

Indie Publishing News Issue 5

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Presented by

Plaisted Publishing House

ENJOY

###From the Editor's Desk

Hello and welcome to issue 5 of Indie Publishing News. I do hope you enjoy the new format with the glossy front page. Due to demand, the newsletter is going to be monthly. Thank you to all the volunteers who have offered to help with proofreading.

###What's New

We are going to be starting a few new sections. First of all, we will be doing an Author Spotlight each month. This month we are profiling J G Clay an extraordinary Horror writer who will scare you to death. How do I know. I read his book – ‘**Blood and Sulphur.**’ More on that later.

The newsletter has grown so much, it was decided to re-design and make the newsletter monthly. So please don't forget to join our newsletter group here and sign up for the newsletter here to receive some FREE Marketing. If you don't sign up for the Newsletter, then you will be deleted from the group. This will commence from the 10th of each month, giving new members a chance to sign up.

If you need a Screen Reader Version of the newsletter, please let us know.

A new service to everyone. If you wish to advertise your book, project, event, business etc. each month, then you will get the first advert FREE. Afterwards it will be \$10 USD charge for the rest of the year for the same advert. Payment is by PAYPAL.

###INDIEWRITING TEAMS

As if I don't already do enough...I have started yet another new group called “Indie Writing Teams.” This is a place we can swap editing type services with each other and build our own Writing

Team to make the best of our books. This is all about EDITING.
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/307121579645845/>

The group is looking for:

Line Editors, Copy Editors, Editors, Beta Readers, Proof-readers of all genres. If you can help or if you can do one of these things for a small fee due to not needing anything in exchange, then please put your name down under one of the post heading. To be part of this group you need to offer assistance to another author. If you don't you will be removed. Build your teams make your books the best of the best.

###STAGETHREEOF INDIE PUBLISHING NEWS

Now is the time to send a link to your readers and fans so they can get a copy of the Indie Publishing News. This will take the weight off your shoulders - you won't need to forward the newsletter if they sign up on the link below. Remember the more readers signed up the further everyone's reach – the more likely you are to get new readers and business. Thanks

<https://rotosis.wufoo.com/forms/indie-publishing-news-readers/>

###Plaisted Publishing House Introduces you to Australian Author Jim Cartwright

Welcome Jim. Please tell us a bit about yourself

I am a 43-year-old father of three. For the first 20 years of my life I was an electrician in heavy industry. For the last 7 years I have, and continue to, work with people who have a disability.

What bought you to the world of writing?

The experience of my spiritual awakening after some years of suffering.

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

Cakemix Spirituality. I treasure both my books.

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

Yes – my latest book Spirituality 138.

Spirituality 138 is an extraordinary gathering of words written from the perspective of an unhindered mind. Subsequently a natural filtering of unnecessary analytical spiritual data is prevalent, manifesting clear concise perspectives regarding a wide range of spiritual/human issues.

Chapter 1 lays the foundation supporting this enlightening book with its explanation, definitions, and analogy pertaining to the all-encompassing spiritual framework; that which underpins all physical constructs. Building on this platform Jim Cartwright describes simply and intricately simultaneously, what the fundamental characteristics of the mind are, and how these characteristics become heavily influenced by an individual's immediate family, community, and cultural environment. He shares with the reader valuable knowledge as to help identify, and then cease, the current negative symptoms associated with the systemic conditioning of their mind. Encouraging the reader to follow the spiritual path, or paths, pathed by their greater spiritual self. An alternative to paths intentionally or unintentionally chosen by the intimate people in his or her physical life.

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

I write a chapter then once complete I edit that chapter before I start another one. I then edit the whole book from front to back, and then from back to front.

Who are your favourite authors?

Seth (via Jane Roberts) and Eckhart Tolle.

Links:

Cakemix Spirituality Spirituality 138

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

“For your born writer, nothing is so healing as the realization that he has come upon the right word.”

—Catherine Drinker Bowen

###Indie Author Reviews

Incurable by E C Moore

Times may change, but we remain incurable

Sometimes you receive a book (an ARC, in my case), and you hope it is good. When you read it, you are honoured, because it is excellent. *Incurable* will have you flipping through its word-painted images, and thinking about its characters long after you’ve read the last line.

The book tells the story about a very young woman in the USA, in the time before, during and after WW II, trying to escape the fake world of wealth-polished abuse, and falling into the hellish tapestry of Hollywood glitter and the naked truth hidden below. It is filled with excellent, inobtrusive descriptions, which blend naturally within the story. The author has obviously done lots of research, and manages to put you on the scene skillfully, without evident effort, engaging all your senses. The crime story streaming through the plot is truly engaging, and has you guessing and rooting for the heroine till the very end.

From the gripping first, but especially second chapter, reminiscent in atmosphere of P. Marlowe, the story is told with love and respect, both for the characters and readers. There is a mind-blowing myriad of characters, especially women, strong women, battling their weakness and centuries-long submission to men's leading role as providers. Not all beauty is skin-deep, and public success may well be just an optical illusion. Not every hero is always good, not every villain is completely irredeemable. The author displays people's vanity, weakness, balancing the thin line between what is and isn't considered moral or immoral, all in order to survive, to escape their history and family legacy if possible. Intriguing human stories fill the pages – from the wise, uneducated nanny to the miserable rich ladies, the seemingly successful stars of burlesque, seedy human traffickers, family histories tainted with greed and revenge, dream-filled immigrants and prejudiced narrow-minded abusers. The intensity of brutal hate and malice is sometimes so overwhelming, just like in real life, and yet the characters all keep chasing love, friendship and success. There is a very open account of sexuality and promiscuity of the time, which is rarely spoken of in such a matter-of-fact way, even gruesome topics, so despite your romantic notions of love during the war, do not expect a soothing, romantic, dreamy account. But do expect friendships and love forged through hellfire!

Each decade of the main character's life brings us an array of different people, each with their own set of values and prejudice, all naked under the facade. It is hard to pick my favourites, although detective Reg and his accidental assistant Doris do take the lead. But Wesley is so tenderly portrayed, with all his faults and virtues, and has such a good heart; he is one of those people who never dominate, but are always cherished.

The span through several decades provides us with proof that we can never truly know what motivates someone to do something, till we talk it all out openly. Secrets hurt, and sometimes they even kill. Historical events in Europe influencing the lives of people in the

USA seem to follow the main storyline, but actually emphasize how intricate all our relationships are, and how intertwined our destinies are. Each ripple counts.

E.C. Moore's *Incurable* kept me on my toes wanting to read as fast as I could. There were plenty of topics I never relish thinking about, but they are topics we must think about if we are to face them and change them. Families which are never the safe haven they should be, dream jobs which are more like purgatory, friendships of convenience... But there is always passion and love at the root of things. *Incurable* is a proper saga, and lends itself to a fabulous TV-series. If you want a book which will engage your mind, soul and senses, *Incurable* will deliver.

I love the ending – despite all the dire straits, it celebrates accomplishment, not fame. It celebrates the real values in life, earned through hardship, but cherished forever.

###North Texas Book Festival announces April 15 as 2017

North Texas Book Festival's annual event will be Saturday, April 15, 2017, at Patterson Appleton Center for the Visual Arts in Denton. For more information, go to www.ntbf.org.

A schedule will be announced soon, and more information is available at www.ntbf.org. NTBF will open with Chuckwagon Breakfast that day, where grant recipients will be honored and the winners of the book awards will be announced.

Board members for the 2017 event include:

Tina Hager, president. Judy Lowe, vice president. Jan Sikes, recording secretary. Stephanie Patrick, corresponding secretary. Katherine Boyer, treasurer. Crystal Wood, parliamentarian

Untitled 2/16/03

*i tried to write a poem tonight instead i thought of you
i tried to watch the blizzard fall the weather caressing my mood
i tried to have it all make sense this loss and pain and gloom the
only answer the rattling trees and i cannot read their runes
i tried to write a poem tonight instead i cried for you*

Jenelle Roxie

15 BOOKS

Don't take too long to think about it. Fifteen books you've read that will always stick with you. First fifteen you can recall in no more than 15 minutes. Tag 15 friends, including me.

This was harder than I thought. i thought coming up with 15 would be really difficult, but it turns out coming up with only 15 was tough. So in no particular order, here are 15 books that I won't forget...

