

From: Aliens & Alibis Books [mailto:aab@sc.rr.com]
Sent: Sunday, April 22, 2007 1:40 PM
To: aab@sc.rr.com
Subject: News from Aliens & Alibis Books!



Aliens & Alibis Books

Cat Scratchings

April 21, 2007

Hello!

An easy way to order the books in this newsletter is to go to the newsletter page on the [web site](#) and click on the 'Buy' button for the books you want. You can also go to the inventory page and find the books for this newsletter and others.

Remember, if you are in the Columbia metro area, we can mail the books to you -- free! Or you can give us a call or email us for other arrangements.

The store cats, Serena and Bertram, are settled in now which has lead to fewer hissing contests. Bertram continues to surprise us. His big thing now is to sit in my chair in the living room and just stare at me when I ask him to get down. Serena is glad that the weather has been nice as she is the bird patrol cat and doesn't like to miss a day protecting the house from birds.

I start my job at the library next week and I'm quite excited about it. I have 3 days of training at the Main library that week and then a day at the Southeast Branch ('my' branch) on May 1. Then, if I've done well, they start sending me out to assist those unsuspecting patrons. I don't think they even give newbies an "In Training" button to warn the patrons that the person they are talking to is new. This could be very interesting. <grin>

On to the books.....

On The Road Again....

Staying Home Is a Killer

by Sara Rosett
(Kensington, \$22.00)

Ellie Avery is an Air Force wife who works part-time as a closet organizer -- when she isn't

coping with her husband or their toddler daughter. Someone is killing or trying to kill military wives on Greenly Air Force Base in eastern Washington State. Ellie's part-time job is a great way for her to get into homes to do some sleuthing. But sometimes she finds out that sleuthing is more dangerous than she thought.

The prior book in the series, **Moving Is Murder**, is out in paperback (Kensington, \$6.99). You don't have to start with the first book but I would recommend it -- just to understand the characters better.

As an Army brat, I can sympathize with what Ellie has to deal with as an Air Force wife -- particularly the moving. Our moves were at least every two years if not more often. Reading this series gives me an idea of what my mom went through. All I had to do in the new school was make friends -- again.

[Sara Rosett's home page](#)

Character-based Fantasy

Thief With No Shadow

by Emily Gee
(Solaris, \$7.99)

Melke is a wraith, which means she has the ability to walk unseen. After being forced to steal a necklace, she is hunted down by the victim of the crime, Bastian sal Vere. He explains that the necklace was strung with tears, and that without it, Bastian cannot break the curse that is destroying his family. He orders Melke to regain the necklace, in exchange for her brother to be healed. But she had given the necklace to the salamanders, the fire breathing creatures that live underground. She must risk her own life. Meanwhile, Bastian becomes involved in solving a brutal murder of a young pregnant girl in the town of Theirry. This is a strong character-based fantasy, full of romantic tension and gritty storylines.

Emily is the daughter of award winning New Zealand author Maurice Gee. you can find out more about her [here](#).

The Corpse Solves the Murder

Invisible Shield

by Scarlett Dean
(Five Star, \$25.95)

[I received this from the Scarlett Dean:](#)

My new book, INVISIBLE SHIELD, was released April 18 with Five Star Publishing. It's a paranormal mystery where a homicide detective has to solve her own murder. ISBN# 1-594145458.

Homicide Detective, Lindsay Frost's calendar has been cleared. Permanently. In an effort to solve her own murder, she discovers evil forces lurk on both sides of eternity, as she fights to save her family from a murderer while battling a supernatural stalker waging a private war

against her.

Devastated by her older sister's death, police officer, Kate Frost, sees their good-natured competition come to an end. Their sibling rivalry is unexpectedly resurrected when Lindsay's ghost appears, forcing the two sisters to work as partners against malevolent human and paranormal forces that threaten to end both of their worlds.

Let me know if you need anything else.

Thanks!

