she was selected by Time/CNN as one of “Fifty Latin American Leaders for the Millennium,” and is the author of *In the Land of God and Man*, nominated for the PEN/Martha Albrand Award, and *My Colombian War*. She is a frequent contributor to English and Spanish publications including *The New York Times*, the *Paris Review*, the *New York Review of Books*, *Vogue*, and *El Malpensante* and *Gatopardo*. She lives in both New York City and Colombia.



The Long Night of White Chickens was my introduction to Francisco Goldman and I’ve been a fan ever since. His mother is a Catholic Guatemalan, his father Jewish American, and he was born in Boston, so he started off with a very interesting combination of influences. The book is a tense, almost surrealistic detective story which opens windows on the Latin American reality of State Sponsored assassinations, mara youth gangs and organized crime.

The author’s insights come out of his coverage of the wars in Central America in the 1980s as a contributing editor to *Harper’s Magazine*. His book is a nonfiction account of the assassination of Guatemalan Catholic Bishop Juan Jose Gerardi Conedera by the Guatemalan military. The book was an expansion of an article in the *New Yorker*, plus seven years of painstaking and often dangerous journalistic investigation.

The Bishop was Guatemala’s leading human rights activist and was bludgeoned to death in his garage, which is only a few hundred feet from the government’s most sophisticated security units and surveillance apparatus. All of this took place two days after a groundbreaking church-sponsored report implicating the military in the murders and disappearances of some 200,000 civilians. The author tells how the church formed an investigative team comprised of secular young men in their

twenties known as “Los Intocables” (the Untouchables) due to the expected lack of interest of police investigators, not to mention the inability of the existing legal system to solve what was known in Guatemala as “The Crime of the Century.” In what would be his first nonfiction book, the author managed to reach and interview witnesses that no other reporter or authority was able to access and witnessed first-hand some of the crucial developments in the case unfolding before him.

The author takes the reader through the byzantine legal system in Guatemala, which included constant threats against the lives of judges (several of whom had to leave the country in fear of their lives) and witnesses. Many of the rulings on the case were flawed, at best, as was the case with the Fourth Court of Appeals where important witness records were not even requested by the appellate judges and Judge Wilewaldo Contreras’s court had issued a “precooked ruling.”

Finally, in January of 2006, the author would receive a “confirmation” by email that the Supreme Court had upheld the convictions and twenty-year sentences for several of the perpetrators, the Limas. Although the author tells of his feelings of astonishment and relief at hearing the news, the attempts to limit and delay the conviction would go on until April of 2007 when a new judge took over as president of the Constitutional Court, and within days—on April 25th, the day before the ninth anniversary of the murder of Bishop Gerardi—the Public Ministry was notified that the guilty verdicts against the Limas and Father Mario had finally been upheld.

The author provides an afterword, a list of appearances of the different characters in the story and a chronology of events, as well as source notes and an index to what is a well written, dramatic piece of Guatemalan history, which says a lot about the chaos and issues forcing so many to flee their homes more than ten years later. The author has written for the *New Yorker*, *The New York Times*, and *Harper’s*, to mention a few publications. He divides his time between Brooklyn and Mexico City and teaches creative writing and literature at Trinity College.

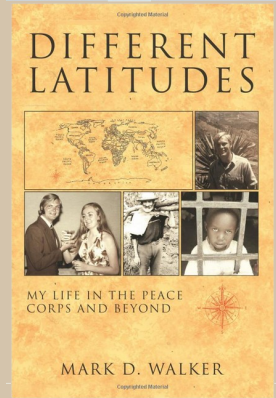
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The Million Mile Walker, continued

You can find the entire reviews of these two books and 60 others on my website under the “Library” tab. Please let me know what you think - about this newsletter, my reviews and most importantly, what you are reading so I can ponder all of it and share some of your comments in my next column. You can email me at: Mark@MillionMileWalker.com or through my websites: <http://www.millionmilewalker.com/> or Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/millionmilewalker/>

Walker was a Peace Corps Volunteer in Guatemala and spent over forty years helping disadvantaged people in the developing world. He came to Phoenix as a Senior Director for Food for the Hungry, worked with other groups like Make a Wish International and was the CEO of Hagar USA, a Christian-based organization that supports survivors of human trafficking.

