



# All Authors Magazine

## *Issue 9* Showers of Progress



# All Authors Magazine

Issue 9

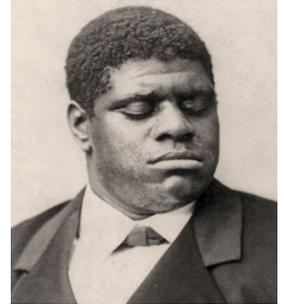
## Showers of Progress

### An Unexpected Package

Power, passion, poetry and music all tightly intertwined into a package that no one expected.

Thomas “Blind Tom” Wiggins (1849-1908)

***African American Pianist and Composer  
A Blind And Autistic Slave Was A Musical Genius***



Tom Wiggins was born during a time in which he had everything working against him. Not only as he black and a slave, but he was also blind and had Savant Autism—way before the condition was even given a name. In his time he was considered “slow” or “idiot savant”.

Yet with all of the obstacles that he had working against him, nothing could stop his passion. There was a fire in his belly that needed freeing, and he let it go.

Tom Wiggins was known for his inspirational piano compositions, as well as his love for reciting poetry.

He did not know it, but later on—in today’s world—he would be revered for his abilities. Yet, in his time he was simply surviving.

I am so inspired by Tom Wiggins. It is people like him that lead me to believe that ANYTHING is possible. That in this day and time we may think that we are unimportant, even as inescapable circumstances work against us.

It is his passion for live, music, art, and poetry that drive me to use him as an example for today. Tom Wiggins favorite poet was Mark Twain. In his honor, I share this poem with you:

#### Genius

Genius, like gold and precious stones,  
is chiefly prized because of its rarity.

Geniuses are people who dash of weird, wild,  
incomprehensible poems with astonishing facility,  
and get booming drunk and sleep in the gutter.

Genius elevates its possessor to ineffable spheres  
far above the vulgar world and fills his soul  
with regal contempt for the gross and sordid things of earth.

It is probably on account of this  
that people who have genius  
do not pay their board, as a general thing.

Geniuses are very singular.

If you see a young man who has frowsy hair  
and distraught look, and affects eccentricity in dress,  
you may set him down for a genius.

If he sings about the degeneracy of a world  
which courts vulgar opulence  
and neglects brains,  
he is undoubtedly a genius.

If he is too proud to accept assistance,  
and spurns it with a lordly air  
at the very same time  
that he knows he can't make a living to save his life,  
he is most certainly a genius.

If he hangs on and sticks to poetry,  
notwithstanding sawing wood comes handier to him,  
he is a true genius.

If he throws away every opportunity in life  
and crushes the affection and the patience of his friends  
and then protests in sickly rhymes of his hard lot,  
and finally persists,  
in spite of the sound advice of persons who have got sense  
but not any genius,  
persists in going up some infamous back alley  
dying in rags and dirt,  
he is beyond all question a genius.

But above all things,  
to deftly throw the incoherent ravings of insanity into verse  
and then rush off and get booming drunk,  
is the surest of all the different signs  
of genius.

*Mark Twain*

We would like to take a moment to thank the participants of this issue of All Authors Magazine, who are as follows:

“The Animated Woman” J.C. Little  
AACE Recipient  
Kali Tenee'  
Poetry Unleashed  
Frederick H. Crook  
Author Interview  
Stephanie C. Fox  
Guest Article  
H.E. Kleine  
Awesome Covers  
Legacy of the Dragonwand: Part 1  
Featured Book

And of course our beloved columnists:

Y. Correa  
Queen of Spades  
A. Lopez, Jr.  
D. John Watson  
Andrea Houtsch  
Harmony Kent

and newest addition to All Authors Magazine

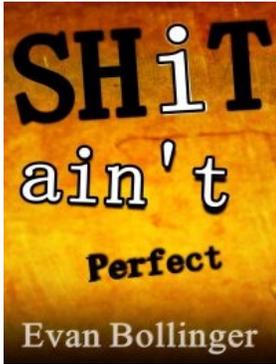
Beem Weeks

## Review Rendezvous

In this issue, No Labels Unleashed of The Review Board stops by All Authors Magazine. She is the guest reviewer on Review Rendezvous.

### **Disclaimer:**

Due to space limitations, most of these reviews have been abbreviated. For those which have been abbreviated, a link will be provided to the full review.



Shit Ain't Perfect by Evan Bollinger (E Ballz)  
Genre: Satire  
Available: Amazon

Abbreviated Blurb (for Full Blurb, visit Amazon): Shit Ain't Perfect is a book that defies classification. Blunt, humorous, and unspeakably irreverent, it encapsulates the known—and rarely discussed—aspects of everyday life. You should probably not read it aloud.

Abbreviated Review (for Full Review, visit Goodreads): I'd like to add to the title "Sh.. Ain't Perfect" and would like to add "Sh.. is not for everyone."

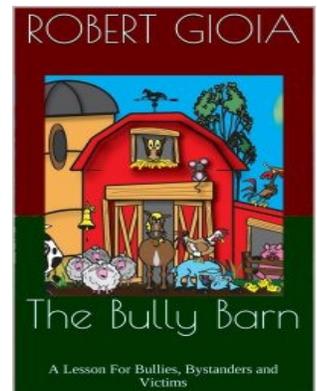
This isn't a self-help book, although in many areas it seems the author is trying to school you in the ways of life. The candor is very unorthodox and highly sarcastic in points. If you aren't use to that type of style, this won't be your cup of tea.

This is the type of book that shakes things up a bit. More than a bit—a whole lot!

I floated between moments of shock, thinking "I can't believe he said that" and holding my sides in laughter. This book was unashamed in delivery and candor, causing my brain and my funny bone maximum stimulation.

The conversational type air was refreshing and the dictionary towards the end for some of the funny jargon used was very helpful.

For its out the box style and many gems of truthful reflection, this will be a mainstay in my Kindle. I also recommend this for fans of satire and the wildly unconventional.



The Bully Barn: A Lesson for Bullies, Bystanders and Victims by Robert Gioia

Genre: Children's

Available: Amazon

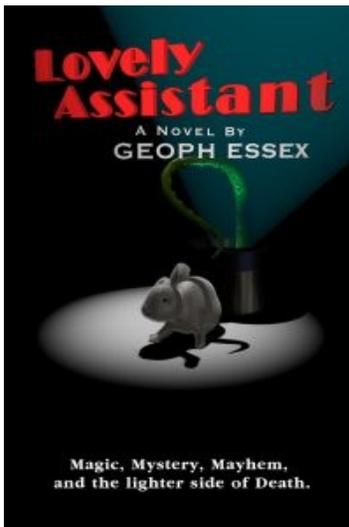
Abbreviated Blurb (for Full Blurb, visit Amazon): The Bully Barn is a story about a barn mouse named Marty who is bullied incessantly by numerous animals on a farm. This book teaches children and their parents about the various types of bullying, coping skills, and the important role of bystanders (part of the solution or part of the problem). The Bully Barn delivers that message in a manner children can both understand and relate to in an entertaining fashion. In doing so children will not only understand bullying behavior but will also have the courage to affect change while increasing awareness for victims, bystanders, and even the bullies themselves. The most important message is the negative effect of bystanders and the fact that any one "person" can indeed make a difference. It is not your typical children's book as it was developed to assist parents and educators in teaching children about bullying.

Abbreviated Review (For full review, visit Goodreads): The Bully Barn: A Lesson for Bullies, Bystanders and Victims is a touching story about a mouse named Marty who is having a difficult time at the barn. He is subjected to teasing by Carla the gossiping chicken, threatened by Henry the horse, rejected by Payton the pig, and hurt by Gatson the goat. When a fellow animal (Rusty the rooster) receive Carla's wrath, Marty decides to take a stand for himself and for Rusty. As a result, the whole attitude of the barn (bystanders and bullies alike) begins to change for the better.

A beautiful job was done on the illustrations. They were visually accurate and really captured the expressions associated with the actions (fright of Marty when he saw the look on Payton's face and the sadness of Rusty the rooster stand out for me).

One drawback is that this could have easily been divided into two books. There was a lot of supplemental information that went above and beyond the background and introduction to The Bully Barn. For me, it would have made more sense to make the discussion questions and the additional thoughts on bullying as a separate workbook. That way, the references and the cute story would not seem as if they were competing for attention.

I love the story as a whole. It tugged at my heart and I related to not fitting in and being teased without knowing why. For quite a few years in my youth, this was my reality. This is a terrific story and great read for teachers, parents, and students alike on dealing with bullying in a modern world.



Lovely Assistant by Geoph Essex

Genre: Urban Fantasy Fiction

Available: Amazon

Abbreviated Blurb (For Full Blurb, visit Amazon): Jenny Ng missed her last appointment, was hit by a car, and was hired by a magician on the same day. And those aren't even remotely the strangest things that happened to her this summer.

Jenny's a typical New Yorker, too jaded too early, struggling to get by in the big city.

Of course, the typical New Yorker rarely has to deal with very large and sardonic horses, magic swords, severed limbs, and mirror images that refuse to cooperate with all that reflecting business. But Jenny learns to cope.

With the help of a clever conjurer, a few feckless friends, and enough Grim Reapers to fill out a football league, it's up to Jenny to learn the finer points of Life and Death...and save the world while she's at it.

Abbreviated Review (for Full Review, visit Goodreads): Let me get into the thick of things by pointing out the pros and the cons.

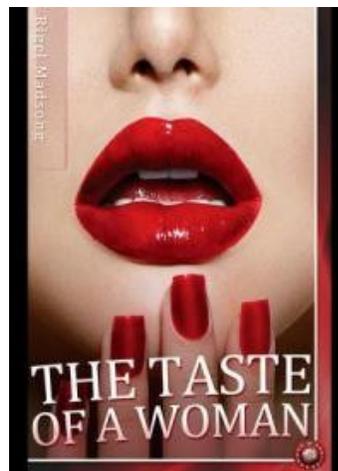
## PROS

1. I adored the cover art: even more so when I looked on the author's website and realized he had illustrated it himself.
2. There were a few likeable characters in this work. Jenny, the main character, was very no nonsense. The optimism of Calvin was very infectious. I also had a soft spot for Rex the horse.
3. The overall concept was very intriguing—so much so that one could not predict what was to happen next. The lack of predictability definitely played in the author's favor.

## CONS

1. Excessive fluff: The way I describe "excessive fluff" is when additional information is provided in chapters that do not: (1) add to the make up of the character (2) provide additional information to assist in conflict or plot and/or (3) present additional people who play a large or small role in the outcome of the book. Towards the middle of the book, there were chapters and chapters of extra information which served no point.
2. "Scratch my head" dialogue: Many of the dialogue segments read as if they were scripted. In addition, there was quite a bit of repetition and very strange metaphorical comparisons. There were nonsensical ones at well: one that stuck out was "his hormones visibly aching."
3. Sentence structure: There were many passages in *Lovely Assistant* that were entirely too lengthy. One sentence (in Chapter Two) was twelve lines long. By the time I finished reading some of them, I was trying to figure out what I had just read.
4. Entirely too long: This book could have easily told the same story in under half the size. There is too much delay between one level of action and the next. Supplemental characters were overkill and the ones who were paramount did not get the author care needed to make the slow parts bearable.

There is a very rich story here but the above mentioned cons served to water it down and kept it from achieving a higher score from me.



The Taste of a Woman by Rigel Madsong  
Genre: Erotica, Short Stories  
Available: Amazon

Blurb: A collection of short-stories: Amy was oblivious to the fires of desire that burned within her until she put on a mask; Cecily couldn't finish writing the Country-Western song she was working on until she acted out her lust for the drummer in her band; The cool but unassuming bass-man kept the jazz combo together by playing the sexual hang-ups of the musicians like an instrument; A young wife discovers her seductive powers and the loser in love learns from the outrageous aphorisms of an infamous historical expert on sex and love.

Abbreviated Review (For Full Review, visit The Review Board): On The Review Board, I do a full play by play on how I ranked each story, but to save time and space, I will just do an overall assessment of how I feel about The Taste of a Woman and as it relates to his overall philosophy about erotica, which was stated on his own Amazon page.

Overall thoughts:

This author extended certain moments that were unimportant and sped up other moments in the stories that were crucial to their successes.

Most of the ideas were remixes of journal entries, a few renditions of erotic movies and situations, and leftover prose, which were not effectively portrayed in a way to keep the panties moist or the dreams vivid.

