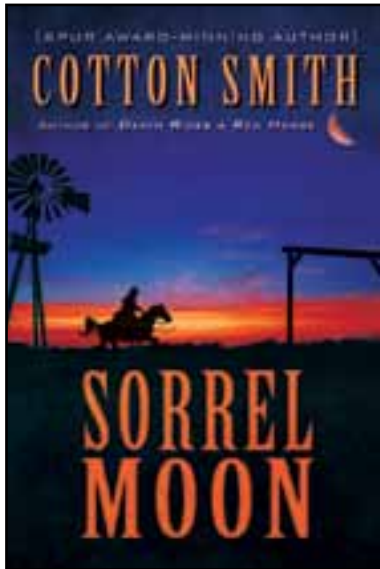


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## SORREL MOON

by Cotton Smith

FOR FANS OF:  
ELMER KELTON, LOUIS L'AMOUR



Ethan Kerry, blinded by a wild horse, runs his growing Texas ranch — with the help of his two brothers, Cole and Luther, and his strong wife, Claire.

Notorious gunman Glory Van Camp, posing as a Uvalde minister, wants the massive Bar K. He is joined by his brother, evil stepfather and stepsister and recruited gunmen. Their first step: kill Cole, a gunfighter of note.

Cole Kerry is shot down in a crossfire and nearly dead. But, unknown to them, Ethan has regained his sight as the nerve endings in his eyes healed. He leads his men in a smart counterattack, then takes Cole's big sorrel, the horse that blinded him, to go after Glory, his step-father and his stepsister, alone.

PUB DATE: 3/19/14

ISBN: 978-1-4328-2811-0

PRICE: \$25.95 U.S.

GENRE: Frontier Fiction

BINDING: Hardcover

TRIM: 5 x 8.5

EST. PAGES: 314

### MARKETING PLANS:

- Advance reading copies
- Print and online advertising
- National print and online media
- Social Media Outreach

"Hard-eyed characters and six-gun action. Smith knows cattle drives and cowboy lore."

— *Publishers Weekly*

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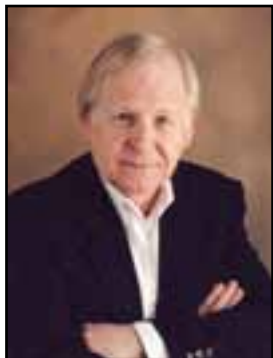
"The traditional Western doesn't get much better than Cotton Smith." — *Roundup Magazine*

"Cotton Smith's is a significant voice in the development of the American Western."

—Loren D. Estleman, author of *White Desert*, Spur Award Winner

"Nobody creates villains like Cotton Smith. Memorable. Believable. Cruel and mean."

— *True West magazine*



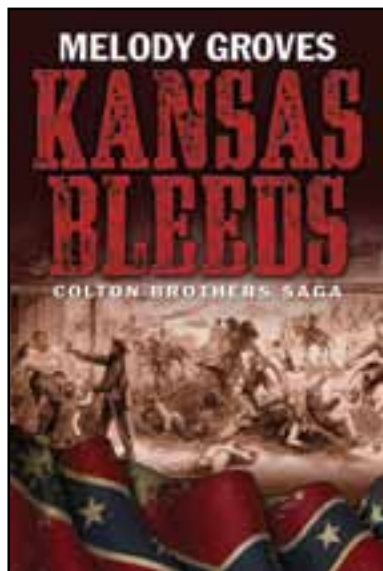
**Cotton Smith** is past president of Western Writers of America, a Spur Award winner and recipient of the WWA Branding Iron Award. He has published 18 western novels. He is also author of *Trail to Eagle*, a history of the early decades of Boy Scouting in Kansas City, and *Tribesmen Arise!*, the history of the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, an exceptional Scouting leadership organization. He was co-creator of an original musical, *First Light*, written for the first televising of the world-famous Country Club Plaza Christmas Lighting Ceremony.

A recipient of the BSA Silver Beaver Award, he was also Presiding Chieftain of the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. He and his wife, Sonya, have three grown children and five grandchildren.

His website is <http://www.cottonsmithbooks.com/>.

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## KANSAS BLEEDS: COLTON BROTHERS SAGA

by Melody Groves

### FOR FANS OF:

JEFF SHAARA, MARY DORIA RUSSELL, AND JOHNNY D. BOGGS

*Kansas Bleeds* is a fast-paced historical novel set in Civil War Kansas pitting family values against personal ideals. The “Brothers’ War” places brother against brother, father against son. And for the Colton Family, there is no escape.