His book, *Different Latitudes: My Life in the Peace Corps and Beyond*, was recognized by the Arizona Authors Association for nonfiction and according to the *Midwest Review*, “. . . is more than just another travel memoir. It is an engaged and engaging story of one man’s physical and spiritual journey of self-discovery . . .” His honors include the "Service Above Self" award from Rotary International. His wife and three children were born in Guatemala. You can learn more at www.MillionMileWalker.com and follow him on his [Facebook](#) page.



*"We are not human beings
having a spiritual
experience; we are spiritual
beings having a human
experience."*

— Pierre Teilhard de Chardin

Cottonwood, Arizona

Photo by Arizona Authors Association Member
Sharon Sterling



December Fourth Holiday Book Fair!

**Arizona Authors Association
FREE ZOOM BOOK FAIR
Members May Showcase Their Books
Both Members And Non-Members May Attend**

**TOBY HEATHCOTTE, KATHLEEN COOK, &
JANE RUBY, FACILITATORS**

Saturday, December 4, 2021 • From 10:00 AM to Noon MST

**Zoom - Register with toby@tobyheathcotte.com
or 623-847-9343 (Voice mail only, no text)**

Members may sign up to showcase one of their books in our virtual Book Fair! Each author will be introduced by Toby with a short biography, and then will have up to five minutes to discuss their book. Kathleen will enter the link to the book in chat, so that other participants may check it out. To secure your free five-minute slot, you'll need to register with Toby no later than November 30th. Be sure to include the following information:

1. A short (200 words or less) biography. Toby will introduce you before your five-minute slot starts.
2. The title of the book you wish to showcase. You may feature one book.
3. The link to your book where it is available for purchase.

Contact [Toby](#) early to reserve a slot!

Come Join Us For Our Holiday Book Fair!



Coloration for Authors A Rainbow of Color: A Color Primer

By Jeanne Burrows-Johnson



How many colors are in the rainbows with which you paint backgrounds for your text? There are many perspectives on the use of color in the **art and science of writing**. But even if I were an expert, this short space wouldn't allow a comprehensive discussion of **color theory** [the traditional theory for mixing three primary colors to derive all other colors] or **colorimetry** [analysis of human color perception].

Variables in Color Perception. Most people can see three distinct ranges of color. Due to genetics, some women [called **tetrachromats**] are able to see four ranges of color. Sometimes a temporary inability to see some or all color is caused by illness, allergies, medication, or hormone replacement therapy. Even sufferers of **Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder [PTSD]** may notice a decrease in color perception. And did you know that one out of twelve men and one out of two hundred women have color vision deficiencies?

Choosing Color Palettes For Artwork to Accompany Text. Analysis of one's genre as an author can answer many publishing questions to help your **authoring strategies**. One author I know brings a minimalist approach to her **creative process** in selecting art for children's books. She believes faint sketches without full form, shape, or color encourage children listening to, or reading, her prose to bring images from their own minds to their **reading experience**. This approach may be ideal for children's books, **poetry**, and **historical fiction**. However, it would be unsuited to the hard-nosed writer's voice employed in a police procedural and would lack clarity for many nonfiction projects.

While **minimalism** is a specific art movement, the term may be used generically to describe the expression of **modern art** in the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Beyond an escape from classic realism, modern art focuses on the artist's desire to interact with the minds and life experiences of his or her audience members.

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Coloration for Authors, Continued

An Author’s Color Selection is More than Personal Preference. If new to **wordsmithing**, you may not be thinking about **branding**. But you might want to consider establishing foundations for the brand for which your writing will be known one day. And just as an effective **editorial process** dictates writers carefully select modifiers to create a scene rich in **sensory images**, a distinctive **color palette** can be one element in a **design aesthetic** that harmonizes with and even intensifies the **impact of your text**.

When examining coloration for book art, there are several important issues to consider beyond technical research. **Does the style of your writing reflect your taste in art?** Do you like the detail of **classicism** or the sharp clean lines of **modern art**? Are you drawn to bright **primary colors** or **muted subtle tones**? Do the peach and aqua tones of a sunset in the Southwest reflect your taste and your work?

Regional Colors. Through the dialect[s] of your characters, as well as the scenes you describe, your text may suggest colors distinctive to the settings of your writing. Growing up in Oregon, I was accustomed to the dark green of Douglas fir trees and the mosses growing on them. In contrast, I’ve found the greens of trees and plants growing along the shorelines of the Hawaiian Islands to be lighter than those of Oregon or the hills of ‘Ulupalakua, Maui. In Arizona, the array of green is mixed, depending on topography, season, and amount of rainfall. So which greens are appropriate to *your* projects? What about the clarity and tones of blue in the waters and skies you describe?