Jenelle Roxie

###Author Spotlight with J G Clay Horror Writer

Be careful what you ask for, it could be deadly. There again it could be the talented horror writer J G Clay who will scare you so badly you'll need to sleep with the lights on for at least a week or two. Well after you've read his book 'BLOOD AND SULPHUR' It is scary shit....NO PLEASE...DON'T...IT WASN'T ME...HONEST...NOOOOOOOOOOOOOO...ONLY JOKING...Sniggers maniacally.

J.G Clay is a name unfamiliar to many, at the moment. The name brings to mind images of a walrus moustached portly Louisiana gent clad in a white Colonel Sander suit complete with a Foghorn Leghorn accent and a rather portly figure.

The true JG is a million miles away from this image. He's a skinny brown guy from the British Midlands with a soft mixed accent and a nice line in Cosmic Horror. Fascinated by the dark, the disturbed and the downright weird from an early age, Clay has been writing since his early teens. These blatant Stephen King and Clive Barker rip offs are safely hidden away under lock and key, never to see the light of day. They weren't very good.

Now in his early forties, Clay has made the step from writing for his own amusement to landing two publishers, (three if you count the sadly defunct Booktrope but that is a story for another day). His debut book, the collection Tales of Blood and Sulphur: Apocalypse Minor, is a showpiece for his style. He calls it his 'demo tape'. The twelve Tales range from dystopian dreams, demonic nightmare creatures, even a homage to the great 'Doctor Who' (a show that has long been an obsession for him). Centring on a mysterious stranger known only as Null, the Tales work in the same format as the old 'Tales from The Crypt' series or (for those of you old enough to remember them), the Amicus compendium horror films of the early Seventies. Null has stories to tell. He is willing to tell them if you are willing to listen and pay the price.

His second book 'Peace and Quiet. Time and Space' is part of the 'Second Wave' of new releases from the brand new horror imprint Fear Front. Conceived as a dark comedy novella set in Hell, 'Peace and Quiet' has mutated during the writing process, transforming into a very dark and brutal story involving betrayal, bigotry, insurrection and murder in Hell.

There are plans to release another novella before the end of the year, 'Tales of Blood and Sulphur 2.1: The Vampire of Small Heath'.

Clay will be unleashing Null, football hooligans and a monster of legend upon the people of Birmingham.

Beyond the written the word, Clay is an ordinary Brit-Indian lad, with a small family, a large book collection, a bass guitar and an undying love of music and Birmingham City Football Club.

J G Clay - Horror Author

###Grandma Peachy's Reviews

Honestly, I love this author's writing. Since I had a gifted electronic copy before release I just started reading the story without even noticing the title. I did see the cover picture and loved it. I read the first book in the series last year and it was among my favorite reads for 2015. The Hunter is a well-developed and unique character. He is Bucelarii, part human, part demon, with an extra-long life and few things that can really kill him. Iron is one exception. He left Voramis at the end of book one an unrecognized hero whose purpose there was fulfilled, having rid the city of the demon and the Bloody Hand group that controlled and terrified the city. All at the cost of much destruction within the city and the lives of everyone he had cared about.

In the second book the Hunter starts out at a loss for what to do with himself. He only knows that he needs to move north to find the unknown woman of his visions. Travelling alone he is safe, but, he feels the loss of those whom he had protected and called friends in Voramis, yet failed to save. Loneliness is not a feeling he is used to experiencing. Coming upon travelers who are being ambushed he helps them. The people he helped become his travel companions, although he is vaguely wary and his intuition says he shouldn't join them. What a mistake! Things go from bad to worse, eventually he is left for dead and there was a point in the book, before actually looking at the title, that I thought to myself, "Oh, how the mighty have fallen." Shortly after that thought I actually read the title,

“Lament of the Fallen...” and had to laugh, what an appropriate title! The Hunter is thwarted at almost every turn in the story. I really felt sorry for him because of his bad luck and the unfortunate series of events that occur. It seems that he can’t win for losing; the situation remains out of his control. I know the Hunter is an assassin and killer subject to blood lust, and I shouldn’t love him so much, but, he does have a conscience from his human side. The constant internal battle between the good that is in him and the evil that tries to take control makes him a very likable protagonist, for a killer.

The Hunter again finds companionship among the poor in the city of Malandria and discovers there is a mystery involving the disappearance of the poorest and most vulnerable in the city. He goes in search of his lost weapons and to discover the mystery surrounding the disappearances. The end was somewhat of a surprise for me because all along I thought another character was the antagonist. The true antagonist was a surprise to me. I have to say that I love this authors writing and look forward to reading many more of the Hunter’s adventures in The Last of the Bucelarii series. Go to Amazon, get Lament of the Fallen, read it, and enjoy, I sure did! If you haven’t read book one, Blade of the Destroyer read it first. Both are available on Kindle Unlimited and if you aren’t a KU member the purchase price is very reasonable for both the Kindle edition and paperback. Blade of the Destroyer is also available in Audible.

<https://www.amazon.com/Andy-Peloquin/e/B00J9008MC>

###Rainne’s Reviews

The Kota Series by Sunshine Somerville

Never a dull moment in this amazing fantasy/ sci-fi series from author Sunshine Somerville.

The descriptive writing brought the various worlds, scenes and situations to life as I joined the four Kota warriors on their journey

through space, time and dimensions in order to save humanity from an evil and deadly virus. The characters are well-fleshed out and completely believable, each with their own flaws and vulnerabilities, and I enjoyed watching them develop as the series progressed.

Each book has a new setting and additional characters, but flawlessly continues on from the previous book in the series. All four books are filled with danger, excitement and action, plus plenty of twists, turns and intrigue. This series was a definite page-turner and a good lengthy read that gave me something to get my teeth into! I enjoyed it immensely and will be looking out for other books by Ms. Somerville.

###Poets Corner

My enraged eyes want more than what this is. I want to remember the love burn that I miss. There was nothing to desire on those lips. I stand here in the doorway with my clenched fists. How can you understand the emotions from my kiss?

I've put my heart on my sleeve once again. The end of this string is gradually growing thin. I watch my blood dribble from the prick of a pin. My words are etched across my chest in crimson. Did you forget that all I asked was for you to listen?

I've been broken and bruised throughout my life. Shit, I set aside my insecurities to be a better guy. It was never good enough even when I tried. I guess I'll live lonely with only tears in my eyes. What do you have to say for yourself after all of those lies?

Yeah, I've been hurt plenty of fucking times. All of the deceptive lies and sleepless nights. I've cut deeper into my skin, deeper than my mind. My destruction waits at the end gripping my worthless life. Did you want me to remain dead inside?

Adam Reese

This is the third collection of poetry from Fantasy Fiction and Horror writer Paul Anthony Williams. The third book recounts his present days and current moments in time as the dark storm of old age is brewing upon the horizon before him. There are a few recollections from the past, but all revolve around his search for love, his heartaches along the way, and the broken heart he has to try and piece back together. As he searches for that one special woman to call his own...

Mountain of Hades

*Upon the ghostly mountain, spirits call and voices fall;
Terror in this darkened night, as the people are frozen with fright;
Monsters crawl and Hades calls,
“Now forever, this life you’ll live and none shall I forgive.”*

By Kyrena Lynch

###Confessions of a Reviewer - J G Clay

<http://confessionsofareviewer.blogspot.co.nz/2016/09/review-jg-clay-ales-of-blood-and.html#more>

PROLOGUE: TALES

Cameron Vale and his colleague, Darrow are interrogating a man who gives his name only as Null. He is trying to enter the UK and Cameron and Darrow are to question him on his motives for trying to enter. They are getting nowhere with him when Cameron discovers that Null claims to be a story teller who has collected stories for centuries. He gets rid of Darrow and sits back to listen to some of the tales Null has to tell. He knows there is a price to pay for listening, though he has no idea what it may be. Null begins with the first tale...

ON THE BEACH

A mysterious gambler seems to have fallen on hard times. His luck has run out and he is on the brink of a total wipe-out. An even more mysterious stranger offers to teach him some life lessons and help get him back on the successful path. This will all be done with the help of an ancient book, *Speculum Mysteriis*. The gambler doesn't plan for the consequences of his new found success. He soon realises that the success comes with a very heavy price and he may just be a very small player in a much larger game.

This is such a wonderful opener for a collection. This is so dark and psychedelic it will have you mesmerised. You follow the gambler through the peaks and troughs of his new found life, all the while waiting on the kick to come. He never seems to realise just what is going on though.