Luke Colton resolutely believes two things: slaves are crucial to the South’s well-being, and states must be allowed to make their own laws. Unfortunately, no one else in his family agrees.

Frustrated that he alone cannot change people’s beliefs, he joins Bushwhacker William Clarke Quantrill, Confederate guerilla leader. Luke rides with the man, confident they will make a difference.

By the time Luke figures out his family’s views are right and he is wrong, it’s too late. Quantrill’s out to burn down Lawrence and kill Luke for being a traitor.

PUB DATE: 4/18/14

ISBN: 978-1-4328-2807-3

PRICE: \$25.95 U.S.

GENRE: Frontier Fiction

BINDING: Hardcover

TRIM: 5 x 8.5

EST. PAGES: 304

### MARKETING PLANS:

- Advance reading copies
- Print and online advertising
- National print and online media
- Social Media Outreach

“In *Kansas Bleeds*, Melody Groves has written a compelling and engaging novel of the events surrounding Quantrill’s raid on Lawrence, Kansas. A novel about hard choices and bad decisions, *Kansas Bleeds* is a pleasure to read.”

— Thomas Cobb, award-winning author of *Crazy Heart* and *With Blood in Their Eyes*

“*Kansas Bleeds* is a rare combination of rough-and-tumble cowboy antics and fine writing. You will hold your breath as young Luke Colton becomes deeply embroiled in the plots of Quantrill’s Raiders, a band of Southern rebels bent on death and destruction during the Civil War. Peppered with humor and laced with tension, this Colton brothers’ Western is as fine as they get.”

— Judith Avila, award-winning coauthor of *Code Talker: The first and only memoir by one of the original Navajo code talkers of WWII*

“Melody Groves writes about the Southwestern frontier with real authority; a scholar’s grasp of history, a keen sense of the land, and a well-honed edge for action that’ll get your blood boiling.”

—Johnny Boggs, author of 30 books including his latest, *Northfield*



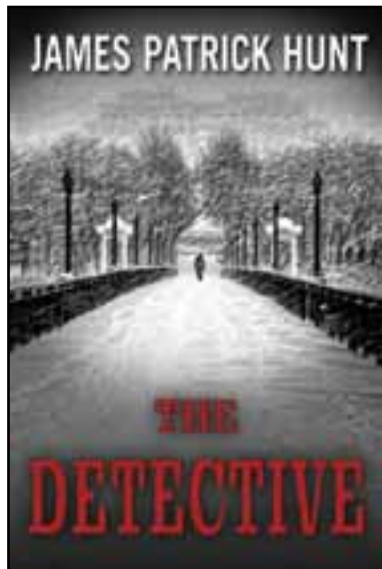
New Mexico native **Melody Groves** has a deep love for anything cowboy and Old West. Born and raised in Las Cruces, New Mexico, she spent a few years “growing up” on Guam and in the Philippines. She holds a bachelor’s degree (New Mexico State University) and a master’s (University of New Mexico). Melody’s hobby of Old West reenacting keeps her busy “shooting the sheriff” Sunday afternoons in Albuquerque’s Old Town. When not writing or shooting, she plays rhythm guitar with the Jammy Time Band. Winner of five first-place writing awards, Melody is a member of Western Writers of America and writes for national and regional magazines. She is the author of three other Western novels and two nonfiction books.

[www.melodygroves.com](http://www.melodygroves.com)

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## THE DETECTIVE

by James Patrick Hunt

### FOR FANS OF:

ELMORE LEONARD, DONALD WESTLAKE, AND ED MCBAIN

Chicago, 1979. On the heels of one of the harshest blizzards ever to hit the city, five people have been murdered at a train stop.

One of the victims is Rabbi Nathan Wald, a political activist who may have been targeted by the Illinois Neo-Nazis. Detective David Beckman is assigned to the case for all the wrong reasons. He's new to Homicide and unwelcome by his supervising officer, longtime veteran Sergeant Tom Regan.

They are two men with different backgrounds, and very different worldviews. Together they'll have to wade through all the lowlifes, haters, and sleazy politicians of Chicagoland to find the killer.

PUB DATE: 3/19/14

ISBN: 978-1-4328-2808-0

PRICE: \$25.95 U.S.