Style of Characters. Examining *perceptions* of your writer’s voice and the style of your characters may help define appropriate book jacket colors. Consider the differences between romance novels and police procedurals. In the first example, you may have established an ambience that is classically “feminine” with soft, gentle, and elegant notes. In the second, you may have a hardnosed undercover police officer [male or female] who wears black, employs harsh street slang, and fiercely responds to violence. While black is an excellent background for both genres, the artist’s treatment may vary considerably. The romance novel often invites the reader to wonder what lurks behind subtle gradations and soft brush strokes of mystical colors and tones. In contrast, the police procedural usually pairs bold primary colors with dark shading set within sharp modern lines.

Juncture of Style And Color. For **children’s books**, hard-edged cartoon-like solid color images (like those a child might create) may be ideal. But regardless of the style of art you select, the bright saturated colors associated with modern art are popular with and stimulating for young children. Conversely, the often-dark tones of **anime** lend a sophisticated note to materials for both adults and older children. For most genres, classic **realism** is appropriate. To present images realistically, considerable detail and subtleties of color are usually required.

continued on the next page

Coloration for Authors, Continued

Articulating Your Artistic Vision is vital. Since it is unlikely that you will be the artist shaping the images that will highlight your writing, you must be able to describe your desires to whoever is in charge of publication. I suggest writing a paragraph outlining the specific elements you are seeking. As with a **journalistic endeavor**, an inverted pyramid structure is useful. Begin with an overview of the style you desire and then move on to specific issues like color. If possible, use technical terms an artist or printer will understand. For instance, consider specifying the **tones** and **shades of colors** you prefer.

When viewed under varied lighting, a color's tone [intensity of color] or shade [how bright a color is] will be perceived differently. Personally, I have found it challenging to use what I term a plum color in artwork for *Prospect for Murder* [the first **Natalie Seachrist Hawaiian Mystery**]. While my artist generated a wonderful color for the book jacket, subsequent applications for the audio book and some promotional materials deviated from the desired color and tone.

Samples Of Your Desired Color Palette and style will greatly aid the person executing your artistic vision. These can be drawn from many sources: websites; books and other printed material; fabric and clothing; pieces of art. Consider offering the images of famous paintings. Simply naming a type of art or an easily referenced artist will communicate your wishes. Personally, I'm drawn to the delicate images of **classical Asian paintings**, as well as the **neo-classism** of **Maxfield Parish** who was known for his use of **saturated color**. Unfortunately, since his work ended mid-twentieth century, a young artist may be wholly unaware of his work.

Identifying Colors. Working individually, or with an artist and publisher/printer, you'll need to provide numerical descriptions of your desired colors. Paint Stores offer color samples, with numerical coding plus alphabetical names. Printers can provide numbers for the **Pantone® Colors** of ink used in most hardcopy printing. Remember you don't have to access a graphic art program to provide the color model numeration of computer font colors. Simply mark a section of text within a word processing program and examine the chart of colors available under the drop-down arrow for font color.

I should caution you that **identifying a color** is no guarantee of how a printed product arrives at your doorstep. Two editions of the same book, printed by the same printer following the same instructions, may present different coloration. Variations can occur because of differences in batches of ink or toner, the moisture content of paper, and production executed on innumerable types and conditions of equipment.

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Coloration for Authors, Continued

A final consideration in our discussion of color printing is **publication via downloading from the Internet**. If this is how your work will be published, you should consider using colors designated as “web safe.” Again, there will be varied results in how your readers view your materials. If nothing else, variations in monitor settings can prevent uniformity in how myriad viewers will experience color on your website or in your book.

Stay tuned for Part 2 in the next issue!

Wishing you the best in your creative endeavors,
Jeanne Burrows-Johnson, *author, narrator, consultant, and motivational speaker*

Additional discussion of the nature of color is provided at: https://www.imaginingswordpower.com/wearing/wearing_your_brand.html. For more ideas to maximize the results of your branding, visit my marketing website or blog: [Imaginings Wordpower & Design Consultation.com](http://ImaginingsWordpower&DesignConsultation.com), Blog.JeanneBurrows-Johnson.com. You are also welcome to send me an email at info@JeanneBurrows-Johnson.com

Jeanne Burrows-Johnson is a published author who now lives in Tucson, Arizona. To find out more about Jeanne, go to her website at: <https://www.jeanneburrows-johnson.com/>

New Monthly Series

by Donis Casey



Over the many years she has been writing and reading, Donis Casey has been fascinated by other authors and their journeys – why they decided to start writing, what keeps them going, what keeps them writing in the face of the inevitable difficulties of life. In June, 2021, Donis began hosting on her website a monthly series of author essays called **Tell Me Your Story**, inviting successful authors to share their life experiences and how those experiences have influenced their writing.