This story is largely a narrative without any dialogue and it is wonderfully effective. It gives you a true feeling of the hidden depravity involved and feels so beautifully dark. The use of language in this writing is something I hope continues throughout this collection. It's intelligent and well thought out and adds so much to the atmosphere.

★★★★★ for general. ★★★★★ for horror.

A CREATOR UNDONE

The Gods are not happy. The humans have desecrated and destroyed the world they were given. The Gods have been to war with them and still it makes no difference. Baimie has been given one last chance to solve the problem. He knows that if this does not work, he could be banished forever.

Wow. That is all. Wow.

This is a sort of flash fiction piece really. Again, there is no dialogue in this. It is a short narrative basically about how we, as humans, have destroyed the gift we have been given. Extremely powerful and emotional and moving, this shows again just how intelligent JG

Clay's writing is and shows exactly what can be done with descriptive text only.

★★★★★ for general. ★★★★★★ for horror.

THE WRITER'S FRIEND

Harvey is a writer. Stereotypical in many respects. Struggling for inspiration. Alone after his marriage has failed. Fond of the drink. He has a weird patch in his back garden that is covered in slime and a rank smell emanates from it. It seems to be getting bigger. That may be because of the bodies that keep disappearing into it.

Friend is developing. He will come to speak to Harvey soon.

Oh. My. God. 80's inspired horror all the way. Beautifully written again to give you the creeps from the get go, this will have you squirming. It will have you on the edge of your seat. It will scare the pants off you and have you smiling from ear to ear at the same time.

★★★★★ for general. ★★★★★★ for horror.

ONE NIGHT IN MUMBAI

Captain Danning is alone in his room, but he is not alone inside his own body.

Rahhasha must find the Gestalt, Lazlo, and extract the information on how to save the Archon Morbius before killing Lazlo.

In a world of hidden demons, nothing is ever as it seems. Like monsters and demons and other worldly entities hell bent on taking over the world? Look no further than this tale to mesmerise you and fascinate you and scare you.

Another top notch story.

★★★★★ for general. ★★★★★★ for horror.

WHAT HAPPENED TO PETE THE NEAT?

Pete the Neat has disappeared. Just totally vanished. It is often discussed in the pub as to what happened to him. One person knows but he isn't for telling. He doesn't want to give his plan away.

Another one that is nearly all narrative from an unnamed source giving his account of what happened to Pete the Neat.

Again, JG Clay does this wonderfully well. You get into the head of the narrator very quickly and feel very at ease with the story. This one again has monsters and mysterious beings that you have no idea where they came from. JG Clay has a fantastic imagination and the writing skills to match.

★★★★★ for general. ★★★★★ for horror.

INTERLUDE MINOR: DARROW

Darrow is still out of the room while Cameron listens to Null telling the many tales from his journey.

He still has an hour to kill. This is as boring as hell. Cameron on the other hand is having a ball.

L.L.T.C. (LUCIFER LOVES THE CLASH)

Meet George, a ponderous chap sitting in a pub waiting for his friend Sparky. Things start going a bit weird when a stranger, and smelly man, suddenly appears in the booth beside him. George can't be sure but he thinks he has just had a conversation with Lucifer.

Following the thoughts inside the head of George, this one is filled with a certain dark sarcastic humour that will have you smiling a lot as you read. Look a bit deeper though and it will scare the pants off you as well.

★★★★★ for general. ★★★★★ for horror.

DUE TO A LACK OF INTEREST, THE APOCALYPSE WILL NOT BE TELEVISED

J.D. is a reporter. Not a very happy one. He gets a job he doesn't want, but when it becomes clear he may have the scoop of all time his excitement grows. This is a story he has to get live on air.

Think War of the World's. Think Independence Day. Now add in the wonderful writing of JG Clay and you have a story full of horror and dry humour and words that will have you gripping the edge of your seat right to the very end.

A mix of horror and sci-fi, this is just absolutely superb. It paints a beautiful picture full of wondrous sights and sounds and smells. This stinks of all those monster movies I used to watch on a Saturday afternoon when I was a kid, hiding behind the cushions.

★★★★★ for general. ★★★★★ for horror.

LEGALLY DEAD

Pastor John is in his element. Leading the purge of the D-70's and filling his pockets with the proceeds, life couldn't get much better. And then he gets the offer of a lifetime from the most powerful man around. One person doesn't want him getting the position though. Not all the tracks have been covered.

This one is set in a dystopian world where the church is in total control of the minds and bodies of everyone. Sounds like today doesn't it?

This is where this story comes into its own. To me it is a variation on a theme. JG Clays interpretation of the world we live in. When you think about it after reading it, it scares the shit out of you.

★★★★★ for general. ★★★★★ for horror.

GOD BLESS GEORGE A ROMERO

A diary has been discovered written by a nameless man as he tries to survive the apocalypse. Live through his eyes as he fights for survival. It's the only thing he can do.

I have read a few stories like this, written in diary format. I don't know what, but something just stands out with this one. I think it's the fact that the feeling of isolation and fear is so prevailing. When this man struggles to sleep at night because of the noises outside, you feel yourself holding your breath with him.

Perfect tension and a perfect sense of total fear. This one though also shows that even when the world goes to shit we humans still have to face the normal day to day horrors that we do at the minute.

★★★★★ for general. ★★★★★ for horror.

THE WORLD STOPS WHEN THE SMILING MEN CRY

Arch-Pastor Michael has full power over the people with the help of Penelope and The Smiling Men, a group of genetically enhanced soldiers that appear to be invincible. Malky and his renegade friends are trying to destroy The Smiling Men, and the regime they represent.

Malky should be able to do this. After all, he made the Smiling Men. Another trip into the dystopian world that JG Clay has developed so very well. This is a wonderful story of the peoples rise against the aggression of the power hungry fools. The way it is told though is like an adult version of The Hunger Games. No fancy games to be played in this one. This is scary shit.

★★★★★ for general. ★★★★★ for horror.

DENOUEMENT: BLOOD AND SULPHUR

Darrow's break is over. Time to go back and check on Vale and Null. All is not as it seems. The tales have had some sort of effect on Vale. Null needs to explain and Darrow isn't going to like it

BONUS STORY: NOTHING TO FEAR IN THE DARK

Marnie Klein was always told by her father to fear nothing, especially in the dark. This is a mantra she keeps to this day. She is going to need to say it over and over. Things aren't going too well with her and her sadistic natured boss. Others from further afield in the Omniverse have plans for him though. Marnie is going to like them. Her boss isn't.

What can I say? If you thought the rest of the stories in this collection are good, then this is the perfect way to finish it off. An evil boss. A mysterious being. Retribution and peace at last. This story has it all. Oh and it's quite scary!

★★★★★ for general. ★★★★★ for horror.

So there it is. My thoughts on Tales of Blood and Sulphur. Did you notice something when you were reading through it? A common factor with all the stories? Yeah, for only about the third time, every single story in this collection got full marks. Does that tell you something? It should. You really need to go out and buy this book. It is an essential collection to have. There is a space on your shelf just begging to be filled with this one.

JG Clay is a name that not a lot of people will be familiar with. At the minute. I make a prediction though. In a few years' time, everyone will know his name.

This is a brand of writing that will blow your socks off. He has created a world known as the Omniverse. All of these stories are loosely connected within that world. All of these stories are horrific. All of these stories are not just stories. They all have a hidden agenda if you like. They all have much deeper meanings. They are very intelligently written.

JG Clay isn't just a storyteller. He is one of the most intelligent story tellers I have ever read. His words will inspire you. They will make you feel scared, ashamed and emotional. They will make you laugh.

They will creep the hell out of you. They will make you think about the world you live in and the world you could live in. They will make you very thankful for what you have. Above all, they will make you long for the day his next book comes out.

To summarise: I need say no more. Buy it or go sit in the stupid corner.

General rating:

★★★★★ absolutely perfect! Horror rating: ★★★★★ absolutely perfect!

###New Zealand & Australian Indie Authors

###Phenomena – The Lost Children by Susan Tarr

‘As a child I knew Malcolm, who was then a young man. Dad often invited him home for meals. Malcolm was one of the 'lost children' forgotten or abandoned by their families into the Seacliff Mental Asylum, New Zealand.

We followed his story from childhood to adulthood as best we could even after he was eventually discharged back into the community. When considering the tragedy and abuse of Malcolm's wasted earlier years, it is a story of immeasurable sadness. Yet he ultimately rose above it all, and with admirable strength, courage and innate resilience, was finally able to free 'the regular boy within' as he had always wanted.