Scarlett Dean

Website: www.scarlettdean.com

Archeological Mystery

Effigies

by Mary Anna Evans

(Poisoned Pen Press, \$24.95)

Mary Anna Evans was one of the first authors to sign at Aliens & Alibis Books when she came to promote her first book, **Artifacts** (Poisoned Pen Press, \$14.95). To my dismay, there were very few readers who came to the signing. Mary Anna was more than gracious about the lack of readers. The good news was that we had quite a bit of time to chat so I found out that she's not just a good author, she's an intelligent and charming lady.

Her newest book, *Effigies*, is the third in the Faye Longchamp series and is getting great reviews. In this book, Faye and her Native American assistant, Joe Wolf Mantooh, leave Joyeuse Island, Fla., for a dig in rural Mississippi at the site of a proposed highway which will endanger Nanih Waiya, the sacred mound where tradition says that the Choctaw nation was born. There are arguments between the highway builders and the archeologists which culminate in a murder.

The characters in the book are so believable that I hated to finish the book and leave people that I had grown to like. The mystery is well done and held my attention -- in fact, I got nothing done around the house until I reached the last page of the book.

Though Mary Anna has been compared to Tony Hillerman, her sympathetic characters and fascinating archeological lore add up to a style all her own. Tony Hillerman did give her a very nice comment on this book which is included on the dust jacket.

You can start with the first book in the series, **Artifacts**, (the second book is **Relics**, (Poisoned Pen Press, \$14.95)) or jump into the series with this book. I like to start with the first of a series -- I the relationships of the characters are clearer for me that way.

Her [web site](#) has sample chapters from the books -- and more.

New from Allen Steele

Spindrift

by Allen Steele
(Avon/Harper Collins, \$24.95)

SF novel, set in the universe of the author's Coyote trilogy, about astronauts, presumed lost nearly 60 years ago, who return from investigating an alien artifact and report having made contact with an extraterrestrial race.

The book received a starred review from Publisher's Weekly.

Steele's interview in the January '07 issue of Locus Magazine discusses the book: "You see the setup at the end of Coyote Frontier, with the First Contact situation. In Spindrift we go into a different part of space and see what's going on there. The events occur between those of Rising and Frontier, so it's sort of like 'Meanwhile, elsewhere in the galaxy...'. The next novel after that will lift off from the events of Spindrift and go into yet another part of the galaxy."

Amphibian Doings

Right from the Gecko

by Cynthia Baxter
(Bantam, \$6.99)

[This is from Cynthia Baxter:](#)

In **Right From the Gecko**, the fifth book in the "Reigning Cats & Dogs" mystery series, veterinarian Jessica Popper heads to Maui with her boyfriend Nick for a conference. But when an ambitious young reporter she meets at her hotel is murdered, she finds herself trying to figure out hula-done it. Jessie travels all over the beautiful Hawaiian island, questioning suspects who include the victim's secretive boyfriend, one of her journalistic rivals, an eccentric beachcomber, and a governor's aide who seems overly involved with a controversial new biotech firm that's bringing progress to paradise. In addition to juggling her investigation with her professional conference, Jessie tries to make her visit to paradise a romantic getaway. That's no easy feat, especially when she and Nick meet up with some harrowing situations that she suspects the murderer has planned. Will Jessie solve the crime before she ends up saying aloha ... permanently?

Cynthia Baxter
www.cynthiabaxter.com

A Joint Effort

Lady Killer

by Lawrence Light and Meredith Anthony
(Oceanview Publishing, \$23.95)

[Meredith emailed this to me:](#)

"LADYKILLER is a dark thriller my husband Larry and I wrote together -- and we had a ball doing it. It's very dark and violent but we wrote it with great glee. Another odd contradictory

fact is that Larry and I adore living in New York, but the book depicts a horrible noir city where murder stalks the mean streets. Go figure." -- Meredith Anthony

The book has been receiving very good reviews and I understand that the signings they have done have been a lot of fun. Take a look at [Meredith's](#) page and [Larry's](#).

An Urban Fantasy

Super Mom Saves the World

by Melanie Lynne Hauser
(NAL Trade, \$14.00)

From Melanie Lynne Hauser:

Super Mom Saves the World is now out in stores, I'm happy to say! Just wanted to drop y'all a note about that, with a subtle hint (or shameless plea, however you want to view it) that if you bought it, I'd be very grateful. And if you told lots of people about it, I'd be even more grateful! And if you bought it, liked it, bought more for your friends, and left an Amazon review about it, I'd even consider coming to your house and cleaning the floors!!