Thus far her guests have included handwriting expert Sheila Lowe, whose life view changed forever when her daughter was murdered; Pricilla Royal, who recently took a leap of faith with her long-running historical mystery series; and Mariah Frederickson, who was born with an impediment that has informed her whole life and world view. Donis' September 20th guest was Hannah Dennison. An Englishwoman who spent 25 years in the U.S., Hannah made the hard decision to move back home – and what boost to her life and career that decision turned out to be! She discovered you can go home again. Visit with these brave authors as they share their intimate stories at <http://www.doniscasey.com>

Donis Casey is the author of the Alafair Tucker and Bianca Dangereuse mystery series. Her latest book is *Valentino Will Die: A Bianca Dangereuse Hollywood Mystery*. Rhys Bowen, a *New York Times* best-selling author, calls it, "A delicious glimpse into Hollywood's Golden Age... Bianca might be a glamorous star, but she is also a likable, smart, and feisty heroine."



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6145 West Echo Lane
Glendale AZ 85302-5709**

Professional Membership:

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and Editors:
One year \$60
Two years \$110
Three years \$165

To pay for membership and
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ALL MEMBERSHIPS RENEW EACH JANUARY

Arizona Authors' Association is a Non-profit 501c3 organization. Its mission: To foster literary achievement, advance the art of writing and serve the writers, authors, editors, publishers and allied professionals of Arizona and the nation. Arizonaauthors.com, Arizona.authors@yahoo.com toby@tobyheathcotte.com

Where in Arizona?

Each issue we'll add a photograph taken somewhere in Arizona along with a list of ten locations, one of which is correct. If you think you know which one, write to faerland@yahoo.com and let me know. The first one to guess the correct answer will have their name featured on this page in the next issue.

This month's photo was taken by Dick Waters. For a change, we're doing an indoors picture. Have you been here?



Possible Locations:

Cottonwood
Flagstaff

Jerome
Greer

Gila Bend
Prescott

Grand Canyon
Nogales

Bisbee
Ajo

Write to faerland@yahoo.com no later than November 15th if you know the location of the photo. If you answer correctly, we'll publish your accomplishment.



The Inevitable Author

by Kathleen Cook

Wake Up! It's Fall Again!

Fall always gets me going on my writing! After the lazy summer days when you're too hot to do anything but sit and read a book or stare at the tube, the cooler air invigorates the brain and gets the wheels turning. I like to anticipate Halloween and Thanksgiving, even though they're a ways off. Actually, this is a great time to anticipate them because smaller publications, with daily or weekly issues, need those stories now. If you have a special memory, write about it and send it out before it's too late.

Fall also gets me to think of the loved ones I'll be seeing soon, either in person, through Zoom, or perhaps only in memory. I think of Cousin Ed, who somehow always manages to spill the gravy but tells the best Thanksgiving jokes. I ponder all the quirks and characteristics of my crazy tribe, who add an authentic flavor to my stories.

Everyone has someone they know who is just a bit different. (Some of us have a LOT of "different," ahem, relatives and friends!) The people you know offer realism, familiarity, and humor to your stories. Many famous authors give the advice, "Write what you know." This is so true. The people and places, customs and eccentricities of your own home town, family, or ethnicity will provide you with a rich tapestry to add color to your work.

Just because these things are familiar to you doesn't make them boring to others. Indeed, while our shared experiences provide common ground, each of us is unique in that shared heritage and so are our family members, colleagues, and friends. Things that may seem normal and dull to you are fresh and funny to others. Write about them!

As I contemplate the rest of the year with a smile on my face, now that the sweat of summer has left my skin, I look forward to gathering around the table with all of my weird, crazy, silly, and embarrassing cohorts and loved ones. I look forward to hearing their memories, already indelibly affixed in my soul. Once again, I'll hear about the time my sister pulled an apple off the tree in the churchyard, bit into it, found a worm in her mouth and in a panic, screamed and spit it out just as the parish priest was turning the corner. Splat!