I was raised within the community of the Seacliff Mental Hospital village so it was difficult to know where fiction ended and the greater truth took over.

To separate the truths from the almost-truths at this stage would be an impossible task as many of those concerned have died. Therefore, I have blended together various stories as representative of our family and friends' combined belief of what most probably

did happen during the period covered. Wherever possible, I've used correct dates, names and places. When there is doubt I've changed names and details for the protection of those still living. This is Malcolm's story as I believe it unfolded.

*Phenomena won the Summer Indie Book Award Winner 2016 for
Memoirs*

###My Christmas Fiancé by Serenity Woods

Meg

It's not easy to reinvent yourself, but my thirteen-year-old son and I were ready for a new start. Old Maggie had been a magnet for disaster, but I decided that New Meg was going to be suave, sophisticated... and blonde. I landed a dream job at the other end of New Zealand as PA to three rich directors who spoil me rotten, I found a beautiful new apartment on the waterfront, and I felt reborn.

Then I wrote an email to a friend describing in vivid detail what I wanted to do to the sexiest of the directors—involving melted chocolate and/or whipped cream—and mistakenly sent it to All Staff. It turns out that New Meg is pretty much just Old Maggie with different packaging. Some things never change.

Stratton I've wanted Meg since she first walked into my office with her soft lips and sexy curves, but she wears another man's ring, so I've steered well clear... until now. My mind's been occupied anyway since I broke up with my ex, Natalie. She's desperate to have me back and won't take no for an answer—so I've come up with a brilliant plan, to hire a fake fiancée for Christmas to prove to her that we're done.

After sending her hot-as-hell email, Meg confessed the truth about her past, and it's given me an idea. She'll make an ideal fiancée, and I can protect her from the guy she's running from. Sounds like the perfect plan, right? Her teenage son's no problem

because we get on great. Sharing her room? That's more of a challenge, but I've always had excellent self-control.

Yeah, I know. I keep forgetting about the melted chocolate. What an idiot.

###Silvana – the Greening by Belinda Mellor

Once heard, the song of a Silvana can never be forgotten. Yet for every man who wins such a wife, there are three destroyed in the attempt.

Fabiom of Deepvale, dreams of winning the love of a Silvana, one of the mysterious and powerful tree spirits who haunt the deepest groves of the wildwood. But when he is suddenly thrown into the political arena and expected to keep the family silk business running, everything changes. Fabiom fears he will have to put aside his dream, for such a quest is perilous and Deepvale cannot afford to lose its young lord.

However, the piece of amber he finds beneath the huge ash tree could change his mind. If one of the Silvanii is upset enough to weep golden tears at the thought of losing him, then presenting himself on the eve of his seventeenth birth-anniversary might not be so dangerous after all.

What Fabiom does not know, is that the fiercely guarded secrets of silk-making have been sold abroad, putting more than the economic stability of his holding at risk; it was the Silvanii who first gifted Morene's people with those secrets, and they do not take kindly to betrayal.

###The Thankful by Jamie Campbell

"This is my first war."

Twelve-year-old Ruth Imker has been running her whole life. From Vienna to Cologne. From Cologne to Rotterdam. Running. Always running.

Rotterdam was supposed to be safe. But during the early morning of the tenth of May 1940 the Germans came.

With nowhere to hide, with nowhere safe, Ruth Imker must get off the island of IJsselmonde if she is to survive. The trouble is that the German army wants the island too.

Ruth's unlikely protector is an officer-cadet from Queen Wilhelmina's navy. Together the two are thrown into the midst of the Netherlands' first day of war.

*Look beyond the every day tasks and surround yourself in the
beauty of the world around*

C A Keith

###Ian Millar's Book Series

###Scaevola's Triumph by Ian Miller

Scaevola's Triumph is the third in the Gaius Claudius Scaevola trilogy. Abducted by aliens, Scaevola, his wife and his sister are taken to the planet Ulse; to an extremely advanced civilization that is losing a war. Scaevola's sister must accept that, thanks to the relativistic time dilation, she will never see her husband again; Scaevola must accept he is outnumbered two to one by women who do not believe in the man ruling the house; while Vipsania has to work out how to keep the group from self-destructing. They must learn to be accepted by beings who consider them to be barbarians, but Scaevola has a bigger problem: from a prophecy he believes that the abduction was organized so he could do something to save Ulse, but how could a Roman find a way to save an advanced civilization from being exterminated? Particularly when as yet he cannot get out the front door of his apartment?

###Whakatauki- Proverb

"He waka eke noa"

*A canoe which we are all in with no exception
As aspiring authors the environment should be at one where we
uplift one another to ensure we keep our mana (integrity) intact.
Should one fall, then the collective should help them up. This is
whakawhanaungatanga (respectfulrelationships.)
This approach will succeed in all areas of our lives, writing, family
or life in general. If we operate from a individualistic view point,
then the results will soon show.*

"He waka eke noa"

Mauri ora ehoa - be well my friends x

###Revelation by Norman Maclean

Set in the ancient Mediterranean the narrator and protagonist is Kleitos, a Hellenized Jew who eventually finds himself exiled to the Aegean island of Patmos where he encounters one, Yohanan, (John) another imperial exile. The man is a fanatic, engaged in writing a long letter in code to the seven urban communities of Asia Minor. This is the acknowledged content of Revelation, the Biblical book which historians have long realized is allegory, cipher and an amalgam of apocalyptic literature, reflecting the political and social upheavals of the 1st century C.E. that saw the rise of Christianity. Not a book for Christian conservatives, it explores the ways in which doctrines were shaped at this time especially in the Revelation, still mistakenly considered by millions as some form of prophetic handbook to a future slipping towards cosmic conclusion.

###Claire Plaisted – Interviewed by Julie Nicholls

Julie Nicholls Interviews me a few weeks ago. I really enjoyed the experience and thought I'd share it with you all.

Welcome, Claire! Tell us where you are from and what you do.

My name is Claire Plaisted and thank you Julie for having me on your blog! I am an Indie Author of various genres and also an Indie Publisher, assisting those authors who wish to have books to quickly engage the reader with a professional layout, book cover etc.

I was born in England, much to my dismay – I should have been born in North Wales, bah humbug that my parents decided to have an early summer holiday. I grew up in the small historical town of Sandbach where ghosts abound. Surrounded in history, and growing up in my ancestors' shoes was awesome. The history grabbed my attention and developed into a hobby of Family History Research. I moved to Colwyn Bay, living there for four years, not realizing my grandparents were buried there. During this time, I had a holiday to New Zealand (much to my father's shock I went on my own). It was here I met my future husband. Within two years I was living in New Zealand, married and today we have three out of four beautiful children – Young adults more like.

During this time, I started my family history hobby in earnest. Looking into my husband's past. Due to all the research I was invited to do a reunion book for one family line and my formatting business was born. I researched and formatted a book for a gentleman's 80th birthday, whilst waiting for information I opened a word document and my very first book was born. This is Crosswick Manor to be published later this year. Since this time I have published over 16 book in various genres and under a few pen names. Those pen names are Beth Bayley - romance and Kayleigh Broughton – historical.

This year I graduated with a Certificate in Small Business Management – Level 4. I had never thought I would attend college

again, let alone pass. This year I am doing my Diploma in Small Business Enterprise – Level 5.

That is impressive, Claire. Congratulations! With regard to your novels, what genre do you write in?

Well that is a question and a half. I write in most main genres. However, I haven't published in them all yet. I have published Crime, Mystery, Paranormal, Erotic, Fantasy, Young Teen and Children's a couple of short stories plus a few Anthologies.

A bit of everything then, eh? Can't argue with that! What are you working on now?

What I should be working on is my Late Regency book which I wrote 4 years ago. The Mystery at Crosswick Manor is a story of the Manor and those who live and work there. It has at least 5 couples' stories which are explored. There is no real lead protagonist, though if you needed two then I would probably pick Matilda Templeton and Gregory Appleby because the story revolves around them in quite a few areas. I am also supposed to be working on my next Garrett Investigation Bureau Series which is due out for Christmas. It is about Abraham and his past – This will be book 6 in the series. Book two of my Girlie Adventures (with the little blue ladybug) is due out in October.

Claire Plaisted – Author & Publisher

Excellent!! Can't wait to see that! What else are you doing, apart from writing?