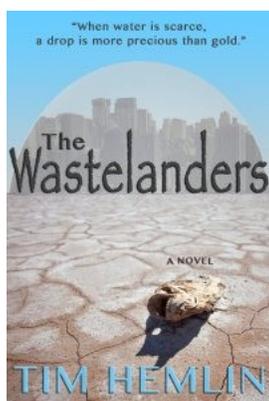
There were improper words, run-on sentences, incomplete sentences, and sprinkles of misspelled words. This author would benefit from utilizing someone who can provide further editing of this work—both syntax wise and material wise.

The author's breast and hip fetish permeates its way to the majority of Taste of a Woman, along with his obsession with what he deems as the "perfect" woman. Nary a female character was spared from the blueprint—small hips, tiny waist and big breasts. For readers that don't fit the author's model of perfection or whose preference isn't in alignment with the author, he could easily offend in areas (even if it is not his intent). For the most part, if it doesn't add conflict or depth to the stories, these demonstrations of perfection are overkill. I think the author has to take into account how much he may limit his overall audience by incorporating so much of his personal preferences.

There are not enough standouts in this collection for me to recommend as a whole—it doesn't run equivalent to his own philosophy. This is indeed a shame because I agree with the majority of what this author has to say about what good erotica should represent.



**Let's Celebrate! Let's Read!**  
Issue 9: Showers of Progress  
(Recommended Reads)



Title: The Wastelanders

Author: Tim Hemlin

Genre: Dystopian

Available: Amazon

Blurb:

America is controlled by a corporate oligarchy known as the Water Cartel and warrior-priest Joey Hawke finds himself trapped between a mysterious geneticist amassing a clone army and a group of political fanatics convinced that a dead president will rise from his tomb to lead them to salvation. Caught outside his spiritual haven when the Cartel moves against the Wastelanders, Joey is aided by Bear, an enigmatic weapons runner, a lovesick Scrapwoman, and Bernie Hawke, his estranged father. But against the Cartel's military strength, led by the power hungry Rex Fielder, Joey's only hope may be Si-Ting, a young woman with prescient abilities—a woman who not only holds the key to his heart but also to an American conspiracy to crown its future with the withered laurels of the past.

Title: We are Water

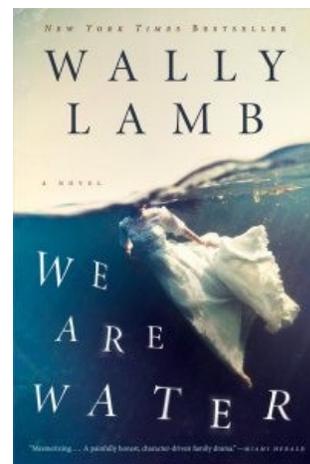
Author: Wally Lamb

Genre: LGBT Fiction

Available: Amazon

Abbreviated Blurb (for Full Blurb, visit Goodreads): In middle age, Annie Oh—wife, mother, and outsider artist—has shaken her family to its core. After twenty-seven years of marriage and three children, Annie has fallen in love with Viveca, the wealthy, cultured, confident Manhattan art dealer who orchestrated her professional success.

Annie and Viveca plan to wed in the Oh family's hometown of Three Rivers, Connecticut, where gay marriage has recently been legalized. But the impending wedding provokes some very mixed reactions and opens a Pandora's box of toxic secrets—dark and painful truths that have festered below the surface of the Ohs' lives.



We Are Water is an intricate and layered portrait of marriage, family, and the inexorable need for understanding and connection, told in the alternating voices of the Ohs—nonconformist Annie; her ex-husband, Orion, a psychologist; Ariane, the do-gooder daughter, and her twin, Andrew, the rebellious only son; and free-spirited Marissa, the youngest Oh. Set in New England and New York during the first years of the Obama presidency, it is also a portrait of modern America, exploring issues of class, changing social mores, the legacy of racial violence, and the nature of creativity and art.



Title: A Ranger's Tale  
 Author: Mysti Parker  
 Genre: Fantasy/Romance  
 Available: Amazon

Abbreviated Blurb (for Full Blurb, visit Goodreads): In the high elf city of Leogard, an elven noblewoman longs to leave her gilded cage. A half-breed former pirate wants nothing more than to escape his guilty past. Easier said than done...

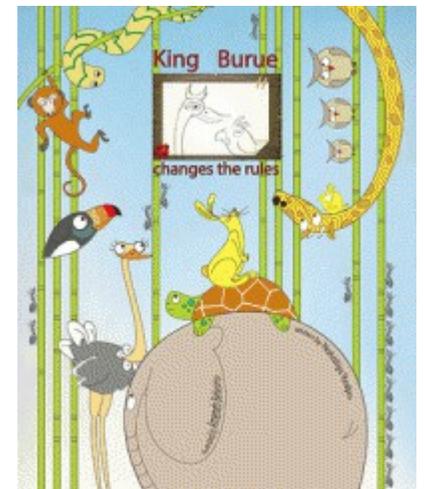
Caliphany Aranea, nearly a century old, leads an enviable life as high elf King Leopold's niece and daughter of Sirius, Leogard's most famous wizard. She is expected to follow in her father's footsteps to lead the Mage Academy and to marry a man she doesn't even like. Yet, she craves a taste of life outside the city walls.

As a young boy, half-elf Galadin Trudeauaux witnessed his parents' death at the hands of pirates. After being raised by those same murderers and forced to do their bidding, he escaped and now lives an honest life as a sea merchant and ranger.

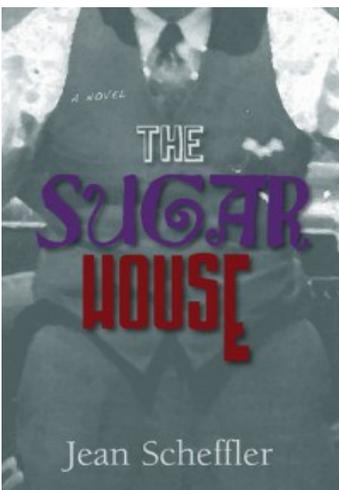
When two brutes at Leogard Harbor attempt to kidnap Caliphany while she dreams of faraway lands, Galadin comes to her rescue. Impressed by his skills, she asks him to train her as a ranger. Though he is hesitant at first to train a woman of her class, Caliphany's hefty sack of gold finally persuades him. Unfortunately, her father is not amused, and the two must escape before Caliphany faces a forced marriage and Galadin faces a noose.

From that moment on, to the finale, where Caliphany must decide where her heart truly lies, she and Galadin embark on a fateful journey that will change their lives forever. Can they survive the trials and tragedies ahead to find a love that stands the test of time?

Title: King Burue Changes the Rules  
 Author: Natalia Bajlo  
 Genre: Children's  
 Available: Amazon



Blurb: King Burue Changes the Rules is a children's story with an adult dilemma told through the keen interpretation of an 8-year-old child. Author Natalija Bajlo (who is actually age 8) conveys the message about how we should treat others and how everyone is entitled to like — or love — anyone we choose, regardless of whatever societal "rules" are perceived to exist. In a charming and beautifully-illustrated story about an animal kingdom led by a goose named King Burue, Natalija challenges rules that are not fair and should not exist and leads the King to his conclusion that those rules should be changed. It is an important lesson for children told in a most entertaining way.



Title: The Sugar House  
 Author: Jean Scheffler  
 Genre: Historical Fiction  
 Available: Amazon

Blurb: A gripping historical fiction that will transport you back in time to the Detroit of the 1920's- a world of Speakeasies, Gangsters, Auto Barons, Flappers, Lawlessness and Innovation.

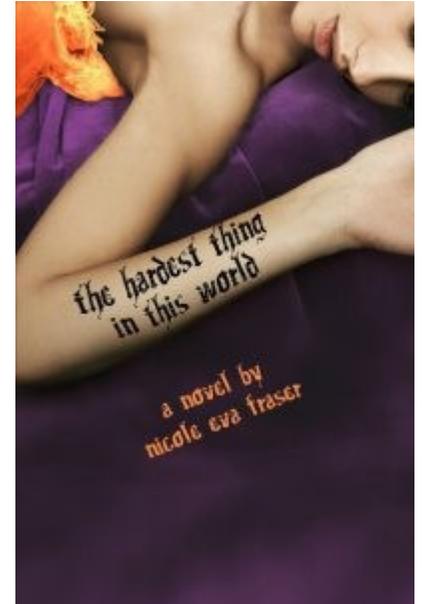
Joe, a young boy growing up in Detroit, navigates between his family's strong Polish traditions and the electric atmosphere of America's fastest growing city until a sudden illness and heart wrenching death force him to grow up much too soon.

He finds work with an ambitious group of Jewish immigrants known as the Sugar House Gang. To support his family Joe runs liquor up the river with Cappie, the man who will become his mentor, friend and ultimately, family.

Together they race through the “Prohibition Era of the Roaring Twenties” in fast boats and faster cars, trying to avoid the law and rival gangsters while striving to satisfy the murderous leaders of what is to become the infamous Purple Gang.

Title: The Hardest Thing in This World  
Author: Nicole Eva Fraser  
Genre: Contemporary Fiction  
Available: Amazon

Blurb: Sexy, smart-mouthed Melody Sawyer is an underachiever, a home health care nurse with good intentions and a chip on her shoulder. Her troubled daughter Renee recently dropped dead at age 24, but Renee’s ghost keeps popping in on the family. And Melody has no clue about her married daughter, Kayla—who since age 16 has been deep in a clandestine affair with pro baseball player Baron Lee Presley. Join the Sawyer women on their offbeat, darkly funny, and sometimes tragic journey as they try to conquer the hardest thing in this world.



**Hot Off The Presses**  
Issue 9: Showers of Progress  
This Just Out (Hot Off the Presses)

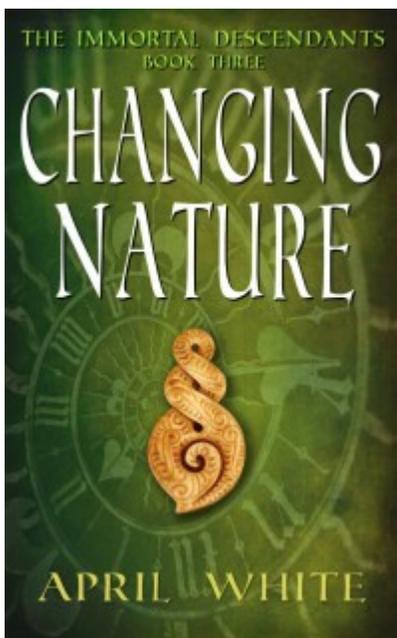
Title: Changing Nature (The Immortal Descendants Three)  
Author: April White  
Genre: Time Travel  
Release Date: January 22, 2015  
Available: Amazon

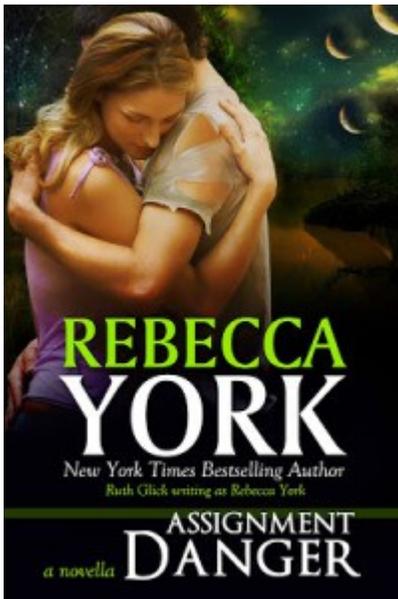
Blurb: Immortal Descendants are disappearing and seventeen-year-old Clocker Saira Elian is next on the list...

Saira and Archer’s romantic London summer is shattered by the bold kidnappings of Immortal Descendants. It’s clear Mongers want control of the Descendant Families, and when they target a powerful Shifter, there’s no doubt they will eliminate anyone who stands in their way.

A split in time could be the cause of this new Monger aggression, and Saira, Archer and Ringo suspect their time-traveling nemesis Bishop Wilder. One dangerous world is exchanged for another when Saira and her friends track Wilder to the gloomy streets of Paris in 1429. They find the city besieged by marauding wolves led by a fanatical peasant girl who will be known to history as Joan of Arc.