I may mention again the time while I was growing up, when we had a washing machine on the back porch. Invariably, it always held a large laundry basket full of clothes, either clean or dirty. One night, the dog came running out of the porch, barking as he ran away. Mom ran into the back porch and, in the darkness, thought she saw a drunk man sitting on the floor. She started jumping up and down, flapping her arms and screaming like a maniac, "Get out! Get out!" I flipped on the light switch to find that the drunkard was really a huge pile of clothes, which must have fallen off the washing machine and onto the dog.

After this story, another cousin may talk about the day we found that dog, with no tags and an injured paw. He'll wax poetic about the good times we shared with Chugalug, who got his name when someone spilled a beer and the dog rushed to lap it up as I, a ten-year-old who didn't drink, nevertheless hurried to wipe it. Old times, but not forgotten.

There are so many stories in each person's family. Don't be afraid to embarrass yourself, or them. Write about all the

continued on the next page

The Inevitable Author, continued.

good and bad times, the high and low, funny and painful times, so that your memories, shared around the Thanksgiving table, will become someone else's memories, too.

Kathleen Cook is a retired editor and the author of more than twenty books. A former copy writer/editor for Demand Studios, she also served as the Fictional Religion Editor for the ODP (Open Directory Project) in the late 90s. She is currently the Arizona Authors Association Editor as well as the new Secretary. Find out more about Kathleen [HERE](#).



“Every Failure is a Step to Success.”

— William Whewell

**Photo by Arizona Authors Association Member
Sharon Sterling**

NEW BOOK RELEASE

by Vijaya Schartz



Angel Brave

Azura Chronicles Book Three

Keoke Mahoe slips through the forbidden planet's impenetrable defenses to deliver a perilous message. But Lady Valoria fiercely protects Azura. Any intruder, especially one who kills for food, is promptly terminated.

While Valoria admires Keoke's uncanny ability to cheat death, she cannot trust a spy. What he suggests is unthinkable... and could throw the galaxy into chaos. Yet, could he be telling the truth? She appreciates his audacity, his noble heart, and his smile... to the chagrin of Eris the Amazon, her best friend, bodyguard, and would-be lover.

But in the farthest confines of the galaxy, an old enemy is rising again. People are sacrificed by blood and fire on unholy altars. Malevolent armies are assembling, and this time, even Azura's Avenging Angels may not be able to stop the onslaught of darkness upon all civilized life.

You can find this book, the third in the Azura series, on [Amazon](#), [Barnes&Noble](#), and on Vijaya's [website](#), in either e-Book or paperback format. The first and second books, [Angel Mine](#) and [Angel Fierce](#), may be found in the same outlets.

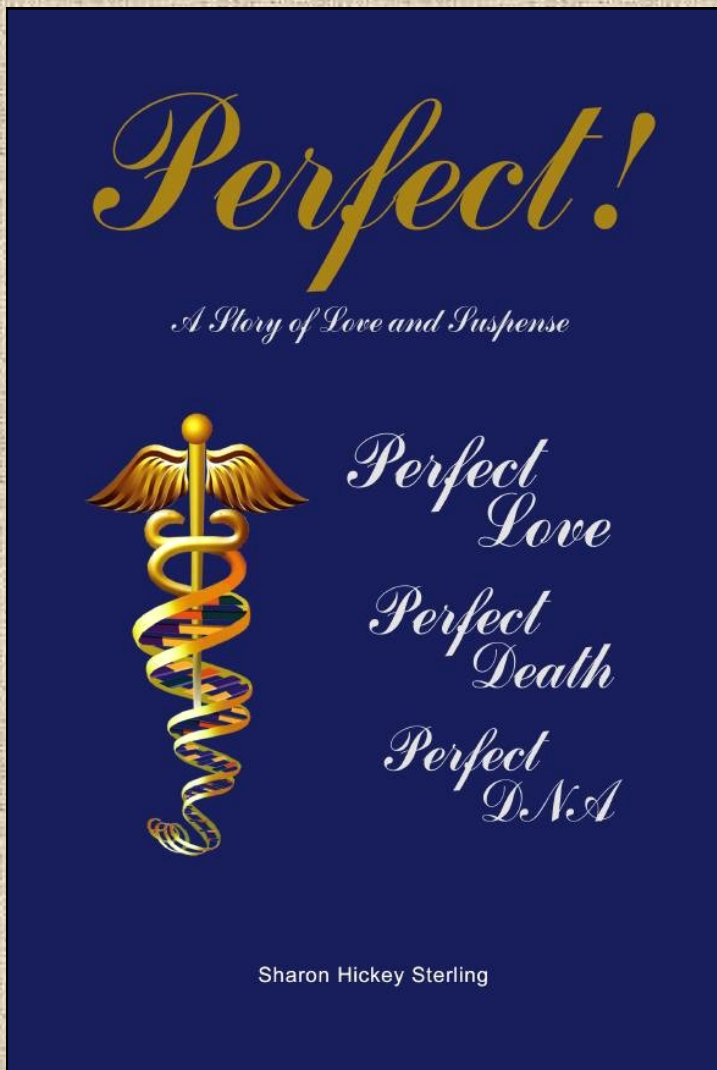
Born in France, award-winning author Vijaya Schartz never conformed to anything and could never refuse a challenge. She writes strong heroines, brave heroes, and cats. She likes action and exotic settings, in life and on the page. She traveled the world and claims she must be a time traveler, since she writes with the same ease about the far past and the far future. With almost thirty titles published, Vijaya Schartz writes action adventure laced with sensuality and suspense, in exotic, medieval, or futuristic settings. Her books collected many five star reviews and literary awards. She makes you believe you actually lived these extraordinary adventures among her characters. Her stories have been compared to Indiana Jones with sizzling romance, and she takes that as a compliment anytime.