I am drawing a book cover for my second 'Girlie Adventure' story. It is a slow process due to not doing any art work for over two years. I hope to get the main characters in the cover and then outline it and colour it in... The book is due out in October so fingers crossed this happens.

This is fabulous! So you're an artist too? We have something else in common then. Now I know you are a very generous person and have a number of charity books, tell us about those.

Girly Adventures will be a series of books about a young blue lady bug who lives in a cottage garden. She is friendly and helpful and in her first adventure she sets out to rescue her best friend – Grassi the grasshopper. Along the way she makes a few discoveries.

Each book covers an important part of growing up. Book one is Healthy eating and forty percent of net profit will go to ‘Chasing a Cure for Type 1 Diabetes. Book two is about kicking and biting, forty percent will go to a dental charity. Book three is for the Black Rhino and will help teach children how precious our wildlife is. Book four is about some bullies who end up been heroes’. Book Five is one about thieves with proceeds to go to neighbourhood support. Book six is about Rainbows...Only the first three have been written and as the ideas arrive another book is added. This is my way of helping small charities get support.

That is fabulous. Bless you.♥

What are your goals in terms of publishing for authors?

Plaisted Publishing House is my main business. My goal is to have a wage. What I would like to do in the meantime is get as many Indie Authors published by assisting them with professional formatting. I have recently set up package deals to assist authors and small Indie Businesses. These packages will have areas of expertise contracted out to those who have the amazing professional talents needed to help authors who don't have the knowledge or expertise needed. More info on package deals can be found here. <https://plaistedpublishinghouse.wordpress.com/>

All copyright stay with the author as do all royalties. You only pay us once, which is before final files are sent. Each author and or indie business will be offered a contract to do work as work comes in.

Plaisted Publishing House also offers a yearly Sponsorship for full length novels with a prize package of over \$500 dollars for first prize and \$200 towards formatting for second prize. Details will be added here for 2017 in January.

<https://plaistedpublishinghouse.wordpress.com/sponsorship-program/>

I also produce a by monthly newsletter called Indie Publishing News. This is a 30 plus page newsletter showing new releases, interviews, charity work from authors, business interviews, free books, etc. You can sign up here:

<https://rotosis.wufoo.com/forms/the-indie-publishing-news/>

For those who are sight impairments and or blind you will need this link which is for Screen Readers

<https://rotosis.wufoo.com/forms/momuq55198urna/>

The group associated with this Newsletter is on Facebook and is called Indie Publishing News. Here Indie Authors and Small Businesses can receive **FREE** Marketing once they sign up for the newsletter. If they wish to have repeat marketing, then there will be a small charge. This is open to the whole group. We also encourage people to post under headings which have been set up so please have a good look at the site before you post.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/IndiePublishingNews/>

Ghostly Writes is our NEW yearly Anthology for anyone who likes spooky short stories. This is the group for you. At present it is FREE to participate and the eBook will be FREE to Readers. If you wish to join in, please go to this link.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/GhostlyWritesAnthology/>

As a publisher I have had 23 clients so far, though if I include all those in the Awethology books I could say over 70 clients. The Awethology is the biggest book I have done to date with over 50 authors in two books and around 600 pages in each book. They are free to download on Amazon, Smashwords and most online stores.

This is so cool! You're helping other indie authors to get a leg up on the ever increasingly difficult ladder, which is fabulous. Thank you so much Claire for dropping by!

Peeps!! You can find out more, and contact Claire on the links below.

LINKS:

www.claireplaisted.wordpress.com

www.twitter.com/rotosis1

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

www.plaistedpublishinghouse.wordpress.com

<https://nz.pinterest.com/rotosis/>

<https://nz.linkedin.com/in/claire-plaisted-6054816a>

<https://www.amazon.com/Claire-Plaisted/e/B00P26WF2I>

https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/7836698.Claire_Plaisted

<https://angel.co/claire-plaisted>

<https://www.smashwords.com/profile/view/Rotosis>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjpATMc5WwyCuw2ZigAq8PA>

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

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

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

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/GhostlyWritesAnthology/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/IndiePublishingNews/>

<https://www.instagram.com/rotosis/>

Thank you for joining us Claire!

Thank you again Julie Nicholls for sharing this article on your Website. You are awesome. I enjoy working with you.

♥ *huge hugs back at ya*♥

Always try to use the language so as to make quite clear what you mean and make sure your sentence couldn't mean anything else.

C. S. Lewis

###Children's Quiz

<https://www.amazon.com/Good-Pirate-Anita-Kovacevic-ebook/dp/B00ZPTMMCK>

All the answers can be found in the link above.

I have a little gadget to see what's far with class. I hold it in my hand and call it my _____.

I lost my eye to battle (my bravery has no match), but I go on fighting, wearing my _____.

When, tired of adventure, to port I come to rest, I trust my heavy _____ to steady my ship best.

I need a feathered crew member who sings or always talks, and sits upon my shoulder a _____ who squawks.

No cars, no planes, no bikes. For those I do not heed. My road is the seawave. A _____ is what I need.

My ship is like my diary, each part with its own tale. But best of all's the song the wind blows in my _____.

###Children's Books

###Rodent Rhymes and Pussycat Poems by Victoria Zigler

A small collection of short poems, all written for some of the various pets my hubby and I have had.

The pets mentioned in this collection include 5 degus, 2 gerbils, 2 rats, and a cat. All poems are captioned with details of the pets they are about.

###The Leaf Monster by Victoria Zigler

A random collection of poems of different lengths and styles, all of which are written with children in mind. Themes include family, animals, and special occasions (among others).

*Each day of our lives we make deposits in the memory banks of
our children.*

Charles R. Swindoll

###A Turtle's Magical Adventure

A charming, heart-warming story of a turtle who doesn't like his shell because it makes him too slow.

Tad asks other slow animals if they also mind being slow. Each one He encounters delightful, magical creatures along the way but also meets with danger and choices. Will Tad get his wish or will the wizard turn him into turtle soup?

###Dear Bob by T P Keane

Petunia Pottersfield can't help being clumsy, that's just the way she was made. Every fairy in Furrow Grove knows her as "The Jinx" and even when she tries so hard to not be herself ... it always ends in disaster. But when something strange starts happening to the other fairies, it's up to Petunia to discover the truth and save them. She must break fairy rules and fight the rising darkness all on her own, and ... do it without killing them all too.

*Children are the keys of paradise.
Eric Hoffer*

###Anita Kovacevic – Indie Author

Having written quite a few poems, stories, and essays as part of teaching materials, Anita Kovacevic was talked into publishing her work, thus creating a versatile collection – her own book haven.

She started by self-publishing *The Threshold*, an adult paranormal urban legend with elements of horror. It is a morality tale of greed and vanity, spread across centuries, with only a seemingly everyday house, a mirror and a book connecting various generations. Soon after, *Inner Giant*, an international charity anti-bullying e-book was published, compiling stories, poems, essays, worksheets, photos and illustrations aimed at inspiring inner strength in abused children and adults. One of the 40 featured authors/educators is also Anita Kovacevic. Her author adventures continued with *Winky's Colours*, her first children's chapter book. With a little penguin who dreams of colour, Anita tells a tale of friendship, daring, romance and family. Environmental issues culminate the plot, but still allow for a charming ending. After a great response from children, teachers and reviewers, Anita was encouraged to continue self-publishing. *The Good Pirate* is a children's tale of George, a kind man who tries to be a pirate to win the heart of his beloved Julie. He ends up marooned, with only a parrot to keep him company. Things soon change for the better, and George reveals his true potential. The story is followed with some additional activities, as is all of Anita's kid literature. Her newest kidlit is *Mimi Finds Her Magic*, a story about a spoiled little squirrel. As winter approaches, Mimi's parents realise that it is time to stop spoiling Mimi. Having involved the entire forest in the plot, Mummy and Daddy Squirrel hide, leaving Mimi to get herself a nut. It is hard to tell who finds the change more difficult – the parents or Mimi. Some old-fashioned forest magic eventually gives Mimi a nudge. Anita is an ESL teacher and parent, and both fields guarantee a bounty of more ideas for new stories. Having joined several author groups and starting the blog *Anita's Haven*, Anita Kovacevic has been featuring authors in interviews, reviews and guest posts. She is a guest reviewer at the Readers Review Room and a featured

author at Readers' Circle of Avenue Park. Her short stories appear in Awethology Light and December Awethology Light, Twisted Tales and Crooked Tales. Diana the Daring will soon appear in Kid Lit Treasury, a children's charity project; and Rhino Magic, a short adult story, will be featured in a charity anthology against animal cruelty. Anita's newest project is – Average Daydreamer, a humorous chicklit about a woman dreaming of perfect love, almost tripping over the one staring her in the face. Somewhat clumsy, insecure and romantic, Priscilla already has fans who identify with her, as she balances her need for independence and search for Mr. Right.