GENRE: Thriller / Police Procedural

BINDING: Hardcover

TRIM: 5 x 8.5

EST. PAGES: 300

### MARKETING PLANS:

- Advance reading copies
- Print and online advertising
- National print and online media
- Social Media Outreach

### PRAISE FOR JAMES PATRICK HUNT

"If your readers clamor for Richard Stark's Parker novels, then *Bridger* is your new antihero to recommend." — starred *Library Journal* on *Police and Thieves*

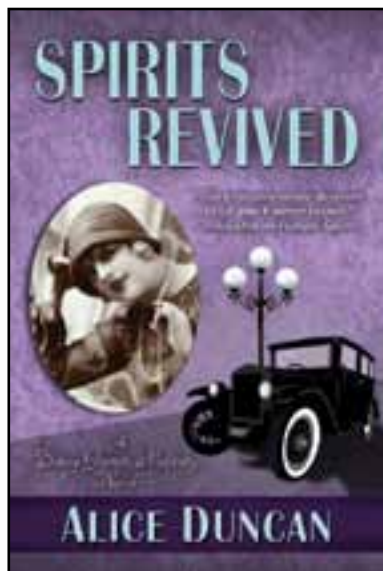
"Intricate, completely convincing, and scorching hot, *The Betrayers* is reminiscent of the best of Elmore Leonard . . . Yes, it's that good." — George Pelecanos on *The Betrayers*



**James Patrick Hunt** is the author of *Maitland*, *Maitland Under Siege*, *Maitland's Reply*, *Get Maitland*, *The Betrayers*, *Goodbye Sister Disco*, *The Assailant*, *The Silent Places*, *Bullet Beth*, *Reinhardt's Mark*, *Bridger*, and *Police and Thieves*. He lives in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where he writes and practices law.

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## SPIRITS REVIVED

### SPIRITS, FEATURING DAISY GUMM MAJESTY

by Alice Duncan

FOR FANS OF:

AMANDA QUICK, CAROLA DUNN, AND JACQUELINE WINSPEAR

When a real live (or dead) spirit invades Daisy Gumm Majesty's body as she's conducting a séance, claiming he was murdered, Daisy is not only shocked and afraid, but curious. She's a fake spiritualist, for heaven's sake. How did a real spirit manage to speak through her? And who killed Eddie Hastings? Why did the Pasadena Police Department pass off his death as suicide?

She can't tell anyone, least of all Detective Sam Rotondo, how she received the information that Eddie Hastings was murdered. They'd all laugh at her. Sam had been Daisy's late husband's best friend. He is more than a little distressed when Daisy begins to investigate Eddie Hastings's death on her own.

PUB DATE: 3/19/14

ISBN: 978-1-4328-2798-4

PRICE: \$25.95 U.S.

GENRE: Historical Mystery

BINDING: Hardcover

TRIM: 5 x 8.5

EST. PAGES: 250

#### MARKETING PLANS:

- Advance reading copies
- Print and online advertising
- National print and online media
- Social Media Outreach

#### ADVANCE PRAISE FOR *SPIRITS REVIVED*

"A fake spiritualist is shocked when she has a real ghostly experience . . . [a] mystery for readers who'd like to learn more about life on both sides of the tracks in California during the Jazz Age."

— *Kirkus Reviews*

#### PRAISE FOR THE DAISY GUMM MAJESTY SERIES

"This enjoyable series deserves to be much better known"

— *Booklist on Hungry Spirits*

"With an engaging dog obedience class side story and a real feel for the time and place, Duncan's historical series has much to recommend it. While gentle and humorous, this first-person tale is tinged with sadness because of Billy's plight. Recommended for Jacqueline Winspear and Carola Dunn readers"

— *Library Journal on Genteel Spirits*



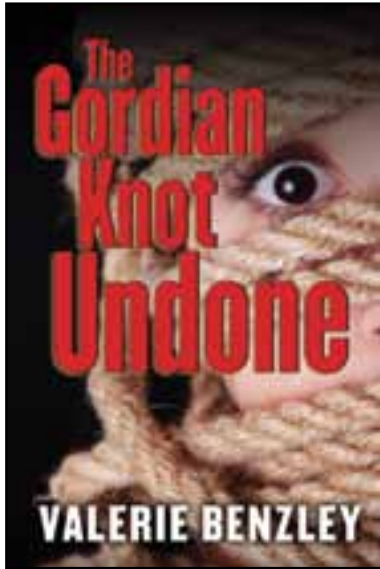
Award-winning author **Alice Duncan** lives with a herd of wild dachshunds (enriched from time to time with fosterees from New Mexico Dachshund Rescue) in Roswell, New Mexico. She's not a UFO enthusiast; she's in Roswell because her mother's family settled there fifty years before the aliens crashed. Alice would love to hear from you at [alice@aliceduncan.net](mailto:alice@aliceduncan.net).

And be sure to visit her Web site at <http://www.aliceduncan.net> and her Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/alice.duncan.925>.