Crossing the time stream to repair it has dropped them into the heart of the Hundred Years’ War on the eve of an epic battle, where the line between friends and enemies will be drawn in blood. To finally end the deadly game of cat and mouse with Wilder, Saira must confront her greatest challenge yet: the truth about her changing Nature.





Title: Assignment Danger  
Author: Rebecca York  
Genre: Paranormal Science Fiction  
Release Date: January 25, 2015  
Available: Amazon  
Blurb:

Jack Younger agrees to risk his life when he takes on a dangerous undercover assignment. He doesn't count on his old love, Sophia DeAngelo ending up in the middle of the action. What if he has to choose between fulfilling his mission and saving her life?



Title: Skeletal  
Author: Katherine Hayton  
Genre: Crime Thriller  
Release Date: January 25, 2015  
Available: Amazon  
Blurb:

Three months before she died Daina Harrow faced a bully at school. Six weeks before she died Daina Harrow suffered an assault in the park. One week before she died Daina Harrow stole a secret people had killed to hide.

That was ten years ago. Ten long years.

Now, her bones have been found on a building site. A coroner's inquest has been reopened. A parade of witnesses is about to start.

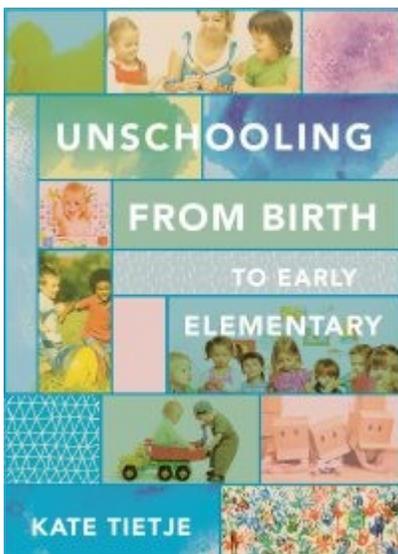
And Daina's here. Watching every day as her mother cries in the courtroom. Watching every day as her friends, and her enemies, and her killers lie about her on the stand.

Watching, and making sure that no matter what the coroner hears, you know the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

So help you God.

Warning: this book contains some bad language, and scenes of sexual assault. Recommended for ages 17+ only.

**Skeletal**  
Katherine Hayton



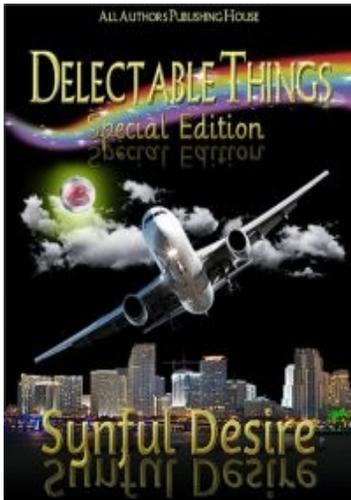
Title: Unschooling From Birth Through Early Elementary  
Author: Kate Tietje  
Genre: Childhood Education (Non-fiction)  
Release Date: February 10, 2015  
Available: Amazon

Abbreviated Blurb (for Full Blurb, visit Amazon):

Are you considering homeschooling or unschooling? Are you unsure what these terms even mean — or what it would be like, day to day? Do you \*want\* to home school, but aren't sure when or where to begin? Unschooling From Birth Through Early Elementary is your guide.

In the introduction, we'll walk you through what "unschooling" means. (It's not all radical!) Plus, it's entirely possible to unschool for the early years, and still choose a different educational path when your child reaches school age. It's not either/or.

The nitty gritty: Early childhood is broken down by age — 0 to 2 years, 2 to 4 years, 4 to 6 years, and 6 years and beyond. For each age, there's a guide to what developmental milestones you can expect your child to meet, and how to best stimulate their learning. Each age comes with an activity suggestion guide, plus a list of materials.



Title: Delectable Things: Special Edition

Author: Synful Desire

Genre: Contemporary, LGBT Erotica

Release Date: February 14, 2015

Available: CreateSpace, Amazon

Blurb:

Satisfy your appetite for spicy sensuality and provocative plots with these dishes of erotica.

Main Course: Delectable Things

Sabrina can't believe her ears. The man she's been fawning over for far too long now has completely turned on her, leaving her with nothing. Sabrina decides it's time to get up and get away.

Taking a long over due trip far away from her bane, things steam up really quickly and Sabrina discovers all of the Delectable Things that life has to offer.

Dessert #1: Simmer Sweet

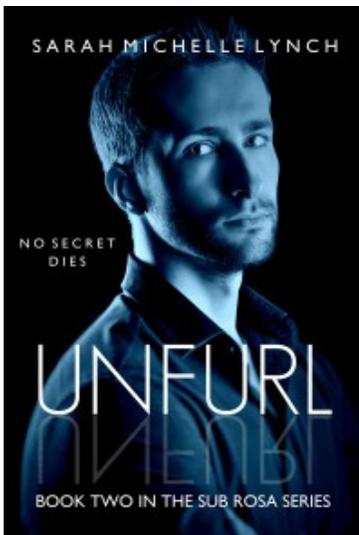
It is said that confession is good for the soul. Does it still ring true when circumstances are complicated? Kesha has finally come clean. She has let Teresa know about her feelings. The only drawback is Teresa's engagement to Chris. Teresa is forced to make a choice between Chris and Kesha. The fallout will be nothing less than a fire of simmer sweet.

Dessert #2: Handy

Darbi has had her share of bad luck. She is unexpectedly in job purgatory and has no chance of ever getting a promotion. Her online dating profile sat months without any responses. Why should she continue?

As she signed on to delete everything entirely, three responses catch her eye. All are different but each has something about them which makes Darbi want to meet all three. Ade appears to be the guy next door. Boyde looks like a supermodel. Choise looks like the rugged type.

When all is not what it seems, Darbi has concluded that her love life is mating with her job status in purgatory. Will anything come in handy to turn her luck around?



Title: Unfurl (Book Two in the Sub Rosa Series)

Author(s): Sarah Michelle Lynch

Genre: Romantic Suspense

Release Date: February 26, 2015

Available: Amazon

Blurb:

I'll stab you in the heart.

I'm coming for you.

No secret dies.

But you will.

When news breaks that enigmatic magazine editor Jennifer Matthews is dead, it irks Chloe that Cai refuses to shed even one tear. What she doesn't know is that he was expecting it, perhaps even, hoping for it.

In this dark, romantic tale of revenge, Cai explodes the deepest, most destructive aspects of his past as he comes to terms with the tragedy at the heart of Jennifer's downfall. With Chloe's love and support, he must brave his demons and dodge death to finally end a bitter feud between two damaged families.

\*\*\*This is the sequel to Unbind and is not intended to stand alone.\*\*\*

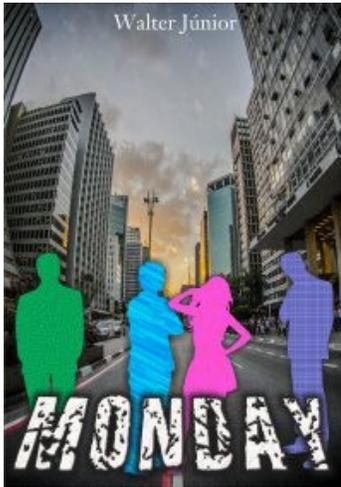


## International Corner

Issue 9: Showers of Progress

Books Around the World

(International Corner)



Title: Monday: When Life Decides to Give a Second Chance

Author: Walter Júnior

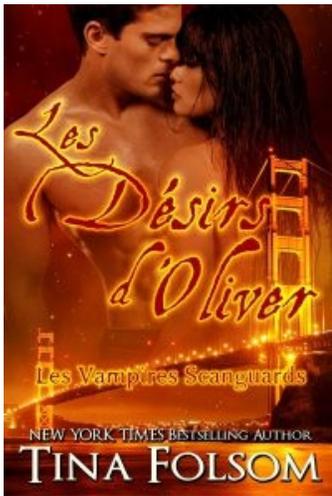
Genre: Parenting and Relationships

Language: Portuguese

Blurb

Quando a vida parece simplesmente algo a ser vivido, sem brilho, sem cor e os dias são sempre como uma preguiçosa manhã de segunda-feira, o destino fará com que tudo volte ao seu devido lugar. Todos nós teremos – pelo menos uma vez em nossa existência – a oportunidade de receber os seus ensinamentos.

Monday relata a história de Marcos, Fernando, Lucas e Laura. Quatro pessoas totalmente diferentes que tiveram seus caminhos entrelaçados e juntos aprenderam a reconhecer seus erros e modificar seus modos de pensar, agir e enfrentar os desafios para os quais nascemos predestinados. Eles encontraram a verdadeira felicidade ao valorizar as simples coisas da vida, que saltaram aos seus olhos quando não mais puderam ter.



Title: The Desires of Oliver (Vampires Scanguards t. 7)

Author: Tina Folsom

Genre: Paranormal Romance

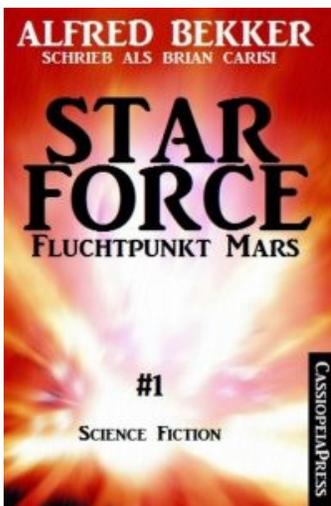
Language: French

Abbreviated Blurb (for Full Blurb, visit Amazon):

Récemment transformé en vampire, Oliver, garde du corps employé chez Scanguards, éprouve des difficultés à contrôler sa soif de sang. Chaque nuit se traduit par une lutte contre la tentation mais, lorsqu'Ursula, la beauté asiatique, lui tombe littéralement dans les bras, il craint de perdre la bataille face à ses démons intérieurs et donc, de succomber à son désir d'hémoglobine.

Réduite à l'esclavage par des vampires pour la singularité de son sang, Ursula vient juste d'échapper à ses ravisseurs. Lorsqu'un bel étranger vient à sa rescousse, elle réalise qu'il est également de leur espèce. Il prétend vouloir l'aider, mais peut-elle faire confiance à un vampire qui convoite, non seulement son corps, mais également le liquide qui coule dans ses veines ?

Sa promesse de sauver les prostituées dont le sang présente les mêmes spécificités que le sien la contraint à s'allier à Oliver et à ses collègues de Scanguards. Son choix la mènera-t-il à son salut ou à sa perte ?



Title: Star Force 1: Escape From Mars (Space Opera)

Author: Alfred Bekker

Genre: Science Fiction

Language: German

Blurb:

Band 1 der Space Opera

Commander John Darran und seine Crew erreichen den Mars – und stoßen auf Hinterlassenschaften außerirdischer Technik. Während die Großmächte der Erde noch ihre Rivalitäten austragen, muss Commander Darran eine Entscheidung treffen: Er sagt sich von der Erde los, um die Menschheit zu retten – denn die Milchstraße ist ein kriegerischer Dschungel!

Space Opera voller Action und Dramatik.