Currently teaching, working on illustrations and editing, Anita Kovacevic is still an average daydreamer, but her children, husband, family and friends always provide a safe port.

AMAZON: <https://www.amazon.com/author/anitakovacevic>

FBBLOG – Anita's Haven <https://www.facebook.com/anitashaven>

LULU SPOTLIGHT http://www.lulu.com/spotlight/Anita_K

###Free & 99 cent Books

###Fallowgrave: The Blood of Lambs by T E Hodden

Markham Flint used to be an exorcist. Now he has left his blood soaked past behind, to retire to the quiet town of Fallowgrave, a rural American idyll, fifty miles from nowhere.

When Johanson, another retired exorcist, who has seen too much, and lost more than anybody should, is drawn back into the game, Markham knows that there is something in the darkness that is not done with him yet.

Carnem, the demon, has one last game to play, and for Markham, the life he has built for himself, and the lives all those he loves, will lay in the balance.

###Sharpshooter by Michael J Elliott

"David's eyes widened at the sight of the head. The skin was mottled with greenish grey patches of decay. The white wispy hair was matted with dried blood.

When teenager David decided he must own the Sharpshooter game at any price he could not have known that his violent actions would transport him to a nightmarish realm of hell. He doesn't know that Sharpshooter is far more than just a simple video game and Ukami the pleasant shopkeeper is not quite what he appears to be.

Join David as he fights for survival in demonic hell zone where he will come face to face with the victims of his past violent behaviour. Should David lose, it's game over...forever.

*HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE #AWETHORS ON THE
PUBLICATION OF THEIR FIRST TWO AWETHOLOGIES IN
OCTOBER 2015.*

*I hope both these books will be FREE to kindle readers again
shortly*

###STARTING YEAR THREE WITH NEW PACKAGE DEALS

Plaisted Publishing House is now into year three of business. As a supportive business for Indie Authors and Small Indie Businesses we have released new package deals for you to peruse. Each package deal means we are helping other Indie Businesses get more work and maybe a liveable wage in the not too distant future.

We would all like to welcome you to Plaisted Publishing House and their Indie Business Associates. For those who already have cover designers and editors we still offer **FORMATTING** Services. You can find out more about us at:

www.plaistedpublishinghouse.wordpress.com

SUPPORTING PLAISTED PUBLISHING MEANS YOU SUPPORT OTHER SMALL INDIE BUSINESSES OUT THERE WHO HELP YOU GET PUBLISHED ONLINE.

###Jennifer Deese - Indie Author

Jennifer Deese has always had a deep love for anything book related. As a young child frequent visits to the local library with her mother were something she eagerly looked forward to. Arms loaded with a stack of books, she would go home from the library, and read for hours. Before the age of 12 she had traveled everywhere in the world through the pages of her books.

As an adult she knew she wanted to write however, an early motherhood, and a battle with addiction delayed those dreams. Jennifer beat her addictions, and twelve years later sat down to write her first novella, *The Orchid Keeper*. After that book's publication Miss Deese began the tasks of promoting and marketing her work. Being new to the Indie world she was overwhelmed with the task. After finding many helpful Indie author groups Miss Deese learned much about social media marketing and promoting.

She has since collaborated with a wonderful group of other indie writers called #The Awethors and had a short horror story, titled *Jingle Jars*, published in a collective work called *The December Anthology: Dark Volume*. *The Orchid Keeper* is fantasy, and *Jingle Jingle Jars* is horror. Jennifer's writing tends to be in these two genres and, while horror and fantasy are her favorite to read, she will read in all genres.

Miss Deese is currently finishing up a short story that will be published along with numerous other short stories by indie authors in an anthology of ghostly tales slated to be published around Halloween. She is also working on a book called *The Fading Light*, which will eventually be considered book 1 in a series she has titled *The Osipian Chronicles*. Her previously published short book, *The Orchid Keeper*, which addresses addiction in a fantasy world will be a prequel to that series.

Recently Jennifer struggled with a massive case of writer's block and with the aid and encouragement of family and some wonderful Indie writers she has overcome that obstacle is now happily penning stories again. The ability to write and let her creative abilities flow again has been a gift to her and every spare moment is now spent releasing those pent up stories with the intention of sharing them with the world.

Links for Jennifer Deese:

<http://booklocker.com/books/7591.html>

The December Anthology by The Awethors (Jingle Jars)

<https://www.amazon.com/gp/aw/d/1519620128>

Blogs: <https://jenniferdeese.wordpress.com/>

<https://jennjenn388.wordpress.com/>

Miss Jennifer Deese - Author and her books can also be found on Goodreads, Facebook, and AskDavid.com

Be careful of what you say and do, you never know who's watching.

Darkness Awaits by Mark McQuillen

###Teaser from Gems of Gratitude by the Gems of Sisterhood

From the Gems of Strength authors comes the second book in the Gems of Sisterhood series! The theme of this book is, of course, gratitude!

Meet Detective Cara Solino, a young woman following in her father's footsteps. Can she solve the case he was unable to?

Find out how Chloe's mother discovers a way to keep her daughter's dream alive under the worst possible circumstances! Read about young Lady Iona, a child of the Elven Forest, as she struggles to give her daughter a fighting chance in a harsh world.

Cheer on Sharliss as she finally takes control of her own life, and becomes a better person. Meet Julie, who gathers information on

history, and Jody, an elderly dog whose time to cross The Rainbow Bridge is near. These stories and more are within these pages, just waiting for YOU!

###L C Bennett Stern – Indie Author

When I was in grade school in New Jersey, there were so many Lindas . . . we each became known by our first name and the first letter of our last names. I was Linda B.

However, I always wanted to include my middle initial. No one else willingly complied; and it was not until I wrote my first book that I was confident in giving my author name as: L. (for Linda) C. (middle initial – at last, for Carol) Bennett (instead of “B” for my maiden name) and Stern (because marriage.) That is how Linda B. became known as: L. C. Bennett Stern.

I began writing, (actually printing) at the age of three or four. The only individuals who cared to read me at that time were members of my large family and eventually my kindergarten teacher. In the many years that followed, I wrote school essays, book reports, poems, magazine articles, and short stories; and took classes in communications, news writing and reporting, and humor writing. An insatiable interest in my forebears led to the discovery of one very interesting ancestor – a grandfather never known to me, (the subject of my first book). Research of this relative revealed the reason behind my obsession with “The Sound of Music” and “Fiddler on the Roof.” My paternal grandfather descended from a line of Jewish relatives that started in Austria. It all made sense now.

Everyone hopes to find kings and queens in their family tree. Or, at least someone very rich who, for some unknown reason, left them all their fortune. But kings and queens can be boring (notwithstanding the occasional beheading), and who needs a ton of money to be happy? Discovering a colorful branch is much more exciting. (Although, a small inheritance would certainly be appreciated.)

The dream of living in the hills of Vermont (the closest I could get to the Von Trapp family) was dashed long ago, but I live happily with my husband, Michael, in New Jersey in a very quiet home – except for the hum of two very busy computers.

Based on true events—

Politics in Philadelphia is a rough game...has been since the time of Ben Franklin. But when political murder takes place in the Fifth Ward (home to the Liberty Bell) on primary Election Day in 1917, it sparks outrage—not just in Philadelphia, but throughout the nation.

WWI now shares headlines across the country with the sensational trial in the “City of Brotherly Love.”

Police Lieutenant David Bennett is arrested, along with Mayor Smith and others in the powerful Vare brothers’ political machine, for conspiracy to commit murder and election rigging.

It's all here—Love, friendship, greed, betrayal, power struggles, and murder! Find out—Who imported New York's "Frog Hollow Gang?" Who murdered a special detective on primary day? Who is really in charge in "The Bloody Fifth?"

I would love to hear from readers who wish to share their thoughts.

Email: lcstern21@gmail.com Website: www.lcbennettstern.com

“Stern Words”

Twitter: @lcbennettstern

Facebook: @BossesandBlackjacks

"Better to remain silent and thought a fool than to speak out and remove all doubt."

Abe Lincoln

"Every time a bell rings an angel gets its wings."