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## THE GORDIAN KNOT UNDONE

by Valerie Benzley

### FOR FANS OF:

RUTH RENDELL, P.D. JAMES, AND JONATHAN KELLERMAN

My mother killed my father. Not only that, she also murdered my stepfather, my grandmother, and my baby brother. There, I've said it. Now, what do you think about me? Are you imagining that I must be a damaged, suffering mess of a person? Does it cross your mind that I might be a murderer in the making? Perhaps I've turned to prostitution or drugs to ease the pain of my unconventional upbringing.

You'd be wrong on all counts. I'm married to a wonderful man, I have three lovely children, and I work as a kindergarten teacher in our pleasant little town. I'm active in our church and have a wide circle of friends. Of course, none of the people in my life know about my mother. She remains my own private demon, my secret that I choose not to share—with anyone.

*The Gordian Knot Undone* is a novel of psychological suspense that explores the sometimes torturous bonds between mothers and daughters, with plot twists that keep the reader guessing until the last sentence.

Jess Stranahan is a wife, mother, and teacher, with a seemingly perfect life. Then her mother, recently released from prison after serving twenty years for murder, seeks her out. Jess has done everything possible to distance herself from her chaotic childhood, but now Mama is back. As Jess becomes increasingly taken over by nightmares and flashbacks from the past, Mama's influence over her eldest daughter grows. An unexplained death and a poisoning attempt convince Jess that she must take drastic action to sever the knot that malevolently binds three generations.

PUB DATE: 3/19/14

ISBN: 978-1-4328-2806-6

PRICE: \$25.95 U.S.

GENRE: Psychological Suspense

BINDING: Hardcover

TRIM: 5 x 8.5

EST. PAGES: 238

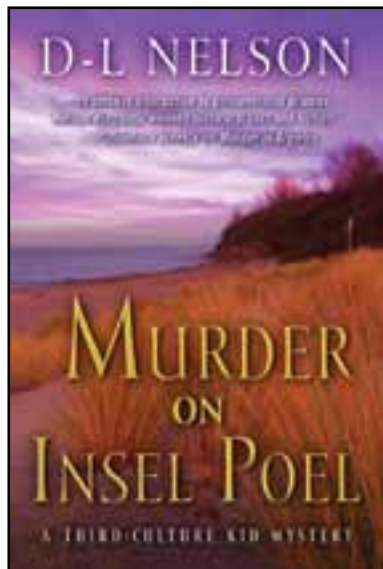
### MARKETING PLANS:

- Advance reading copies
- Print and online advertising
- National print and online media
- Social Media Outreach

**Valerie Benzley** lives in Arizona with her dog, Xochitl. She has always written for her own enjoyment, but took it up seriously after retiring from her career as a teacher and school counselor. She enjoys traveling, spending time with family, volunteering, and reading when she is not exploring the murky depths of the human psyche.

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## MURDER ON INSEL POEL

### A THIRD-CULTURE KID MYSTERY

by D-L Nelson

FOR FANS OF:

SUE GRAFTON, PATRICIA CORNWELL, AND ROBERT B. PARKER

Annie Young's forte is tech writing and historical research. But with disconcerting frequency as she travels for projects around the world, she finds herself in the middle of murder investigations. American-born Annie thinks she's landed an easy assignment translating a book about the small northern Germany island of Insel Poel and some museum information. Then she stumbles upon the bodies of two young Asian women, washed ashore from who knows where. Her visit to the quaint island is compounded by a disturbing case of a teenage girl being abused by her new stepfather. Despite the protestations of her fiancé, a police chief in southern France, Annie gets steadily more involved.

Woven through the mystery are the stories of a WWII concentration camp survivor, an RAF pilot and a vicar's daughter, each with a unique historical connection to the beach at Insel Poel. When Annie gets too close to the truth behind the murders, she becomes the next target.

PUB DATE: 3/19/14

ISBN: 978-1-4328-2815-8

PRICE: \$25.95 U.S.

GENRE: Mystery

BINDING: Hardcover

TRIM: 5 x 8.5

EST. PAGES: 316

#### MARKETING PLANS:

- Advance reading copies
- Print and online advertising
- National print and online media
- Social Media Outreach

#### ADVANCE PRAISE FOR *MURDER ON INSEL POEL*

"A small island off the coast of Germany provides the picturesque setting for some nasty murders. The fifth in this capable series includes alternating World War II subplots about a half-Jewish woman and an RAF pilot with a connection to Insel Poel." — *Kirkus Reviews*

#### PRAISE FOR D-L NELSON'S *MURDER IN CALEB'S LANDING*

"In this intriguing first in a new series from Nelson, Annie Young, a 33-year-old contract tech writer born in the U.S. who's spent most of her life in Europe, returns to the States...The action moves at a fast clip to a dramatic and surprising conclusion."