Title: Sunny Side Lovers  
Author: Abe Usagi  
Genre: Lesbian Comedy  
Language: Japanese

Blurb:

繋がった二つの目玉焼きの看板を持つカフェ 『サニーサイド』 に興味を引かれた女の子、佐々木理恵。

目玉焼きの看板に見つめられた気がした彼女は店内に足を踏み入れた。

\* コーヒーカップを手に取り、一口すする。 ふと周りを見回す。 店内は女性客で溢れかえっていた。 世界から男性が消え去ったかのような錯覚を感じた。 どうしてこんなに女性ばかりなんだろう？ 人気のスイーツでもあるのかしら？ 理恵は店内の女性の多さを不思議がった。

Wムーンを口に運ぶ。 レタスサンドを頬張る。 コーヒーで胃の中まで流し込む。一つ一つでは物足りない。 でも、みんな協力し合って頑張っているのね。 彼女はWムーンセットのワールドカップドイツ代表のような見事なチームワークに感心したのだ。

こうして、彼女はこのカフェの常連になった。

実はサニーサイドはレズビアンカフェだったのだ。 知らずに通う理恵の運命は！

一方、理恵の先輩の松下結衣はカミングアウトしていないレズビアン。

レズビアン映画が大好き。 恋人はいらない。 私はインターネットさえあれば満足できるの！ それが彼女の口癖だ。

しかし、本心では映画のレイチェルとルースのようにハッピーになりたい女の子。

\* ほら、あそこに見えてきたでしょ。 女性の胸に見立てた二つ繋がった目玉焼きの看板。 Lの世界で言うとプラネットみたいなものよ。

えっ.....あれは！？ 衝撃的な光景が彼女の目の前に！

サニーサイドの中からリクルートスーツを着た一人の見覚えのある女性が出てきたのだ。

結衣はサニーサイドから出てきた理恵を目撃し、彼女をレズビアンだと思い込む！

この小説は彼女たち二人の視点から交互に語られるレズビアン・ラブコメディだ！

## San Valentino



la storia,  
idee fai da te,  
tutorial  
per decorazioni,  
bigliettino  
e molto altro

di Marina Galatioto

Title: Valentine: DIY ideas, tutorial for decorations

Author: Marina Galatioto

Genre: Self-help/Home Improvement

Language: Italian

Blurb:

Una pratica guida per organizzare la Festa di San Valentino partendo dal conoscerne il Santo cui è dedicata e per quale motivo ai tutorial per realizzare decorazioni semplici e low cost per la casa, al bigliettino d'auguri. Idee per il menù, per frasi d'amore, ma anche per vivere al meglio la festa degli innamorati senza andare fuori budget e con la possibilità di scaricare e stampare i bigliettini, da utilizzare anche come segnaposto e portatovaglioli.

Title: These Agreements do not Remember

Author: Andrey Cabely

Genre: Spirituality

Language: Spanish

Blurb:

“Esos acuerdos que no recuerdas” es una fascinante novela que incorpora elementos de ficción y romance, para aquellos que se intrigan por un amor eterno, la vida después de la vida, más aún, la vida antes de la vida.

Con una historia que involucra un bello amor de juventud, situaciones asombrosas y existenciales, como abre bocas, se busca abordar de un modo simbólico temas que nos generan interrogantes, tales como el cielo, las almas gemelas, el destino, el universo, nuestro acontecer en el mundo, dando un giro para darles el lugar que le corresponden y despertar cierta actitud ante nuestra experiencia cotidiana en donde juega un papel importante el perdón.

En este magnífico libro de 12 breves capítulos se hace uso de una acostumbrada óptica dualista y lineal para apuntar finalmente a una propuesta no-dualista, suscitando el interés y un singular panorama introductorio para un curso de Milagros.





## **AAACE Recipient: JC Little**

When a picture is worth more than a thousand words



There is something to be said about a work that can elevate the spirit, touch the heart and bring a tear to one's eye without one syllable being used to do so.

One of the books that is an epitome of this statement is Motherhood. Motherhood is a picture book that depicts the special bond between mother and child.

JC Little does an outstanding job with the illustrations. She has a knack of using the simplest technique to capture such universal expressions, like joy, confusion and sadness. I was particularly fond of the steady progression of the child, personified as a heart with legs: from when it crawled to when it began walking and gaining a sense of independence.

Whether you are a parent that wants to share a greatly illustrated work with a message or a youthful spirit that wants to celebrate and reminisce over the process, JC Little has successfully crafted a work that has not only universal appeal but award winning appeal.

We at All Authors Publications and Promotions are honored to bestow the 3rd All Authors Certificate of Excellence Award to JC Little for her children's book Motherhood.

\*\*\*\*

Now here is our recipient with a few words.

"When I first drew the story of Motherhood, I was expressing a pure feeling that I had lived. In publishing the story as a book, I hoped to reach out not just to mothers, but also sons and daughters everywhere. The most common element across all humanity is that each and every one of us was born to a mother – it is a universal experience. My wish was to transcend race, borders and language. A picture-book without words seemed a perfect way to celebrate our undeniable commonalities.

As an independent author and illustrator moving into the world of self-publishing can be daunting. Those who brave the industry face the task of not only creating and executing the story, but also the publishing formatting to multiple platforms and the marketing of the book. Therefore the support of All Authors Magazine is invaluable. To be recognized for my work is such a gift, especially as there are so many worthy author illustrators self-publishing today. I'm thrilled, honoured and humbled to accept the All Authors Award of Excellence for Motherhood. Thank-you so much!"





## **Author Interview**

For Issue 9: Showers of Progress, our Featured Author is Frederick H. Crook.

Frederick, thank you for joining us here today at All Authors Magazine. We're very happy to have you. Whenever we pick an author to interview, we try to pick authors whose work we find interesting. Suffice it to say that your work (and the many titles under your belt) have peaked our interest. \* giggling \*

All Authors Magazine is a magazine created by authors, for authors and our motto is "Advocating all authors, reaching all readers". One of the things we aim to do is introduce amazing talents to the literary world. We believe that you are among them.

So, today we are going to pick your brain in the hopes that our readers/followers learn more about the person behind the books.

### **What inspired "Dregs of Exodus" and does it contain any biblical elements?**

There are no biblical references in the story. The word definition with regards to the premise that billions of people leave the Earth for the colony planet, Alethea. However, the character, Doctor Zachary Steinhouse is portrayed as a religious man. He never really drills his beliefs into any other character, but at one point in the book, I do quote him as he prays.

### **I'm personally a fan of your writing. I find that you have a way with words and are extremely talented with forming images in your readers time? If so, how long and when/where did it start?**

I do appreciate you saying that, Yasmin. Thank you so much. I've enjoyed creative writing since was a child. I've always had an active imagination and was not particularly a good student because my mind drifts like an old radio with a bad tuner. But, I was one of those kids in high school that would be singled out to read their assignments in front of the class, or have it read to my fellow students by the teacher. I was taken aside once by my senior year English teacher after such an occasion and was told that I could be a "trailblazer". Her words. I didn't take her seriously because she pointed to the Stephen King novel I had with me and said something rather negative about it. I 'm afraid I may have disappointed her further by writing Sci-Fi and publishing so late in life. I do regret not taking her more seriously.

### **With 7 books under your belt, please tell us, which is your favorite and why?**

My favorite of the completed works is the first one, The Dregs of Exodus. It is a bit wide in scope, but doesn't have a large number of characters, therefore, there's a lot more intimacy between them. All of my works are dystopian science fiction, but I don't wrap the reader up in a lot of gadgets beyond bio-electronic implants, some energy weapons and some other things that really are in our future. I focus on the human condition given the circumstance of the discovery of this wonderfully tempting, but fictitious "Super Earth" that triggers the "Great Exodus", as I have called it.

### **Are you strictly a Sci-Fi writer, or do you find yourself dabbling in other genres? If so, which ones and why?**

I have been after an actor/musician for a couple of years in an effort to convince him to let me write his biography, but so far, I haven't been successful. I even went so far as to create an outline of the biography and I sent it to his agent. No sale. I think I'd like to do someone's biography one day. I'd like to sit down with that person and spend time talking with them, taking notes from pen & paper and a recording device and just writing the thing.

### **You have some pretty interesting book cover concepts. When making your book covers do you know exactly what you want and how you want it, is it a combined effort, or does your graphic designer surprise you?**

Well, "Dregs" and "Pirates" were from stock photos through the self-publisher I went through. I've never been happy with them and I'm hoping that the good people at Solstice want to take them over. That way, the artists that created the covers for everything else, Arvin Candelaria & Velvet Lyght of "Stories by CL" can work their magic. I just love those two. I can tell them what I want and they just do it, only better than I imagine. They blow me away.

Arvin and Velvet did the cover for my short story, Lunar Troll in two days ... two! Velvet had to get into an old Air Force jumpsuit and a motorcycle helmet and pose on her bicycle in front of a green screen for that one, playing the part of the main character, Andy Yendle. Arvin worked his magic and came up with a glimpse of the interior of "Tranquility Station", the moon base and gave it a very '60's-era styling. It literally brought me to tears when I saw it the first time. I'm so very proud to know them and have them doing my covers. In fact, we're planning on a graphic novel version of that very story and those two will be doing the artwork. Also, Arvin himself posed as Frank Campanelli for Campanelli: The Ping Tom Affair and Campanelli: Sentinel.

**I know you're a doggy Daddy. Tell us about your pets and how they impact your life, please.**

Our dogs are our kids. I can't imagine living in this house without them. Penny even inspired the character of Mathias, the long haired miniature dachshund in The Dregs of Exodus. He has a lot of her traits beyond the physical. In the author's picture on that novel, she's the one laying on my lap. I figured it was only fair to drag her into it.

**Are you partial to a breed and/or species of pet? If so, then what and why?**

Dachshunds all the way. We have three. Two of them, Moxie and Penny are miniatures and Luke, a rescue from Wisconsin turned out to be a "tweenie", that is, with regards to size and weight, he lies between a miniature and a standard Dachshund. They're very smart, loving animals and each of them has a completely different personality. All three think they are bigger than they are and they can be pretty damned entertaining.

**Name 3 of your most favorite things in the world. What can you absolutely NOT live without?**

I can't cheat here and say my wife and my dogs...so...writing is number one, definitely. Entertaining people with my written word has turned out to be the greatest thrill of my life and I can't wait to snag more readers. Secondly, I love road trips and I'm looking forward to some upcoming appearances at conventions and book festivals. Thirdly, though this might as well be tied for second with road trips, is that I love my music...loud. In 2000 I put together a home theater in our back room complete with speakers that many people would think are too large for the house, let alone the room they're trapped within. There is nothing like the pounding of three 15-inch woofers in a closet. I could not live without the freedom to do any of these three things.

**Have you ever been on a memorable vacation? If so, where and what happened?**

I've had quite a few, but what comes to mind are my two trips to Gettysburg National Military Park. Following the self-guided walking tour of the battlefield in this town, a person really gets the sense of what it was like to fight there from start to finish. The area where "Picket's Charge" occurred is especially daunting. The people of the town are all wonderful, too. It's a fabulous place to spend a couple of days if one is into history.

**If you could liken your books to one cuisine what would it be and why?**

I would say that The Pirates of Exodus would be like a Chinese dish called "The Happy Family". While most recipes online deal with it being centered around chicken, many take out/delivery places around the Chicago area tend to throw seafood and beef in there, too. There's something in that book for everyone.

Amazing, thanks again for being with us today as the Featured Author of All Authors Magazine, Issue 9.



Visit this Author's Blog at:  
<http://crooksbookss.blogspot.com>



## Guest Article

Writing, Research, and Encouraging People to Think  
By  
Stephanie C. Fox

As I start to write this piece, I am watching an interview with the creators and performers of the 1980s television show *Max Headroom*. They say that this show was wonderfully dense with detail. That thrills me because that is how I write, and how I like my entertainment.

The show suffered from abysmal Nielsen ratings, a stupid method of measuring whether or not a show is good enough to continue in production. It was brilliant, farsighted, and beautifully executed. It also kicked off a pattern that keeps repeating itself in my life: whenever I really enjoy and am thoroughly impressed by a show, it ends, only to turn out to be highly respected and loved ever after. (*Star Trek* is another case in point that kicked off this pattern before my time.)

What fascinates me about dystopian science fiction is its potential to become science fact.

E-mail, huge corporations in control of mass marketing driving the consumption habits of the general population, independent, roving cable television, a baby growing nurseries, people living off the grid of a highly documented and digital society...these are things that became reality.

We may have a long way to go before we get to *Star Trek*, but it gave us cell phones that fold in half and communicate via satellites, medical diagnostic instruments and scanner connected to beds, computers that are either compact enough to be operate by an individual on the move or by another at a desk, and the vision to see every idea as potential future reality.

I love that. I'm sure I'm not the only one who does, and so I write dystopian fiction that has that potential. Will our species have a good future, a horrifying one, or something in between? Can I see it if I study the problems and ideas of my time carefully enough and think about them hard enough? I hope so.

We as a species are using our planet up with reckless abandon, and the fact that too few of us seem to be willing to pay attention to that and focus on plausible solutions bothers me. As an outlet for this frustration and disgust, I write about it.

Currently, I am in the process of writing a sequel to my dystopian science fiction novel, *Nae-Née – Birth Control: Infallible, with Nanites and Convenience for All*. It is about all how human overpopulation is the driving force behind ecosystem collapse. I prefer controversial topics that inspire strong emotion to bland ones that don't. This novel describes a nanite birth control device that is developed as a safe, convenient method for the user, only to have it opted by the United Nations in a treaty that gets signed by every nation but the Vatican.