It's a Wonderful Life.

###Recipe of the Month from Kyrena Lynch New Zealand

Chocolate Madeira Cake

2 cups Flour
2 tsp Baking Powder
150 g Butter, melted
200 g Dark Chocolate (50%), melted
2 cups Sugar
3 tsp Vanilla Essence
2 Eggs
1 ¼ cups Milk
¼ cup Cocoa Powder

Method:

Preheat oven to 180 C (350 F).

Sift flour and baking powder into a bowl and leave to one side.

Melt butter and chocolate together in microwave for 55 seconds on high then beat together with sugar and vanilla. Add eggs one at a time, mixing well between each egg. Add in milk alternately with dry ingredients in three lots, beating well each time. Beat in sieved cocoa powder.

Pour into greased and lined pan or muffin case. Bake in oven for 1 hour or until skewer comes out clean; bake for ten minutes if in muffin cases.

Serve warm with ice cream or cream. Alternatively, top with icing and serve cold.

Topping:

Reduce some frozen berries of choice and sieve, use the pulp as cake topper and liquid to make jelly or sauce. (Sauce can be made by adding a thickening agent like a small amount of gelatine or similar product like maybe corn syrup..

When I got to France I realized I didn't know very much about food at all. I'd never had a real cake. I'd had those cakes from cake mixes or the ones that have a lot of baking powder in them. A really good French cake doesn't have anything like that in it – it's all egg power.

Julia Child

I don't like food that's too carefully arranged; it makes me think that the chef is spending too much time arranging and not enough time cooking. If I wanted a picture I'd buy a painting.

Andy Rooney

###Tom Fallwell – Indie Author

Something I had always enjoyed was role-playing games, such as Dungeons & Dragons, where I could create adventures for other players to enjoy, and when speaking with a friend about that, they suggested I write my stories down instead. So, with some encouragement, I wrote a short story, and discovered there was something I could do that was still fun. That short story, A Strong Tower, appears in the Awethology Light anthology from Plaisted Publishing House Ltd., in New Zealand, and it was the springboard to what is now a new direction in my life as an author.

After that short story, I wrote my first novel, Dragon Rising, an epic fantasy tale that could also be categorized as Young Adult fiction. I learned a lot from that experience, and then moved on to create my own fantasy world like my hero, J.R.R. Tolkien, and the world of Hir was born, along with the series, the Rangers of Laerean. I created back stories, lore and history, politics and economy, and a rich environment for my world and the stories I wanted to write. The first novel in this series, A Whisper in the

Shadows, is the beginning of a trilogy story that will also serve as an introduction to the world I have created.

The second novel in the series, *Where Shadows Fall*, is also now available, and the final installment for the trilogy will be coming out later this year. The last book of this story is *The Shadow of Narwyrn*, and while it will end the story I started with *A Whisper in the Shadows*, it will not be the end of the series. I have plans to write more stories set in this world and about the Rangers. Some may feature the same characters that are in these three books, but some may feature other characters, and may even cover different time periods in the expansive history I am creating. At any rate, the end of the trilogy is not the end of the series.

After finishing the third book, I may try my hand at another genre, but will definitely be back to write more about the Rangers and the world of Hir. I have only just begun to build and create the world these stories are set in, and I have a long way to go, with much history and lore yet to be chronicled.

LINKS

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

<https://www.smashwords.com/profile/view/RhemaTom>

<http://tomfallwell.com>

<http://fb.com/TomFallwellAuthor>

After over 25 years of developing software and coding programs, I had reached a point where it was not fun for me anymore, and as I approached the age of 65, I felt the time was right for me to get out of that profession. So, in 2014, at the age of 64, I decided to retire. Having been self-employed, retirement would at least give me a steady paycheck for a change. So, I ended my programming career and prepared to find other things to do. So I officially retired from that field and found myself wondering what to do next.

###Recently Released Books

Star Wars Fan Fiction by Stephen Christiansen

Quintano Roo, a human smuggler, has stumbled across a deep, dark secret that the Empire wants remained hidden and buried at all costs. As a targeted man, he must use every trick, every connection and every resource he has to stay one step ahead of the Empire if he wants to stay alive. A'Den Verda Fett, a Mandalorian bounty hunter, has been hired to chase down and bring back the renegade smuggler. The price is high and the stakes are even higher. A family reputation is at stake, the threat of the Empire encourages the pursuit, and the promise of a glorious payment hangs in the balance.

Now these two will play a deadly game of cat and mouse through the perils of hazardous planets, the threats of the galaxy, smugglers, and each other; neither of which understanding the fate of the galaxy that rests in their hands. One wrong move and a new evil will sweep through and destroy everything.

*These are my Thoughts...This is my Journey... Walk with me in my
Madness.... If you dare~*

Zorha

A Collection by Rocky Rochford:

Every scar tells a story, tales of loss, tales of regret. The scars on my arms an echo of when times were hard. The scars on my eyes of the dreaded horrors I can never unsee. The scars on my soul, a lasting memory of the sins that tore my soul apart. The scars on my heart caused from a love forever lost. And the scars on both my wrists, the end result of a failed attempt to end a life of woe. Some scars should never be open, but mine are and they refuse to heal

Ancient Blood by Brian McKinley

Avery Doyle loves vampires; he's read every novel, seen all the movies, and researched the folklore. When his first one-night-stand, Caroline, turns out to be a true vampire on the run, he jumps at the chance to leave his ordinary life and join her as a "child of the night." The honeymoon ends, however, when Caroline's brutal Creator Sebastian enslaves them on his island estate and Avery must confront the dehumanizing reality behind his dreams.

In order to survive, Caroline and Avery take their place as servants in Sebastian's household during a gathering of the most powerful vampires on Earth, the Hegemony, and soon find themselves involved in the myriad intrigues and deceptions that form the night-to-night existence of The Order.

A fast-paced thriller that both re-imagines and pays tribute to the traditional vampire, *Ancient Blood* is a story of love, ambition, sacrifice, and betrayal that is frighteningly human.

Life Sentence by Lily Luchesi

She can fight evil, but can she fight the darkness in her own blood?

After the disastrous events with Miranda have subsided, Danny and Angelica have to adjust to a new kind of life at the Paranormal Investigative Division.

Fiona is still on the loose, and she has all of Hell on her side. Danny begins to enhance his psychic abilities with the help of a soul just like his. Angelica is caught between a rock and a very dark place.

Can their love survive these new trials, or will the past tear them apart?

Carved Wooden Heart by Elizabeth Horton-Newton

A sexy encounter with a talented native artist, a broken heart, and a knight in shining armor are just the beginning in this passionate erotic romance. Dani Stone never expected to fall in love with carver Jesse Wolf Carver. She certainly didn't foresee the results of her intense one-night stand with the sexy hunk. From the wealth of New York City to a small southern community, follow Dani as she journeys the winding path fate has laid out for her.

The Man of Cloud Nine by Adam Dreece

Seventy years from now, climate change has damaged the world, and civilization has lost its appetite for radical dreamers and innovation. Niko Rafaelo believes that the key to our future lies in revisiting the banned technology of nanobots, and binding it with the human microbial cloud (the bacteria that surrounds each person). Cut from the same cloth as Steve Jobs and his Silicon Valley heroes of history, Niko is driven to see his dream become a reality, no matter the consequences.

The Man of Cloud 9 is an intimate story, centred around the life of Niko Rafaelo and those closest to him. It reveals an all new side of Adam Dreece, best-selling author of *The Yellow Hoods* and *The Wizard Killer*.

Recommended for ages 12 and up.

Zombie Zer by J K Norry

The howlers are eating each other. What is left of humanity has a chance to breathe at last. Each group that forms has to consider how they will begin anew. They must come together on how to take care of the remaining monsters, grow food, teach kids, and deal with their dead...or fall apart in the pitted wasteland left to them by the zombie apocalypse.

Can humanity get it right this time?

Or will the last human become The Last Zombie?

War Angel by A L Mengel

“There are twice the amount of souls as there are people in every room,” Mother always said. “There are those you can see. Like you and me. But those you can’t...are still there...some of them watch over us.” The immortals have suffered a near total annihilation throughout the world; from Miami to Paris, Cairo and Sri Lanka; throughout time and history; from ancient Biblical times, towards the Renaissance, the Dark Ages and Modern-Day cosmopolitan cities. The immortals were dying. A gifted girl loses her parents in close succession and fights with God in between visits from the Devil. As a woman, she leaves home and discovers Vaudeville in Paris, and “la passion de la vanité”. During that time, the myth of angels – in particular, a War Angel – among the populace was substantial, leading to questions: Who is the War Angel? And could the War Angel save the immortals from extinction? A.L. Mengel crafts a patchwork of lush, provocative storytelling; voluptuous prose; elegant, exquisite description; set against the backdrop of glorifying the grandiose battle of Good versus Evil. War Angel will speak to believers – and non-believers – alike.