— *Publishers Weekly*



**D-L Nelson** is a Swiss writer living in Geneva, Switzerland, and Argelès-sur-mer, France. She was raised in the US. This is her seventh Five Star novel and her fourth mystery in the series. Like Annie she is a Third-Culture Kid (adult), by not being 100 percent part of the culture where she was born or where she lives presently, but a mixture of both.

Visit her blog at <http://theexpatwriter.blogspot.com>.

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## THE BLANK CANVAS

by Glen Ebisch

FOR FANS OF:  
AARON ELKINS (CHRIS NORRGREN MYSTERIES) AND  
ELIZABETH PETERS (VICKY BLISS MYSTERIES)

Laura Magee is spending the summer in an art gallery in the southern New Jersey shore town of Safe Harbor. Problems arise for Laura when a dispute over a painting by a man named Rafferty leads to the murder of one of her customers. In danger from the murderers herself, Laura must discover the identity of the killers and what makes a Rafferty valuable enough to commit murder. When the FBI becomes involved, Laura quickly realizes that this crime has more layers than she ever imagined.

This is a fast-paced mystery with a strong sense of humor, particularly with regard to contemporary art. At the climax of the story, it will come as a surprise to discover who some of the characters really are. You may never look at an art gallery the same way again.

PUB DATE: 4/18/14

ISBN: 978-1-4328-2818-9

PRICE: \$25.95 U.S.

GENRE: Mystery

BINDING: Hardcover

TRIM: 5 x 8.5

EST. PAGES: 248

### MARKETING PLANS:

- Advance reading copies
- Print and online advertising
- National print and online media
- Social Media Outreach

### PRAISE FOR GLEN EBISCH'S *THE HERO POSE*

"Ebisch introduces a very private, reluctant sleuth in this engrossing mystery. Readers will hope to see more of the emotionally brittle Randall, who struggles with normal human interactions as well as her physical health." — *Publishers Weekly*

### *BREAKING THE RULES*

"A cozy with a fun and flirty edge . . . a deft balance of mystery and romantic comedy."

— *Kirkus Reviews*

### *TO GRANDMOTHER'S HOUSE*

"After Laura loses her Boston Museum of Fine Arts job, she lands a position at the Ravensford Chronicle, a small town New England newspaper, in this nostalgic cozy from Ebisch. Laura discovers investigative journalism can be dangerous in this old-fashioned blend of romance and detection." — *Publishers Weekly*

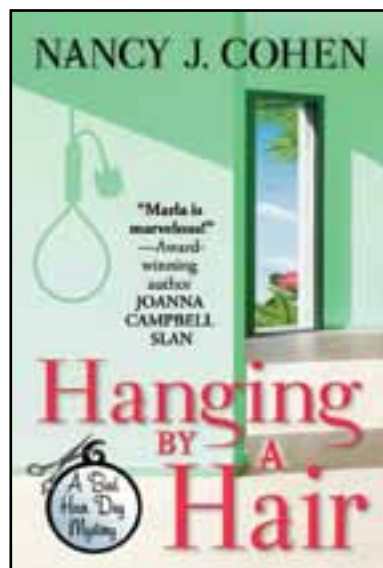


**Glen Ebisch** has had over fifteen mysteries published for adults and young adults. He lives with his wife in western Massachusetts. His hobbies include reading philosophy and practicing yoga.

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## HANGING BY A HAIR

### A BAD HAIR DAY MYSTERY

by Nancy J. Cohen

FOR FANS OF:

DIANE MOTT DAVIDSON, JOANNE FLUKE, VICTORIA LAURIE, AND JANET EVANOVICH

Marla's joyous move to a new house with her husband, Detective Dalton Vail, is marred by their next-door neighbor who erects an illegal fence between their properties. When Dalton reminds the man of the local permitting laws, tempers flare—and worse, the neighbor is found dead the following day. Dismayed when Dalton is removed from the case due to a conflict of interest, Marla decides it's up to her to find the killer. Can the intrepid hairstylist untangle the clues and pin down the culprit before he strikes again?

PUB DATE: 4/18/14

ISBN: 978-1-4328-2814-1

PRICE: \$25.95 U.S.

GENRE: Cozy Mystery

BINDING: Hardcover

TRIM: 5 x 8.5

EST. PAGES: 288

#### MARKETING PLANS:

- Advance reading copies
- Print and online advertising
- National print and online media
- Social Media Outreach

#### ADVANCE PRAISE FOR *HANGING BY A HAIR*

"Marla is marvelous!"