Find out more at: <http://www.vijayaschartz.com>, or visit her [Facebook](#) or [Twitter](#) pages.



NEW BOOK RELEASE

by Sharon Sterling



Perfect! A Story of Love and Suspense

Sage must put romance on hold when she launches an investigation into whether her grandmother's tragic early death was an accident — or murder. In the process, she may uncover another family mystery — the identity of Sage's own grandfather, Grandmother's husband or lover.

Two men in Sage's life join her search for truth and long-overdue justice. Seeking the missing branch in her family tree, Sage submits her DNA to a new, untried DNA company. Hackers discover her rare and valuable DNA profile. They threaten her with a grisly fate that was instigated generations ago by an evil regime on another continent.

This steamy love story is not for the faint of heart. If the hacker and his cohorts catch Sage, they will catapult her and a beautiful friend into a hideous new reality of suicidal despair, kidnappings, rape and other unspeakable crimes perpetrated against innocents.

In *Perfect! A Story of Love and Suspense*, players in the lush, sometimes violent drama gather to bask and play on the beautiful white beaches of Florida's Emerald Coast.

Find this book on [Amazon](#) and on the author's [website](#).

Sharon Sterling is a psychotherapist/social worker and author. She received her Bachelor of Social Work degree from Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff and her Master's degree from Tulane University in New Orleans. She returned to Arizona and began her social work career as a crisis counselor. Over the years she worked in Cottonwood, Yuma, Tucson, Flagstaff, and Prescott. Her work experiences include community mental health agencies, psychiatric and medical hospital settings and private practice. The intense experiences and fascinating people encountered during those years inspire and inhabit her books while the flavor of Southwestern locales spice her writing. Her books include characters with mental illness as well as people struggling with the challenges of every day living. She hopes to inspire her readers with insight and compassion for themselves and others.