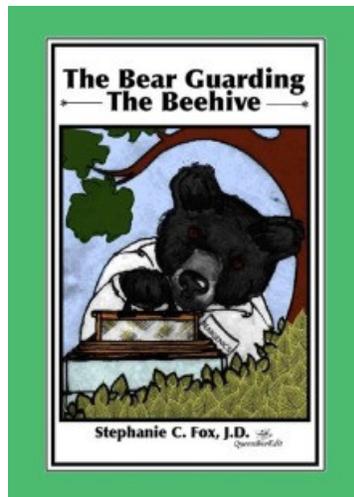
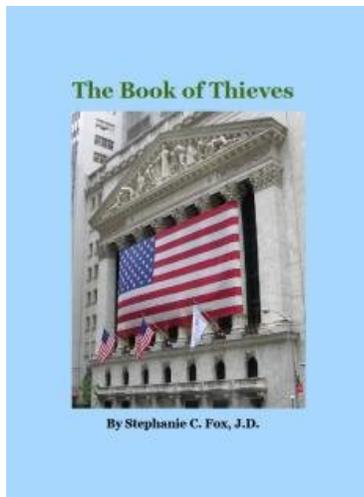
The narrator is a woman like myself – on the autism spectrum with Asperger's, an advanced degree, and a husband who is also an Aspie and also highly skilled. She thinks of the concept, and he, a nanobotic medical engineer, makes it a reality. Nae-Née translates as "Not-Born" and is the brand name of the device. It is operated via a remotely controlled computer signal.

The world of Nae-Née is just like ours, with problems of air and water and land pollution, surveillance devices all around us, and a government that is short-sighted and foolish enough not to be developing nuclear fusion energy, a clean opposite to fission.

I write about what is being done, what should be done, what obstacles to that confront us, and what will happen if we don't change course and change it fast. Time is running out before the planet's temperature heats up too much to support life as we are used to it and before our behavior kills the honey bees and other species that we depend on.

If we can get voters to care before they are old enough to vote, that may help.

For this reason, I have written *The Book of Thieves* and *The Bear Guarding the Beehive* to tell tweens and up (yes, up, which means for adults too!) about two huge problems. One is the economic meltdown of 2008 and its causes, and the other is honey bee colony collapse disorder. Both stories are presented in dark metaphor as fairy tales. They are short and make their points quickly and efficiently, and convey a sense of urgency.



It is my hope that these books will reach kids and adults and inspire them to think about what leads to disasters and act to prevent them before it is too late. I do this because I don't want to live in crowded discomfort with no control over where I live, how I travel or if I travel, what I eat and drink, and if and when I can use whatever appliances or even have further access to them.

If this is highly detailed and dense, and if it requires a reader to think and even go back and re-read anything, fine! I do that all of the time. I wish more people would do so. Our species would not be in the mess that it is in now, and mostly asleep to the dangers lurking in the near future.

My writing is that of an Aspie, with a lot to consider, and I try to make that fun and reachable to people. This does mean requiring a lot of my readers. Our society is too dumbed-down. Too many people tell me that they don't read, their attention span is too short for books, and they prefer television, movies, video clips, and apps.

I hate Smart Apps. What an oxymoronic concept. Dystopian science fact surrounds us with that as we allow machines to do more and more of our thinking for us. It also offers us tainted food, with GMOs spliced into it as it is grown, sprayed with poison, and served up too fast. Slow food rather than fast food is what we need. Chopping, slicing, dicing, cooking, baking, preparing, and cleaning up from all that is what we need more, not less, of to be healthy and happy.

So too with reading and writing – we need more genres, more words, more complexity, and more willingness to spend time away from distractions. The Internet is great to a point. I treat it like an encyclopedia and news source. Watching cute videos of cats is fun on occasion, but a waste of one's life if done to excess.

I have never had so much fun working as when I realized that I could assign myself any topic that fascinates me and then research it via a combination of books, online news, websites such as those that offer population clocks and global footprint scales, and then write it up as I see fit.

This is all I want to do!

As a teenager, I could vaguely see myself doing this as an adult, but I knew that I had a long way to go before I would consider myself qualified to do it. Some writers take course after course in creative writing to prepare. Others work in journalism or as attorneys first. Not me; I worked as a historic interpreter in the house museums of two famous authors (Harriet Beecher Stowe and Mark Twain) for a few years before attending law school.

Midway into my first year of law school, I knew that I would not be practicing law. Why? Undiagnosed as I was, I sensed that I would not have the ideal retort ready in court until hours later – too late to do a client any good! But I would not quit. The law school curriculum had plenty of skills to offer me. It would prepare me to organize my thoughts quickly and efficiently, and to edit, research, write, and speak clearly.

Unlike my classmates, who were preparing for careers in insurance and similarly dry areas...areas which gave me a heavy, frozen feeling when I gave them much thought as a future for myself...I studied what I loved: outer space law. I was both clever and lucky enough to be able to choose a professor who went along with this. For his seminar in international environmental law, I wrote about a U.N. treaty on damage caused by orbital debris. There are such things, and they do lead to legal disputes.

As I delivered my oral presentation on what served as my law thesis, I heard a muttered “Star Wars, science fiction, Star Trek” from across the room. The professor cast a funny look askance that way, then turned back to listen to me. I just kept going. This was fun!

I can't read nonverbal cues or facial expressions, but learning what Asperger's is has only made me more confident about storytelling, not less. Why? Well, many famous authors and inventors and thinkers were likely Aspies: Jane Austen, Mark Twain (who didn't like Austen's writing, probably because it was so outside his experience), Isaac Newton, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Virginia Woolf, and so on and on. If they could tell an engaging story, so could I!

And so I have been doing, I hope, for the past several years.

This has meant learning how to use and manipulate software in order to create digital and printed versions of my work. I don't have an agent, and the trade-off is that I get to keep creative control over my books. Having them arrive in the mail as books with pages and my QueenBeeEdit logo (that's my editing and tutoring service) on the title pages feels great.

There is no job waiting for me out there in a cubicle at the end of some horrid commute through mobs of cars at the Dead Sea crawl on a highway every day, and I'm glad. It took me a while to realize, after attempting various jobs, that I have no choice but to make a career of what I love to do, minus that miserable expenditure of fossil fuels and time.

To write is to be alone and to spend hours at it, but I know I have friends to interact with when I pause for a break. I can find them on the Internet via Facebook, on the telephone for those who live out of state (such as my best friend from college), or face to face if I go out to a yoga class and then local shops.

I make my own schedule, bounce ideas off my husband and run science fiction ideas by him, and read and research some more. My husband loved the concept of Nae-Née; he found it sufficiently plausible, as have my readers. But...I need more readers! We authors always do.

It amazes me to realize that what I saw myself doing as a teenager is what I am doing now, and that the tools I wished for then are a reality now: a room of my own with a cat in it, and a computer that shows a virtual image of the end result I am aiming for.

In the 1980s, I worked first on an electric typewriter with correction tape and a tiny screen that showed just a few digital words on it. Next came a huge, heavy desktop personal computer that made a distracting buzzing sound as I typed. The keyboard was a dream compared to the typewriter, but the screen showed something that was hard to relate to: amber-on-black words. Its buzz did not help much, either.

Gradually, computers switched to virtual paper – black on white. Then it was in color! Photographs could be included and I was in my element. This was what I had longed for and it was finally here...with a flat and nearly silent screen on which to read everything.

This is everything I could have wanted with which to work, and I never want to stop using it.

It's so much fun, and I can create whatever I wish – whatever seems relevant.

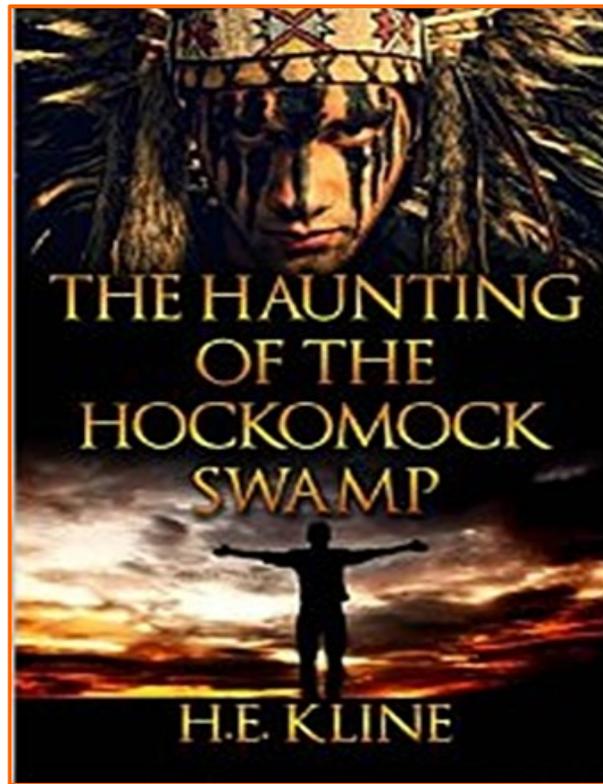
Connect with Stephanie C. Fox on  
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### **Awesome Covers**

Issue 9: Showers of Progress

For this issue's Awesome Covers, we are proud to feature *The Haunting of the Hockomock Swamp* by H.E. Kline.



Genre: Adult Paranormal

Blurb: This is a risqué paranormal rollercoaster ride you will never forget!!!

History can never be erased. Perhaps when your children are haunted and plagued by a mysterious illness, it is not a result of biology or science but a vengeful spirit of the past using your children as a medium for the truth.

Janie Williams falls upon a sensational news story involving a childhood epilepsy epidemic raging across several towns in Massachusetts abutting The Hockomock Swamp. Problem is: she's a newbie and her bosses don't think this story is quite "newsworthy."

However, nothing is as it seems. As the children convulse, they step into an alternate dimension as they follow an Indian ghost named Metacom deep into the woods within The Hockomock Swamp. Metacom shapeshifts into a three-headed dragon that showers the children in rainstorms of blood, metamorphoses into a flying pterodactyl dropping the children into the swamp, shows them horrors that plague their young minds. Metacom is trying to show the children something, but what is he trying to show them?

As Janie investigates and researches this phenomenon, she falls deeply in love. The Haunting of The Hockomock Swamp is a powerful love story that will take you on an unforgettable journey of the heart, mind, and soul as you follow an Indian ghost deep into the woods.

Available: Amazon

Where did the inspiration for the cover come from?

I have been having dreams about following a young, handsome Indian brave with jet- black eyes into the woods since I was seven ... I grew up to write his story and the story of his people.

Do you feel that it reflects the story well?

Yes, it reflects the story to a T.

Did you design it yourself or was it designed by another party?

No, I consulted a professional graphic designer.

Given the choice, would you change anything about it?

No, I would not change a thing.

Was this the original cover to this book, or was there one prior (like a first edition)?

There was a prior cover that I liked very much but did not quite fit the book as well.

Does this cover reflect your artistic preference?

Yes, I think that the graphic designer matched the cover to my personal artistic preference.

H.E. Kleine, thank you for taking time to share your Awesome Cover with us this issue!