—Joanna Campbell Slan, author of the Kiki Lowenstein Mysteries & the Jane Eyre Chronicles

#### PRAISE FOR *Shear Murder*

"Smart, edgy dialogue and an intriguing cast of characters lift Cohen's 10th Bad Hair Day mystery featuring South Florida hairstylist Marla Shore." — *Publishers Weekly*

"Who knows more about the wedding party than your hairdresser? Welcome back south Florida's Marla Shore, who trips over the dead matron of honor in her tenth cozy." — *Library Journal*

"Finding the bride's sister's corpse under the dessert table can ruin most of your day, as hairstylist Marla Shore (Killer Knots, 2007, etc.) discovers at her friend Jill's wedding." — *Kirkus Reviews*

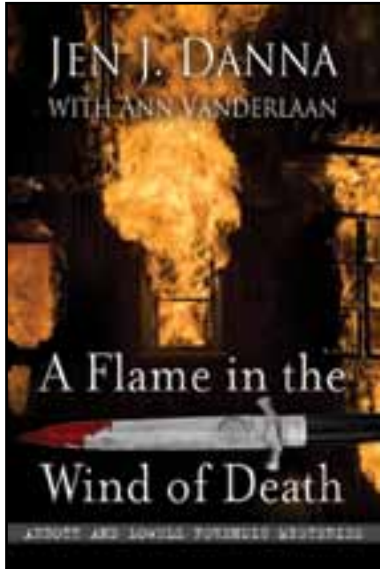


**Nancy J. Cohen** is an award-winning author who writes romance and mysteries. Her humorous Bad Hair Day mystery series features hairdresser Marla Vail, who solves crimes with wit and style under the sultry Florida sun. Several of her titles have made the IMBA bestseller list. Nancy's imaginative romances, including her paranormal Drift Lords series, have also proven popular with fans. Active in the writing community and a featured speaker at libraries and conferences, Nancy is listed in Contemporary Authors, Poets & Writers, and Who's Who in U.S. Writers, Editors, & Poets. Nancy belongs to Mystery Writers of America, Sisters in Crime, Romance Writers of America, Novelists, Inc., and International Thriller Writers. When she's not busy writing, Nancy enjoys reading, fine dining, cruising and outlet shopping.

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## A FLAME IN THE WIND OF DEATH

**ABBOTT AND LOWELL FORENSIC MYSTERIES**

by Jen J. Danna with Ann Vanderlaan

FOR FANS OF:

KATHY REICHS, PATRICIA CORNWELL, ROBIN COOK, AND JEFFERSON BASS

It's nearly Halloween when forensic anthropologist Matt Lowell and Massachusetts State Police Trooper Leigh Abbott are called in to investigate burned remains following a fire in a historic antique shop in Salem, Massachusetts. As Matt, Leigh and their team investigate the death, clues point to Salem's traditional Witchcraft community. However, having dabbled in the Craft as a teenager, Leigh is skeptical that a true Witch would commit premeditative murder, let alone kill in such a vicious way.

A second body is found in a similar fire and the team begins to suspect that coven members are being framed. Now they must solve the murders before 100,000 tourists overrun Salem for what could be the deadliest Halloween of their lives.

PUB DATE: 4/18/14

ISBN: 978-1-4328-2809-7

PRICE: \$25.95 U.S.

GENRE: Thriller

BINDING: Hardcover

TRIM: 5 x 8.5

EST. PAGES: 308

### MARKETING PLANS:

- Advance reading copies
- Print and online advertising
- National print and online media
- Social Media Outreach

### ADVANCE PRAISE FOR A FLAME IN THE WIND OF DEATH

"Witches are suspected of murder in modern-day Salem, Mass. State Trooper Leigh Abbott and forensic anthropologist Matt Lowell have barely recovered from the horrors of their first case together (*Dead Without a Stone to Tell It*, 2013) when they're called on to work an arson-cum-murder. Leigh, one of the few women in a man's world, infuriates a colleague when she lands a case involving badly burned remains in an antiques shop. . . Matt, who's romantically involved with Leigh, must help her cope with a series of anonymous letters hinting that her father, killed in the line of duty, was a crooked cop. A tricky mystery rich in intriguing suspects and forensic detail."