Average Daydreamer by Anita Kovacevic

Priscilla is happy being a successful, single, business woman. Or is she? With her best friend's wedding approaching, she finds herself constantly daydreaming about romance with perfect men - doctors, firemen, secret agents, sexy chefs.

Aiming for perfection, she tries to ignore an ordinary guy she sees every day and makes her feel... something. When perfection finally comes, she finds herself torn between her dreams and the reality. Perhaps dreamy perfection is just not something that ticks all her boxes.

Are couples supposed to be perfect or are average relationships the stuff of life?

Heads & Tales by Karina Kantas

A diverse collection of flash and short fiction.

28 short stories that will delight, fright and leave you questioning your sanity.

Tales of romance, thrillers, horror, comedy, scifi, fantasy, historical romance and the supernatural.

Drawing Dead by Brian McKinley

Faolan O'Connor spent his life killing for men like Legs Diamond and Lucky Luciano, and now it's his turn to face the music. But when vampire Darcy Killian offers him immortality, Faolan enters a world of violence, wealth, and power beyond anything he's ever imagined.

Driven by ambition and guilt, Faolan fights his way up the ranks in a battle to justify his sins with success. He's learned the hard way that relationships are vulnerabilities and friends are just enemies in disguise, but he also knows that he can't conquer a city alone.

Aided by an emotionally-crippled genius and a warm-hearted call girl, Faolan builds a loyal crew with which to challenge the tyrannical Killian's rule. However, will this re-awakened humanity prove a fatal flaw or his ace in the hole? With his life and the future of the city he loves at stake, can Faolan play his cards right or is he drawing dead?

We make up horrors to help us cope with the real ones

http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/s/stephen_king.html

###C K Dawn – Indie Author

A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away... in a small town in central Texas to be precise, a young girl's world expanded into infinite possibilities as two giant words popped onto the movie screen and changed her life forever. Star Wars!

The first thing I remember about that day was the intense heat and the unending line of bodies. Pounding and relentless, the heat and the sun scorched my father and I as we waited in that line that, to a child, seemed would never end. We waited, along with hundreds of others around the side of the movie theatre's blank two story wall. Dull dry paint chipped off the brick from years of sun exposure and parched brittle weeds clung to life between the cracks in the sidewalk. I wondered what could possibly be so magnificent that so many people would choose to suffer together in such a pressure cooker of misery. Entering the dark theatre from the blinding sun was jarring and disorienting. I sat down still blinded by the sun, but refreshed by the building's cool air, as though I'd been transported into outer space. And then the sensation became almost reality as the screen came to life. Spaceships and stars encompassed my vision, surrounded me, and welcomed me. The images and sounds spoke to the imagination within me, the dreamer in me, and I was awoken!

That's one of my first and favorite memories with my dad. Hi. I'm CK Dawn, I'm a Star Wars-aholic, and proud of it. You may have heard of my young adult fantasy Netherwalker Series and the award winning book one, Cloak of Shadows, but if you haven't, welcome. I'm glad you're here! I felt compelled to share my childhood memory because my hope, as a writer, is to be able to impact young ones and young at hearts with the world I've created the way Star Wars did for me. To enter a magical world where real life melts away and leaves you with courage, confidence, and the knowledge that anything is possible.

Cloak of Shadows follows two strong heroines, descendants of Camelot and the Knights of the Round Table, as they fight evil creatures lurking in the shadows here on earth. Hunters in the King's

Court, Lourdes Reese and Abigail Thorne banish Netherwalkers as most dociles sleep in their beds. Humans never knowing the dangers the Court has fought against for over a thousand years; an evil that devours human life essence as their masters rest and lie in wait, sated and nourished back in the Netherworld. The King's Court, a secret society loyal to the fallen King Arthur fight to save us every day, but things are about to be turned upside down. I'm diligently working on book two, Cloak of Secrets, and it promises to be more intense, revealing things not even known to the highest of Court members. Oh, and dragons! My modern day knights are as sexy and brooding as any scoundrel, the hunters are as fierce as Jedi, and the Netherwalkers are liken to the most evil of empires. Welcome to my world.

<https://www.amazon.com/CKDawn/e/B00NETXDB2>

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Cloak-ShadowsNetherwalker-Book-One-ebook/dp/B00NECU9W0>

<http://www.barnesandnoble.com/w/cloak-ofshadows-ckdawn/1120587511>

<http://www.ckdawn.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/ck.dawn.cloakofshadows/>

<https://twitter.com/CloakedCKDawn>

###Service Animals – Dogs

Once again we are looking at Service Animals – this time they are those dogs who protect, help make arrests and rescue people.

Police Dogs are one of the most known types of service dogs around today. Here in Rotorua they have recently introduced stab proof vests for the dogs. After seeing so many K9 deaths in recent times, I'm hoping other countries follow suit – if they haven't done so already. These days are officers of the law, they are well trained and the costs are huge. Each animal is loved, respected and help track down those people who have broken the law.

http://www.nzherald.co.nz/rotorua-daily-post/news/article.cfm?c_id=1503438&objectid=11686613

The Importance of Service Animals -Rescue Dogs

Another highly trained animal which assist finding people and bodies during natural disasters, be it an earthquake, landslide or at a ski field. They are trained by scent to assist rescue workers. Animals tend to know when an earthquake is on the way. So make sure you are aware of your pets and what they are doing.

This is the article about the Stab Proof Vest, protecting our valuable Police Dogs.

<https://www.breederret.riever.com/blog/life/can-dogs-sense-danger>

Drug & Explosive Detection Dogs

Detection Dogs are those you see at Customs and working with the Armed Forces. For Customs Officers they are sent through tourists bags on arrival to scent out drugs. They also work in the postal area searching packages. Anything they pick up on is checked out. They usually check for Drugs, Explosives, Banned Substances...etc

The armed forces use these dogs to find explosives.

For the love of dogs who help and look after us on a daily basis in all walks of life. Don't abuse their generosity!

Claire Plaisted

http://www.worldwidecanine.com/drugdogs_wwc.htm<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2541587>

###Authors Supporting Charities

Extra Life with Ashley Uzzell.

This is not an author related charity, but one that I fully support. I participate in Extra Life, an annual charity event that raises money for Children's Miracle Network Hospitals. Think of Relay For Life but for gamers. Every year, Extra Life raises millions of dollars. Millions! Every cent goes to the hospital of the gamer's choosing. I have participated for the last two years, been involved for the last three, and watched this event grow in numbers and support. Whether you play card games, board games, PC games, console games, or games on your phone, you can participate in this charity event. If not, support a gamer who is. As a mother of four, I can get behind an event that raises money for children's hospitals and I am proud to participate!

<http://www.extralife.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=cms.page&id=1095>

Anti-Bullying Charity

Inner Giant is much more than a book, it is a journey through the lives and experiences of its creators. It contains over twenty short stories written by a variety of authors, introduced by two fictional school boys adding a touch of humour and irony to the stories. The second part contains poetry of all shapes and sizes, conceived by different, but talented poets.

There are several other parts to the book, each crammed with illustrations, photographs, paintings, essays, lesson materials and pieces of sound advice.

All the material in the book has one message, do not stand for bullying, do not stand by bullying and do not bully others.

The profits from the book are being donated to anti-bullying organizations. Making this unique work a must read for all. It's time you found your own Inner Giant.

<https://www.amazon.com/Inner-Giant-Frank-Letras-ebook/dp/B00X83THM>

No Kids Hungry

Kirsten Campbell supports www.nokidshungry.org They provide lunch for poor and lower middle class children in American schools. I remember starving in school. It's hard to listen to a teacher when your stomach is growling.

Authors Supporting Our Troops (ASOT)

Year-long group to keep updated on the Authors Supporting Our Troops event... we won't stop collecting author-signed books and shipping them to soldiers in remote areas, so keep 'em coming!... #ASOT2015

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ASOT2014/>

PLEASE CONSIDER SUPPORTING THESE CHARITIES!