***For more information about this title or H.E. Kleine, please check out:***

Amazon Author Page

Author Website

Facebook



***Featured Book***

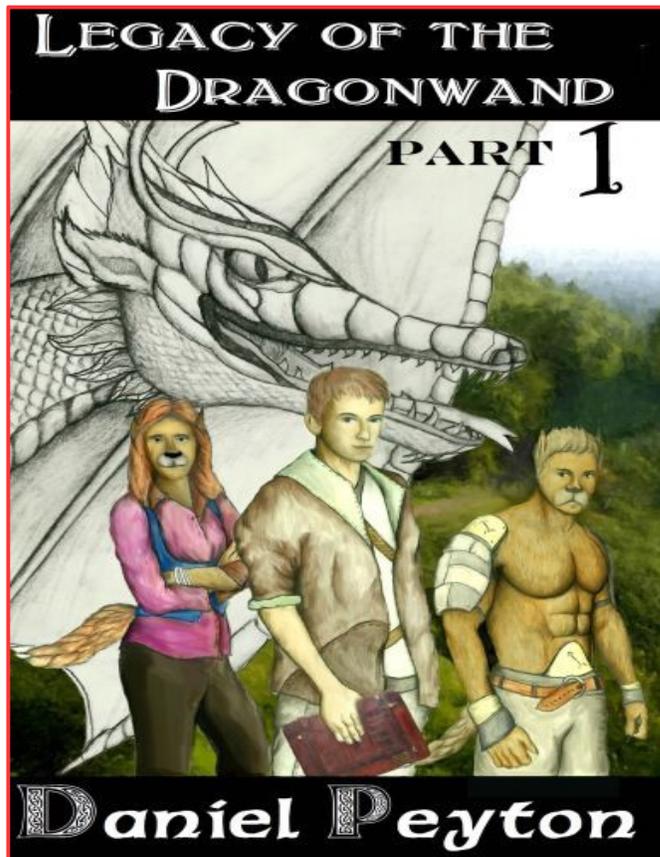
Legacy of the Dragonwand: Part 1

By

Daniel Peyton

**Blurb:**

The wizard wars ended over a thousand years ago, and nearly all the ancient wizards were destroyed. The evil betrayer, the one who started the war to begin with, remains. For a thousand years he has worked his will in secret. His goal is to find the last Dragonwand so he can regain his powers as the dark dragon. Close to the king of Gallenor and master of the court, the betrayer has the nation bowing to his machinations. Sixteen year old Markus is looking for a wizard who will give him a letter of recommendation for the college of wizardry. Unaware of the Dragonwand or the betrayer, he stumbles upon Tolen the Wise. Little does Markus realize that this man is an ancient, like the betrayer. Instead of giving him a letter, Tolen sends Markus on a journey to stop the darkness by finding the Dragonwand before the betrayer can. Markus and the friends he meets along the way are the only ones that stand between the betrayer and the fruition of his millennium of preparation. Will Markus get to the wand first? Where are all the other wizards? Can the betrayer truly be stopped?



**Excerpt:**

Markus hurt and he was sinking fast. He looked up to see the light above him and he started to swim to the surface. It was a burdensome challenge with what felt like a broken arm.

What was that?! Something just shot into the water, then another. Arrows! Someone was shooting at him!

Cresting the water and gasping in a harsh breath, Markus saw that two dogkinds were pointing arrows at him from the shore. The Dog people of the Blue Forests were expert marksmen and would not miss unless that is what they intended.

“GET OUT OF OUR WATERS, IMP!” a strong female voice yelled at him.

Markus continued to breathe hard and struggled to keep himself afloat. Moving was even harder, since he only had one good arm. “I..I can’t! I need help!” He garbled out as loud as he could while the water began to consume him, the pain in his arm too great to hold him up.

The light brown furred canine woman looked at the man next to her, “He may not be an imp. Rescue him before he drowns.” She commanded and the male dogkind dropped his bow and jumped into the water.

After a swift swim and quick rescue, Markus was laid on the shore by his hero. He coughed while doing his best not to show the pain he was in. “Thank you, whoever you are.”

Then he heard the stretching sound of an arrow being readied. He looked up to see the point of it directed at his face. The brown furred dog woman flashed her fangs, “What sort of being are you?”

“Human,” he quickly stated while holding his arms up in defense.

She glared at him and then released the arrow. It struck the ground right next to his head. In fact he felt the shaft of the arrow brushing up against his ear.

“WHAT ARE YOU DOING!?” He tried to scoot away from her, but his broken arm prevented the escape. “OW, OW, OW!”

She lowered her bow and leaned over to look at him, "If you were impkind, you would have transformed back and flown away."

His eyes bugged, "Imp! You thought I was an imp?!"

The male dogkind held out his hand to help Markus up, "We have been tracking a rogue imp through these trees for a week now. It has played many devious tricks on us to attempt to lull us into a false sense of security."

"I can assure you that I am no imp. I am human and in a lot of pain." He got to his feet and held his broken arm.

The male dogkind looked at Markus's arm and then nodded toward the trees, "Come with us, our healer can mend that easily."

"Thanks. Where do you live?"

"These forests are our home."

"So, what is your name? I am Markus of the Valley."

The male dogkind answered, "I am Treb, that is my wife Kiin." Treb noticed that Markus was getting a good look at his wife's back side, in particular her tail. "Have you not seen my kind before?"

Markus looked up, embarrassed at having stared at this man's wife. "No, in fact I have not. I know of your people, you're dogkind."

Kiin shot Markus a glare, "That is the human name for us. We are the Rakki." She was proud of this title and made sure he knew it.

"Rakki it is then." A glow of green light caught the corner of his eye and he looked just in time to see it coming. "WATCH OUT!"

Treb grabbed Markus and pushed him out of the way just as the bolt of energy blasted the ground near them. Both dogs grabbed their bows and nocked arrows in them to fire. Flying around was a small demon with bat wings. It was an imp, a mischievous pest that had no feelings for what it destroyed.

Kiin launched arrow after arrow at the little monster, only to miss. She was good, but it was faster than her and could evade her with ease. Cackling, the imp lobbed more energy balls. With a well-placed shot, it threw Kiin across the ground and partly into the water. She was out cold, but still breathing.

Then it turned its sights on Markus.

Without hesitation Markus held out his hand and said, "WAND!" It appeared on command. He log rolled to the side to dodge a green energy blast and then he yelled, "ELDR!" The wand produced an impressive ball of fire that destroyed the next incoming energy attack and continued on to blast the imp out of the air. When the little creature hit the ground Treb sent one last arrow at it, piercing it through.

Within seconds the imp exploded in a flash of green.

Markus sat for a second, shocked by his own power. He had never created a spell that well and that powerful before.

"KIIN!" Treb ran over to his wife and found her on the ground, out cold.

Markus got up and quickly joined him. "Is she okay?"

Treb looked her over, sniffing her with his nose. "I don't know. She is still breathing and does not look hurt, but she won't wake. Damned imp spells."

"What can we do?"

Treb looked at Markus and then at his wand, "You're a wizard, can't you do something?"

Markus shook his head and stepped back, “No, I...I am not a real wizard. I am not even an apprentice.”

“Come, we have to return to the village. The healers can help.” Treb gently picked up his wife and carried her in his arms. Markus took up Kiin’s bow and carried that as he followed right behind them.

*For more about Legend of the Dragonwand: Part 1 visit:*

Daniel Peyton's Amazon Author Page

Amazon.com



**Poetry Unreleased**



**Unleashed Feature**

Poetry Unleashed Featured Poet

In Issue 9, Showers of Progress, All Authors gives special spotlight to Kali Tenee' who made her poetic debut with her work sky shore sea.



***beyond stanzas  
beyond words  
beyond poetry***

That would be the simplest way to describe sky shore sea, this debut poetry collection from author Kali Tenee'. The cadence throughout this book mimics an intimate conversation and does an outstanding job incorporating the personifications of mind, body, and spirit in the form of sky, shore, and sea. As I read each poem, some mirrored my own adventures, particularly in the art of love and loving. This is not a book once simply glances through. sky shore sea is an experience where Kali Tenee's talent inspires and touches every part of the soul.



Kali Tenee'  
Amazon Author Page  
Twitter @kweenflyy

I had the opportunity to sit down with the author herself in a brief interview to talk about this work and how she is embracing the showers of progress.

The theme of All Authors Magazine: Issue 9 is “Showers of Progress”. What does that represent to you?

Just that I'm doing more today than yesterday. lol

You have already been published in a few short story anthologies. Were there family or friends clamoring for the poetry collection, or were there other motivators which influenced your decision?

I wanted to release a novel I've been working on but it wasn't ready...yet, I wanted to make the step toward publishing. I needed to put myself out there in the universe to be able to check something off as done. This happened to be very personal and I felt it was a great entry into being a published author.

Which do you enjoy writing more: poetry or short stories? Elaborate on your response.

I enjoy them both like two different children I love the same, but differently. They both bring the joy of writing, but the also bear different fruits of passion.

In sky shore sea, I could definitely detect music as a means of inspiration. What are some of the genres of music that influenced this collection?

R&B definitely ... a few songs that I listened to were With You by Tony Terry, Love XYZ by Luke James (on repeat) Jazmine Sullivan, Whitney Houston ... to name a few.

Did writing sky shore sea serve as a catharsis for you or was your aim for this work more universal than autobiographical?

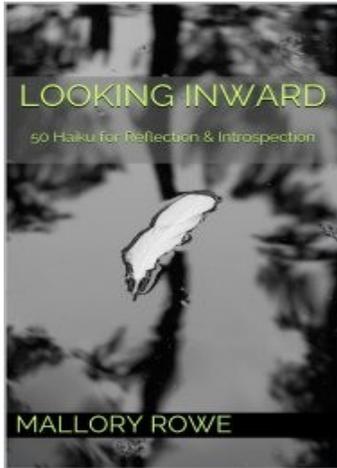
It was both. It helped me breakthrough to a place where I could take that next step in my life. From love, to career, to interpersonal friendships ... it helped me prepare for evolvment as well as use my own heart to inspire.

For your own copy of sky shore sea, please visit CreateSpace and Amazon.



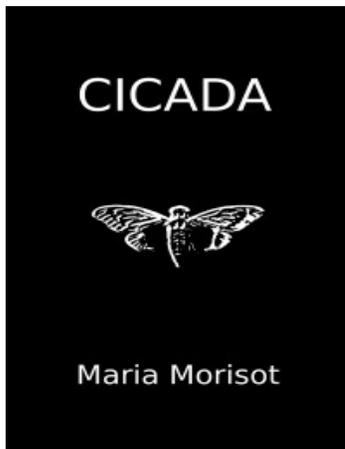
## Current Flows

### **Issue 9: Showers of Progress Wet With Ink (Current Flows)**



Title: Looking Inward: 50 Haiku for Reflection and Introspection  
Author: Mallery Rowe  
Type of Poetry: Haiku  
Release Date: January 5, 2015  
Available: Amazon

Blurb: Haiku in 5 sections: Self, Us, Earth, Universe, Beyond



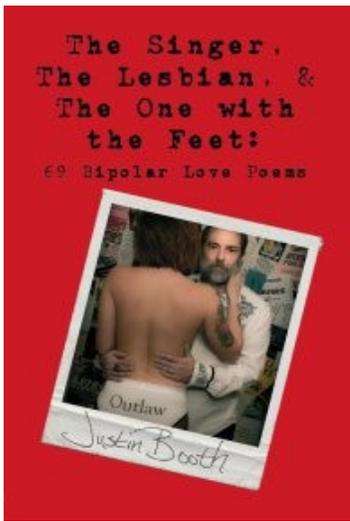
Title: Cicada  
Author: Maria Morisot  
Type of Poetry: Gay/Lesbian  
Release Date: January 25, 2015  
Available: Smashwords

Blurb: A follow up volume to Womanifesto; this one with less emphasis on art and poetry as subject matter, but more exploring the intricacies of what flows through the author's mind in a normal phase of writing.



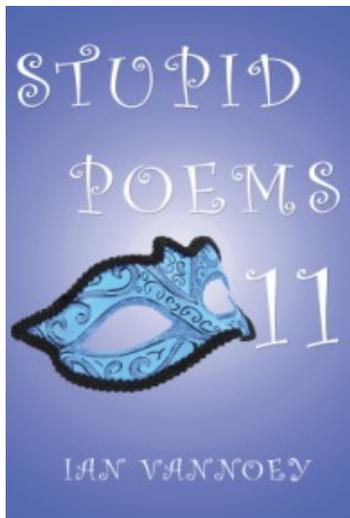
Title: Mirrored Voices: Emerging Poets Anthology (Paperback)  
Author(s): Multiple authors  
Type of Poetry: Contemporary/Anthology  
Release Date: January 25, 2015  
Available: Amazon

Blurb: This combined poetic anthology embraces free thinking of the untapped mind and spirit. A vast array of talented emerging poets from around the globe share their voices together in harmony. Only by glaring into the depths of ones own reflection can we find our true selves. It is here where the mirrored voices of our souls speak and can be heard.