— *Kirkus Reviews*

### PRAISE FOR DEAD, WITHOUT A STONE TO TELL IT

"A Massachusetts state trooper and a forensic anthropologist combine their talents to solve a series of murders. This first in a planned series by a pair of scientific researchers is both exciting and informative, sure to please fans of forensic mysteries." — *Kirkus Reviews*

A scientist specializing in infectious diseases, **Jen J. Danna** works as part of a dynamic research group at a cutting-edge Canadian university. However, her true passion lies in indulging her love of the mysterious through her writing. Together with her partner, Ann Vanderlaan, a retired research scientist herself, she crafts suspenseful crime fiction with a realistic scientific edge.

**Ann Vanderlaan** lives near Austin, Texas, with her three rescued pit bull companions. Jen lives near Toronto, Ontario, with her husband and two daughters, and is a member of the Crime Writers of Canada.

You can reach Jen at [jenjdanna@gmail.com](mailto:jenjdanna@gmail.com) or through her website and blog at [www.jenjdanna.com](http://www.jenjdanna.com).

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## GONE AND DONE IT A DREAMWALKER MYSTERY

by Maggie Toussaint

FOR FANS OF:

JULIET BLACKWELL, CHARLAINE HARRIS, AND VICTORIA LAURIE

While planting a cherry tree, landscaper and pet-sitter Baxley Powell digs up a skull. As she waits for the cops, she dreamwalks to identify the victim. Once her findings prove helpful, the sheriff agrees to pay her for consulting, if she closes cases.

A widow and single mom, Baxley needs this consulting gig. Her in-laws want custody of her daughter, so she has to be self-sufficient.

Complications arise when a fresh body is found on Baxley's jobsite, planting her in the suspect pool. Concurrently, her father steps down as county dreamwalker, passing the honor to her. Some honor. People need help, and she barely knows what to do.

With a killer dogging her heels and spirits nipping at her mind, Baxley follows her dreams.

PUB DATE: 4/18/14

ISBN: 978-1-4328-2813-4

PRICE: \$25.95 U.S.

GENRE: Paranormal Mystery

BINDING: Hardcover

TRIM: 5 x 8.5

EST. PAGES: 276

### MARKETING PLANS:

- Advance reading copies
- Print and online advertising
- National print and online media
- Social Media Outreach

### PRAISE FOR MAGGIE TOUSSAINT

"An exciting whodunit" — *Publishers Weekly on Death, Island Style*

"A winner on all fronts. Nice regional flair." — *Library Journal on Death, Island Style*

"Toussaint creates a gutsy heroine whose struggles with murder and romance add up to a very enjoyable read" — *Kirkus Reviews on Death, Island Style*

"Eccentric and fun, this book is definitely worth a read" — *Romantic Times on Death, Island Style*

"A welcome addition to the cozy ranks" — *Kirkus Reviews on On the Nickel*

"An amusing addition to the cozy ranks" — *Kirkus Reviews on In For a Penny*

"The story takes some unexpected and dangerous turns as it builds to a satisfying conclusion"  
— *Publishers Weekly on In For a Penny*



Formerly a contract scientist for the U.S. Army and currently a freelance reporter and mystery and suspense author, **Maggie Toussaint** has ten published books. Her Five Star mysteries include *Death, Island Style* and three titles in her popular Cleopatra Jones series: *In for a Penny*, *On the Nickel*, and *Dime If I Know*. Her latest mystery, *Gone and Done It*, is the first book in her new series about a psychic sleuth.

Her debut release, *House of Lies*, won Best Romantic Suspense in the National Readers' Choice Awards. Maggie has been nominated twice for the Silver Falchion Award and finished in the Beacon.

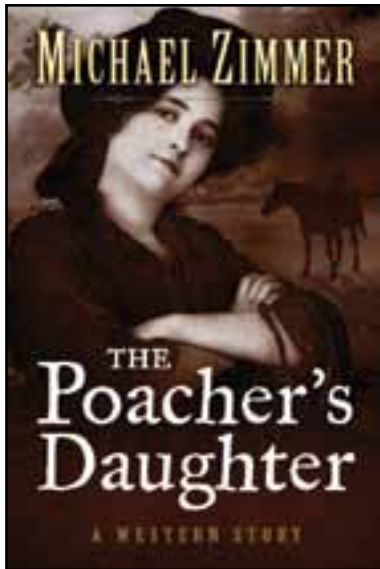
Maggie lives in coastal Georgia, where secrets, heritage, and ancient oaks cast long shadows.

Visit her at [www.maggietoussaint.com](http://www.maggietoussaint.com).