I'm running a new contest on my blog and giving away some prizes, in celebration! So please stop over at my website to find out about the contest, the appearances, and even to - ahem - order the book, if you're so inclined!

Thanks for all your support, and I hope you enjoy the book!

PS - My friend Stacey Ballis has a book out today, too; THE SPINSTER SISTERS is the first book in a new series for her!

Melanie Lynne Hauser

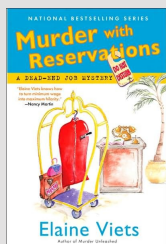
Confessions of Super Mom - Available in paperback August 1, 2006

Super Mom Saves the World - March 2007

"For every soccer mom who dreams of leaping tall buildings in a single bound - introducing a superhero for the Swiffer generation."

www.melanielynnehauser.com

Elaine Viets



I mentioned in the last newsletter that Elaine Viets had had a stroke. She is now home but the road to recovery will be a long one.

I don't know how many of you have read her books but if you haven't read them and want a nice, cozy, funny mystery, buy one or more of her books. Even if you are a Science Fiction/Fantasy fan, you might like one of her mysteries as a change of pace. She has two series going now -- Dead End Jobs and Mystery Shopper. You can read all about them on her [web site](#).

Jan Burke posted the following on the mystery newsletter, DorothyL, in order to help Elaine. If you need more information, let me know. It's amazing how the mystery world pulls together on something like this. Please check Elaine's web page in a few days as more information about her recovery will be posted.

Jan wrote:

As the recent outpouring of messages of concern and well-wishes for Elaine Viets have shown, Elaine has a lot of friends in the mystery community. It's no wonder -- she's not only a delightful person and beloved writer, she has given a lot of time and energy to helping others through her service in MWA, Sisters in Crime, and other groups.

She also has a new book coming out in May, MURDER WITH RESERVATIONS, and one of her biggest worries has been that due to the stroke, she won't be able to tour.

So we're offering her friends a chance to actively help her -- we're going to "tour" for her!

Here's what to do

1) Send an e-mail to 4elaineviets@gmail.com

2) Let us know what part of the country (or world) you are in and if you are

a) an author

b) a bookseller

c) a fan

3) Let us know you would be willing to:

a) place a stack of Elaine's books on your table as you sign on your own tour

b) help set up an "Elaine Viets" party at your store or a store near you (if you are not a store owner, PLEASE do NOT contact stores directly at this point!)

c) serve as a "stand-in" by hosting a nearby scheduled signing on Elaine's tour.

d) place an image of Murder With Reservations with a note about this effort on your Web site or blog.

PJ Nunn, Elaine's publicist, is offering to reward the kindness of Elaine's author friends with publicity help for their own books.

We will have more details for you soon!

I know this community is one that has many generous people in it, people who are willing to act on their concern for others. I look forward to hearing from you!

Please feel free to forward this message.

Yours,

Jan Burke

DOROTHYL Official Homepage <http://www.dorothy1.com>

This and That

- A favorite sub-genre of mine is the historical mystery and C. S. Harris is an excellent author of that type of book. Her series, **What Angels Fear** (November 2005) and **When Gods Die** (November 2006) is one that I thoroughly enjoy. Therefore I was pleased to find out that a new book, **Why Mermaids Sing**, will be out this November. Mark it on your calendar if you are a 'history-mystery' fan -- or even if you're not and you just want a good mystery with great characters.
- With Mother's Day coming up soon -- **May 13** -- think about giving Mom or Grandmom a book. Let us know what kind of book she likes to read and we'll make a recommendation for a gift book.

Reminder on Purchasing Books

Go to <http://www.aliensandalibis.com/newsletter.htm> to order any of the books in this newsletter. If you want to order books from prior newsletters, they are available under NEW BOOKS on the Inventory page.

You can use PayPal to pay for the order. PayPal is fast and safe -- all you need is a credit card or a checking account. You don't even have to create a PayPal membership.

See you again in a couple of weeks with more book information.

Deb and Gary

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