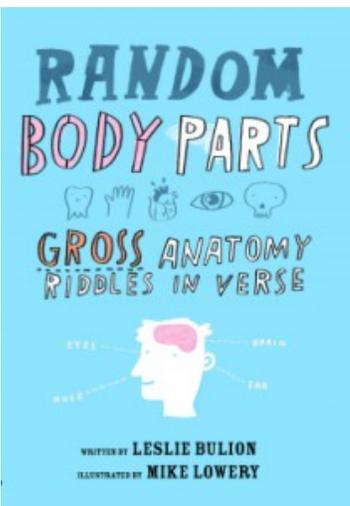
Title: The Singer, The Lesbian, and The One with the Feet: 69 Bipolar Love Poems (Paperback)  
Author: Justin Booth  
Type of Poetry: Romance  
Release Date: February 2, 2015  
Available: Amazon

Blurb: Outlaws, homeless guys or praise band singers - everybody falls in love. Justin Booth has compiled this collection of love poems that span the time he has been serious about his writing. They may not portray the kinds of things you think of when you think of love poetry. Some are about longing and passion, others about the kick-in-the-gut pain of unrequited love. They are genuine and from that universal place inside of all of us.



Title: Stupid Poems 11 (Paperback)  
Author: Ian Vannoey  
Type of Poetry: Humor  
Release Date: February 28, 2015  
Available: Amazon

Blurb: This is the eleventh book of poetry by Cornish author Ian Vannoey and, like its predecessors, features amusing, easy-to-read poems. It seamlessly flits between wide-ranging topics - from classical music and classic literature to humorous everyday occurrences. 'Is the Pope a foot fetishist?' 'Why is a living room called a living room?' 'My best friend is a lamp post...' Ian Vannoey's love of classical music is picked out with poems featuring Verdi and Stravinsky, while at the other end of the scale a trip to the dentist and some unusual facts about whales maintains this collection's easy-going readability.



Title: Random Body Parts: Gross Anatomy Riddles in Verse  
Author: Leslie Bulion  
Type of Poetry: Free-Form (Riddles)  
Release Date: March 1, 2015  
Available: Amazon

Blurb: Witty and nimble verse about body parts pairs with whimsical drawings in this informative, fun collection. It begins with an invitation to solve a series of poetic riddles: "Of course you have a body, / But do you have a clue / Where all the body parts you've got are found / And what they do?" Each poem that follows poses a puzzle in verse (with a sly wink and a nod to Shakespeare) and provides hints for uncovering the body part in question. Sidebars further educate readers about the anatomical subject in question, while appended notes offer a crash course on poetic form and a few facts about the Shakespearean works that inspired the verses. Captivating lines such as "rumble, grumble, roil and rumble, / Acid burn and slurry tumble"(from the poem that refers to the stomach) should spark readers interest in poetry and human biology alike. A glossary for science terms is included in the back matter.



## What Not to Do

with  
Mini Truth

Hello Readers, Writers and Precious Patrons,

On this issue of All Authors Magazine I will be bringing you a new segment and it is called “What NOT to DO”.

What is WNTD?

Well, “What NOT to DO” focuses on things going on in today's Book Industry that shouldn't be happening, or people should steer away from.

*Today's subject?  
Book Covers*

Following you will be my thoughts on all things “Book Covers”.

\*\*\*\*

“What's the BIG DEAL about book covers?” One might ask. Well, there is a whole list of things that make your book cover important. Nevertheless, it can be a huge task—more for the author than for the reader. It's like this huge dance routine.

*Big covers, little covers, light covers, dark covers.*

*His covers, her covers, their covers, my covers.*

It's enough to make one's head spin.

\*\*\*\*

Before I get into everything, I think it's important to look at the facts. Here they go:

Fact 1: Everyone (even if they don't admit it) will judge a book by its cover.

Fact 2: It's imperative for authors to have the best cover they can get for their work.

Fact 3: A great cover, still does not guarantee a great book.

Fact 4: Shopping for books is like shopping for clothes—your eye is going to be drawn to the garment that best suites your preference.

Fact 5: Making a cover is like being the fashion designer behind said garment—you must know your target audience, and cater to them.

That being said, there is this whole song and dance going on in today's book market about book covers. In all truth, it saddens me. I'll save you the grief of going into the underground story about cover/graphic designers that are ripping off Indie Authors. That subject matter is for another day.

Being that I'm a graphic designer as well as a published author, this subject is near and dear to my heart.

There is just too much of a stigma of having to have the perfect book cover. More than that, having to mainstream your cover art, and if you don't than there is this mind frame that your book will never get looked at.

What do I say to that?

BLAH!

\*\*\*\*

First No-no:

For the love of all things holy, STOP changing your book covers so darn much!

I've noticed that there has been an influx in the market of people changing their books covers more than they change their underwear. That's a figure of speech of course, but you get what I'm saying. I know someone whom has changes their book cover at least 6 times in the last 6 months. That's just crazy to me.

While it is true that people do judge a book by its cover there is another side of the coin that authors are not looking at. That is that readers will not be able to identify your book if you keep changing its cover.

Allow me to provide a little analogy, please?

Pretend you are at the supermarket and focused on picking up you usual brand of laundry detergent. Suddenly, you're at the soap isle and for the life of you, you cannot find your favorite soap. Next thing you do is ask an employee, who in turn tells you that it is in stock and exactly where you were looking for it. You go back to the aisle and still cannot locate your soap. Finally, you get frustrated, and make the employee show you exactly where it is.

At that moment you realize that you didn't see it because the label had been changed.

This, is similar to what happens with readers.

Here are some very important pointers:

- 1) Know (or at least have an idea of) what you want.
- 2) Find the means to make that happen. IE: Purchase/download Adobe Acrobat, or even find a graphic designer that can work within your financial means.
- 3) Once you cover has been created, STICK WITH IT! This is SO important—I can't emphasize it enough—it's very important.

Why? Because, how do you expect readers to recognize your work, if you're constantly changing the cover? You're just gonna confuse yourself, and worse, confuse your readers.

Moreover, humans are by their own nature, very visual. They see things, remember what they saw, and then look for it later. 9 times out of 10, readers will remember your books by its cover. So if you keep changing it, how do you expect them to find it again later?

\*\*\*\*

Oh, here is a new one. I've become aware of some "Publishers" asking their clients to provide their own cover art. This includes and is not limited to; making it themselves, purchasing it from a graphic designer, or buying stock images.

*Question:*  
**ARE YOU FREAKING SERIOUS?!?**

I can't even believe that. Since when do publishers require that their authors provide their own covers? I mean, isn't it THEIR job to do that? Aren't THEY supposed to create the cover to go with the book? And, moreover, why in the hell are they making authors PAY for cover art?

I'm flabbergasted by this. If authors are paying/creating their own cover art for a work that is under a publisher's label, then said author might as well be Indie.

If you are one of these authors whom is being told by your publisher to get your own cover art, I highly recommend that you reconsider your publisher, because here are the facts:

Fact 1: You will have to pay about \$100, give or take, for a book cover.

Fact 2: You've probably signed a contract that only gives you somewhere between 20-40% royalty profit on book sales. That is LITERALLY cents on the dollar. This also means that YOUR PUBLISHER is making the most money from your sale.

Fact 3: You will not be refunded or reimbursed for said cover. Yet, STILL your publisher is making more money on sales than you.

Fact 4: If your publisher cannot supply a cover, than that might lead you to believe that there is something "funny" going on with their business.

Fact 5: In the end, you will have lost more money than what you've made, and when your book contract is over, you may have lost the cover too—this of course depends on the term of the contract, and if you potentially resign with that publisher.

So what are my recommendations of "What NOT to Do"?

A) DO NOT keep changing your book cover! Find one you love and stick with it. Of course, there are exceptions, like a revision of the story, a release of a special edition or even having been contracted by a publisher.

B) DO NOT your publisher bamboozle you into paying and/or making your own cover, UNLESS, THEY pay for it!

So, that's all for this edition of "What NOT to DO"!

Mini Truth signing off! Toodles!



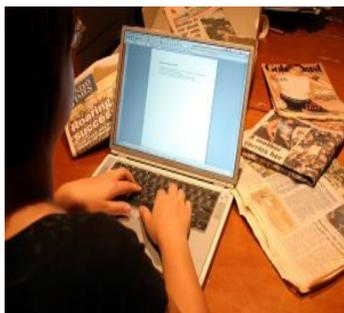
***Short Story Station***  
Short Story vs. Novel Writing  
By  
Beem Weeks



Is there a difference in writing a short story versus a novel? Is the approach of the author the same for both forms? I can't speak for anybody but me, myself, and I.

My approach to writing short stories is pretty much the same as when I write the longer material. In both cases, I come up with an idea, that moment of "What if...?" From there I fiddle with an outline, create plot points, fine-tune the narration. But this is where it differs: With a short story, I'll tend to toss the outline and just write. With a novel, I'll keep that outline nearby, resorting to it often, so I know who is supposed to do what in chapter seven just so that situation in chapter twelve will make sense once the reader finally arrives there.

The short story usually doesn't require that sort of detail. "So why bother with an outline if you're only going to toss it?" you may ask. Well, this particular outline helps me line up the events in their proper order. It also helps me get an ear for the narrator's voice, that cadence of speech, the quirks in the way words are delivered. Once I've gained control of that, I can take the characters anywhere I choose—damn the outline!

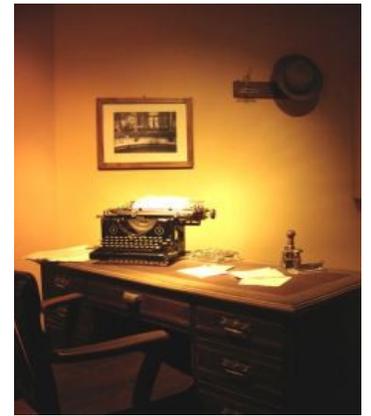


Novels are different. They run longer, take on deeper plot points, and ask more of a reader. Readers will pay good money for a novel, while short stories tend to be free reads posted here and there.

But don't misunderstand me: Short stories are very important to the author and the reader. A short story is an appetizer, that sample platter of something succulent, of something delicious, before you commit to paying for the full meal. Short stories draw readers to your work. They let people know what you, the author, are capable of creating. I have discovered many wonderful and brilliant writers via the short story. (T.C. Boyle, Daniel Woodrell, to name but two.) If a few short stories stick with me, I'm more likely to shell out my hard-earned money for that writer's novel. The short story is an introduction by the author to the reader.

A short story can be as simple as a single scene, a single character, with little or no dialogue. It can also be something intricate, with multiple characters, and dialogue to die for. It can be a mini novel—if the author so chooses.

The greatest thing about the short story: They're fun to write. I use them as writing exercises; warm-ups to the next novel. And when a writer has authored enough of short stories, he/she has material for an anthology, a collection fit for publication in book form.



Stand By Me, the movie? It started as a short story by Stephen King. As did The Lawnmower Man, though this movie so lacked any resemblance to the King short story that the author sued in court to have his name removed from the film.

Short stories are fun and lead readers to your work. What's not to like? So don't just focus on that novel you've been writing since forever. Try the short form, and let people know that you're out there creating amazing work.



### What's the Word

with  
Wordsmith Andi



### MAGAZINE

In light of All Authors Magazine recently making a successful transition from printed to online magazine, I thought it would be appropriate to explore the category our publication classifies under.

We all conjure up a mental image of what a magazine is: a publication chock full of articles written by different authors all offering up information about a particular topic or industry. Common publications come to mind: Time, People, Rolling Stone, Cosmo, Elle, GQ, National Geographic, Consumer's Digest, Writer's Digest, and Reader's Digest. I'm sure you can name dozens more.

By Google's definition, our initial symbolic thinking is (mostly) correct:  
mag·a·zine  
'magə,zēn, ,magə'zēn/  
noun





1. a periodical publication containing articles and illustrations, typically covering a particular subject or area of interest; A periodical publication, generally consisting of sheets of paper folded in half and stapled at fold.
2. a chamber for holding a supply of cartridges to be fed automatically to the breech of a gun.
3. a store for arms, ammunition, explosives, and provisions for use in military operations.

But how did our symbolic thinking develop into a word that means all of the above, particularly in regards to our literary industry?

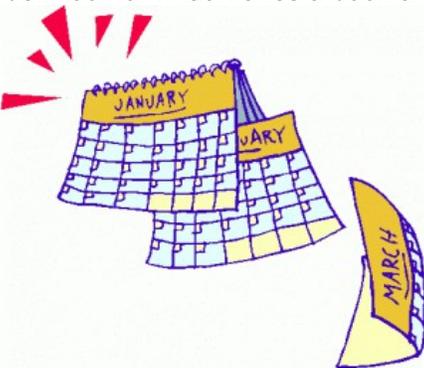
Etymology research reveals our modern English word of magazine started out as the 16th century Arabic words *kazana*, meaning 'to store', and *makzin*, meaning 'storehouse'. From there we have the Italian adoption of *magazzino*, and the French *magasin*, all meaning essentially the same thing. This then explains the second and third sense of the definitions, referring to a physical storehouse of goods and/or products, especially military.