To read more about Sharon, visit her website at: <http://sharonsterling.net/>



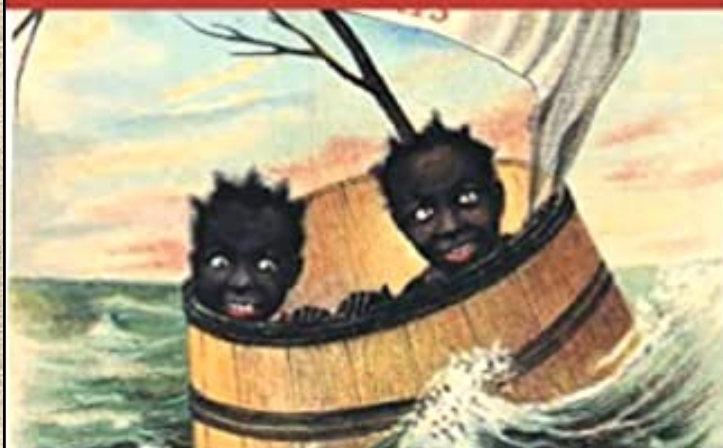
NEW BOOK RELEASE

by Mike Rothmiller

Racist, Sexist, and Politically Incorrect Advertising

The Early Years

Labeling Author Mike Rothmiller



Racist, Sexist, and Politically Incorrect Advertising The Early Years

To illustrate the history of advertising in the educational realm, all ads must be considered for discussion. At the time, these ads were deemed to be non-offensive to the masses. But others would undoubtedly have thought otherwise. These ads also demonstrate societal changes through the years. People then did not see these ads as offensive. Today, viewed through a contemporary window, they are. What we see today as non-offensive and acceptable advertising will undoubtedly be viewed differently by future generations. The first political cartoons in England were considered works of art and sold in shops. In some countries, it was the primary method an artist or writer could editorialize on the state of political affairs without facing civil or criminal liability. The cartoon is a combination of satire and exaggeration. Politicians, societal problems, violence, and corruption of all types were the targets.

Delivery systems for advertising will change with advances in technology. Today, there are multiple methods to direct ads to a targeted audience. Remember that the basic rules of advertising remain constant. The book contains hundreds of images with little or no commentary required. Some are shocking.

You will find this book on [Amazon](#) and other outlets.

Mike Rothmiller is a New York Times Bestselling Author, nominee for the Pulitzer Prize, historian, former cop and Army medic. He's also served as a TV reporter, an award winning documentary producer and television host for ESPN, PBS and other international television markets. He's written and produced over 25 television documentaries, numerous TV and radio ads and has authored movie scripts. His nonfiction book, *My Hero. Military Kids Write About Their Moms and Dads* (St. Martin's Press) received international acclaim and holds the honor of being the only book in history to have forwards written by three living Presidents and General Norman Schwarzkopf. He's authored 23 books and his *Secrets, Lies and Deception and Other Amazing Pieces of History* was featured on Fox News and over 40 Television News Stations across America. Readers of his books include three Presidents, former First Lady Laura Bush, the late Charlton Heston and Queen Elizabeth II. To read more about Mike, click [HERE](#).



New Website Coming!

We're moving to a new website soon. If you haven't yet updated your member page, please send the following so that we can add it to the new website, which should be live in December. And check out your new page at that time, to ensure that everything is correct. Thanks!

Photo: Color or B/W, portrait view up to 3" wide x 5" high, 96 dpi minimum. No landscape view please, since we can't optimize landscape for mobile devices.

Name: If you write under more than one name, one will be shown on the group member page and any other pseudonyms will be added to your individual page.

Trade: This line will list your trade, i.e. Author, Editor, Poet, Publisher, Literary Judge, Journalist, Blogger, Technical Writer, etc. Indicate if you are published.

Email: You may provide an email address where anyone who accesses our site may contact you.

Website: Supply an http or https web address, if desired.

Biography: Add your biography of up to 2000 words. Preferred length: 500 words.

Published Works: List your published works in whatever order you like, but group series together. If you write under more than one name, group your works by name. Include the titles and the links where buyers may purchase your books. Please include one book cover.

Note that our staff may edit or supplement any section as needed, unless instructed otherwise. Please send your completed updates to: toby@tobyheathcotte.com or faerland@yahoo.com. In the subject line of the email, insert *Website Bio Update*. Thank you!

Literary Trivia from Page 3

Answers

1. Fyodor Dostoevsky.
2. *Frankenstein*, by Mary Shelley.
3. *A River Runs Through It*.
4. Boris Pasternak.
5. Sir Walter Scott.
6. Archimedes.

Back Page Quotes

Peter Bernhardt sent in some more great quotes, this time from John Boynton (J.B. Priestly) and William Sidney Porter (O Henry).

"Most writers enjoy two periods of happiness — when a glorious idea comes to mind, and secondly, when a last page has been written and you haven't had time to know how much better it ought to be."



— John Boynton



"Much of writing might be described as mental pregnancy with successive difficult deliveries."

— John Boynton

"I'll give you the whole secret of short story writing. Here it is. Rule I: Write stories that please yourself. There is no Rule II. The technical points you can get from Bliss Perry. If you can't write a story that pleases yourself you'll never please the public. But in writing the story, forget the public."



— William Sidney Porter

Do you know a joke about writing, publishing or editing, or a quote from a famous author? Share it with Back Page Quotes and if we use it, we'll credit you with the entry. Send it to faerland@yahoo.com before the 15th of odd-numbered months, and it may appear in the next issue.