It wasn't until the 17th century when the term meaning 'store' was used in book titles that provided information useful to particular groups of people, hence giving rise to the first sense of our official definition.

The 3 different senses of the word do tie in, remarkably enough. The military, or any business that keeps product in storehouse, keeps lists of their inventory. These lists are periodically updated for easy reference, available to those whose job pertains to maintaining that inventory.

So we have both a literal and a figurative meaning to the word magazine, with each meaning entirely appropriate to the image our minds conjure up upon recognition of the word.

Unlike back in the 17th century, modern day magazines aren't considered books intended for individual in a particular field or industry, although there are some arguably dense publications that verge on the classification so long as fashion and photography are your chosen fields. And in this day and age where there is a constant battle over the definition of what makes a book a book, I think it's important we establish the distinction.



What makes a magazine a magazine, in our modern world, is the content provided by the publication. Since magazines are periodic publications and the publishing industry has grown exponentially, laying the groundwork for creative denizens world over to launch publication of articles on topics of every possible variety, the content of those magazines has to be current and applicable. Unlike a book, which is usually one long story that will never change in content or length (or might, now that indie authors can update their manuscripts with a simple click of the button), and is published only once (not counting reprints, if the author is lucky), a magazine must keep its readers constantly coming back. Content must be fresh, well research and vetted, and marketable. After all, what does everything in this world come down to but the quest for the almighty dollar?

So does it take more work to publish a periodic magazine than it does a novel? Not necessarily. Just like the content is different between a book and a magazine, so is the work that goes into publishing the different mediums.



Having the advantage of working/writing for the umbrella of All Authors Publications and Promotions, which puts out this magazine, and has a traditional publishing subsidiary, it's easy for me to make the distinction. I'm a columnist and a novelist. AAPP has the literary field covered across the spectrums, from this magazine to publication of fiction novels of all genres and all the graphics required for both. Despite covering such wide ground, maintaining marketability requires a lot of physical and mental legwork. I watch my "bosses" put in months of tireless work with each issue of All Authors Magazine that goes out, and that's on top of all the long hours of research and writing that each of the columnists puts into their pieces.



Personally, the mental work that goes into writing a column is entirely different than the creative energy that goes into the writing of my novels. Subsequently the creative process differs between planning a novel and orchestrating the symphonic delivery of a dozen disparate articles into one overall theme, not just once but several times a year. (I'm always agog at all the work that goes on behind the scenes, and before anyone starts to get those narrow, skeptical eyes and wonder whether this article is one big suck up to the bosses, I'll clarify that The All Authors Blog has some more in depth examinations of all the complexities, peaks and troughs of this industry and does the distinctions topic better justice than I can in this short exploration of the word magazine).

So how does an online publication remain a magazine without adhering to the first sense of the definition if it's no longer printed on paper, stapled together and folded in half? Again, it comes down to content and the periodic updating and delivery of said content. The only thing that truly differs, in my mind, is the frequency of that periodic publication. In this digital era of having news from all over the world at our fingertips, there is the natural expectation that magazines keep up with the times, gathering information and putting it out to consumers in faster and faster time frames. However, with these faster time-frames, are we risking the quality of the information we're sharing by attempting to share it too quickly? This is the tricky gray area for magazine publishers – balancing timeliness with veracity and marketability. Those publications catering to the intellectual crowds (like AAM) must pay particular attention to their content and timeliness, and constantly generate new ideas to stimulate their columnists into writing inspired pieces while giving great credence to market applicability.



What makes a magazine what it is, in my esteem, is the difference in creative processes applied to content, composition, and delivery. Digital or otherwise, magazine publishers walk a precarious and often fine line in attempting to satisfy an audience with a ceaseless appetite for new and interesting information. Regardless of genre, digital or print, a magazine is and will always be a periodic storehouse of information pertaining to particular individuals with a little bit of disposable income to spend on them. And if they're lucky, they'll have an awesome team of editors and contributors that deliver above-par information without asking for a dime in return, their satisfaction derived from the act of sharing instead of solely for profit (even though profit is really nice too)!



### **Randomness in Writing**

A Book by Its Cover

By

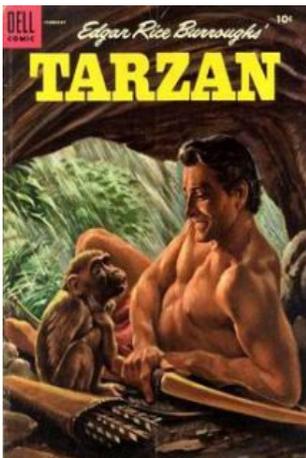
D. John Watson



We've all heard the expression but isn't that what we do? We wander through the library, book store or shop online and what's the first thing we see? We might find the title intriguing or we like the author but it's the visual hook that gets us deeper. The cover is the author's first or last chance to get you to take a look at the description. Covers are designed by talented artists who work for publishers to help the author sell his work. These are dynamic images, taken from the book to hook you and get you to read further, especially in the era of self-publishing when anyone can be an author because the boundaries are no longer controlled by brick and mortar publishing houses. And there is a wealth of talent out there, not to mention the tools are changing at a fantastic rate.

Frank Frazzeta, Boris Vallejo, Michael Whalen, Julie Bell to name a few, produce works that not only sells books but can stand alone in any gallery show. Every publisher has a team of artists. The internet is alive with sites for artists who freelance and their sites offer everything from pre-made to custom made, from painted to computer graphics. There are programs like Gimp2 and Adobe Illustrator for the do-it-yourselfer and websites that will allow you to download and use their pictures (usually for a fee) under strict licensing conditions. Now anyone can not only publish but design their own covers. But just because you can, doesn't mean you should.

Much like writing, designing a book cover takes no small degree of talent and there are lists for both the truly awful in book ideas and titles as well as covers.



As you can see, no book is safe from ending up on such a list; even the most famous authors can suffer this fate.

Still, at the end of the day, it all comes down to the cover and what it tells the prospective reader. This is more important with fiction than nonfiction. Put the face of a famous person or the picture of a historical battle on the cover and the reader knows right off what the book will be about. A picture of sailing ships, cannons blazing, sails torn and billowing plumes of smoke will tell you right off this is a book on naval history. A celebrity dies and their picture will be on a dozen books before the end of their funeral, which they will sell to their markets.

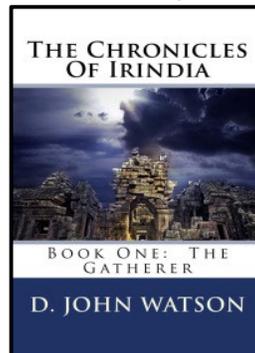
For fiction writers, this is a little more challenging. Like other writers, you are selling to a market, whether you write romance, sci-fi or spy thrillers. Every genre has "a look" that's specific to that genre. A woman in a low-cut dress and a shirtless, muscular man in an embrace. A planet with spaceships headed to it, maybe being chased by other space ships. A national flag with a couple of tears and bullet holes. Each of these speak to a specific group of readers and yet they have to be unique enough to tell the reader what to expect when they open the book. Here's an interesting experiment:

Go through your shelves, look at your collection and ask yourself if you have bought the book based on title and blurb alone. Now ignore the more recognizable writers, pick one that's lesser known. Would you have picked that one if the image hadn't been dramatic or spoke to you in some way? Chances are, maybe not unless there was a really strong blurb. Maybe not even then.

Now here's where I draw on my own experience. Besides being a writer, I'm a fairly decent artist and so I thought that I could combine the two. I had an idea of what I wanted and a decent computer with some good art programs. I also had a lack of patience and experience.



So I went with a photo license and some templates which produced my first cover.



Not bad but it wasn't what I had in mind and I think I suffered for it. A couple years later, I showed my original idea to a friend and he came up a great version.



Time will tell whether this is the visual hook my book needs but it is a strong image that I hope will invoke the reader to part with hard earned money.

The bottom line; it's for the sake of one thing—getting your books in front of readers and the better the packaging, the better your chances. We have a wealth of resources at our disposal, some are more expensive than others, some can be used yourself and some can be used by others. But whatever way you go, this is an investment in yourself and your work and you owe to both to make the wisest ones possible. I was fortunate on the last version, I had a friend with talent and he was more than happy to help me. Not everyone is that lucky and they are faced with having to pay for it themselves or use the ones their publisher offers. In both cases, the artists know that the authors have a vision of what their cover should look like and they use those ideas as well as some of their own. Like working with an editor, both the writer and the cover designer are in a partnership with one goal, make the writer's work appealing, not just to the ones who already know their work but the ones that don't. This is extremely difficult for the new writer, the writer that is just starting out and it's an integral part of their marketing campaign.

No matter what direction you take, this is an investment in your work and you need to make the best one possible. And when you're done and your cover is on websites and bookshelves, it will hopefully grab the reader by the imagination and you'll sell copies.



## **True or False**

*True or False?*

### **1. Reflecting a more extensive vocabulary in one's books is more inviting to the reader.**

AHA! A trick Question! But, the answer is ...

True.

Only to a certain extent, of course.

An extensive vocabulary is a great thing, and it CAN ultimately be attractive to a true book lover. Yet, the key to using said vocabulary is learning how to strike the perfect balance, as you can easily go from “attractive usage” to “overkill”. Overkill is never alluring, thus the word “overkill”.

Writers which have the skills of a considerably vast vocabulary must learn how to turn it just just a smidge, so that the reader doesn't need a dictionary on hand for every single sentence. However, writers with a more limited vocabulary should yearn to enlarge it. No writer likes to be thought of as an idiot.

### **2. The best overall price point for an electronic version of a novel is \$2.99.**

True.

Yet, once again, as mentioned above, to a certain extent.

The best price point for an electronic book in the ballpark of 50K to 70K words is \$2.99. If your book has less words, then lower the price, if it has more, then raise the price. However, remember this; an eBook should never be more than \$5.99, and I'll tell you why.

If a person can potentially go to a bookstore and purchase a paperback, either new or like new, in perfectly good condition for (many times) less than \$4, what would make any author believe that the same consumer is going to buy their eBook for more than that?

The seller would have to look at their book pricing through the eyes of the consumer. After all, if you were them, would YOU buy it? I'm certain that the answer to that question is, probably not.

There are many factors that play into the above. They range from how well the author is known, to the fact that this is an eBook, therefore there is no paper involved. Yet, the biggest reason is the latter. Why would anyone pay more for a paperless book than they would for a paperback book?

Consider it.

Of course, be sure to do some research in competitive pricing prior to pricing your book.

### **3. An author should aim to put out a book of romance during a holiday month (such as February) or during the summer to ensure a fair amount of sales.**

Surprisingly, the answer to this question is ...

False.

While releasing a romance book during Valentine's Day, for example is nice, it's not completely necessary. The romance genre is a booming business, and truth be told it'll sell any time of year.

It is certainly true that there could be a potential “up” in probable sales if said romance book is released during romantic holidays, it isn't always guaranteed. Remember, many factors play into book sales. The biggest of all is recognition. Authors of a well known name are more likely to make more sales than those of a lesser known name. THAT, is the unfortunate truth.

**4. With the new policies recently enacted by Facebook, it may be a wise decision for authors to find alternate marketing avenues for their works.**

True!

The answer to this question is definitely true. Particularly when authors have limited to no funds to implement in marketing.

There is a wide array of networking platforms out there that can serve a similar purpose as Facebook; Twitter, LinkedIn, Google+, Pinterest and Blogging.

So, do some research, see which one of these work best for you and delve into it. You can potentially have an entire new set of fans waiting on the other end of that connection.

Hardcover books no longer have a place in the literary world.

False!

This is, in the absolute, a false statement! The world STILL loves a tangible book. And, a physical book that is durable is doubly attractive. That is the benefit of hardcover (hardback) books, they last for a very long time, as opposed to paperback. True paperbacks are a more readily available version of a physical, often times easier to sell as they are less expensive, hardcovers have a certain quality that paperbacks do not—durability.

Smart consumers whom prefer a book that can last then a very long time, will more times than not, but a hardback if available.



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