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## THE POACHER'S DAUGHTER

A WESTERN STORY

by Michael Zimmer



FOR FANS OF:  
MARY DORIA RUSSELL AND LOREN ESTLEMAN

PUB DATE: 3/19/14  
ISBN: 978-1-4328-2763-2  
PRICE: \$25.95 U.S.  
GENRE: Historical Fiction  
BINDING: Hardcover  
TRIM: 5 x 8.5  
EST. PAGES: 500

### MARKETING PLANS:

- Advance reading copies
- Print and online advertising
- National print and online media
- Social Media Outreach

The Poacher's Daughter is an extraordinary story of betrayal and redemption, set within an uncompromising landscape of raw brutality and unimaginable beauty. It is a novel you won't soon forget.

In 1885, young Rose Edwards is widowed by Montana vigilantes who hang her husband for an alleged theft, then burn her Yellowstone Valley cabin to the ground as a warning for her and others of her kind to quit the territory. Penniless and illiterate, yet fiercely independent, Rose begins a two-year odyssey to revisit the land of her childhood, a land she once traveled with her father, an itinerant robe trader among the Assiniboines and Blackfeet. But the old ways of the hunter and trapper are disappearing as Europeans flood the ranges with vast herds of cattle.

With an aging roan gelding named Albert as her closest friend, Rose finds herself a reluctant hero in an ageless battle, the face of an indigenous population, both native and white, as she stubbornly pushes back against the invading aristocracy.

### ADVANCE PRAISE FOR *THE POACHER'S DAUGHTER*

"Rose is a beautiful composite of frontier women, some famous, some not; Zimmer's great strength is that he doesn't make his heroine anything other than an ordinary, decent woman who never had any luck. She falls so low she has nothing to lose and can become a pure spirit, and an avenger of the weak. Think of Luke Short for action and Ernest Haycox for his sweeping style. All westerns should be this good." — starred, *Booklist*

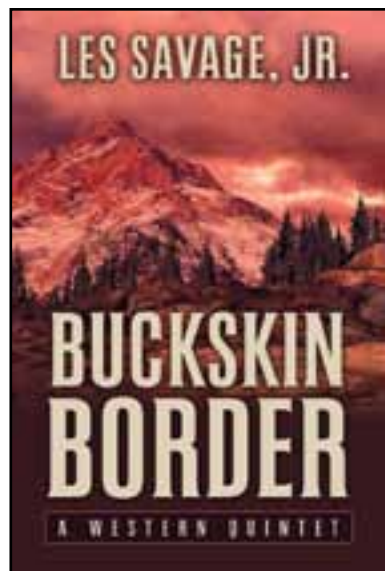


**Michael Zimmer** grew up on a small Colorado horse ranch. An American history enthusiast from a very early age, he has done extensive research on the Old West. His personal library contains over 2,000 volumes covering that area west of the Mississippi from the late 1700s to the early decades of the 20th Century. In addition to perusing first-hand accounts from the period, Zimmer is also a firm believer in field interpretation. He's made it a point to master many of the skills used by our forefathers, and can start a campfire with flint and steel, gather, prepare, and survive on natural foods found in the wilderness, and has built and slept in shelters as diverse as bark lodges and snow caves. He owns and shoots a number of Old West firearms, and has done horseback treks using 19th Century tack, gear, and guidelines. Zimmer lives in Utah with his wife, Vanessa, and two dogs. His website is [www.michael-zimmer.com](http://www.michael-zimmer.com).

His next Five Star Western will be *Miami Gundown*.

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## BUCKSKIN BORDER A WESTERN QUINTET

by Les Savage, Jr.

“Murder Stalks the Fur Trails” opens this new quintet of short novels by Les Savage, Jr., set during the days of the fur trade in the Western wilderness in which Lee Brand, an independent trapper, decides that the time has come to break the monopoly Rocky Mountain Fur has on purchasing the furs he and his partner have harvested.

In “Crow-Bait Caravan” Kaycee Garrett turns down a bribe not to transport hydraulic mining equipment deep into Montana Territory for Britten O’Hare and travels through an area devastated by cholera, haunted by hostile Sioux Indians, and rivaled by a well-financed freighting company bent on destroying all competition?

Young Dobie Burton in “Wild Men of the Fur Frontier” runs away from home in Tennessee and heads into the wilderness to get his start as a fur trapper.

For Painter Cole in “The Buckskin Army Heads South” the objective is to find where Esperanzado Panuela hid his cache of furs before he was tortured to death.

PUB DATE: 3/19/14

ISBN: 978-1-4328-2764-9

PRICE: \$25.95 U.S.

GENRE: Western Fiction

BINDING: Hardcover

TRIM: 5 x 8.5

EST. PAGES: 236

### MARKETING PLANS:

- Advance reading copies
- Print and online advertising
- National print and online media
- Social Media Outreach

### ADVANCE PRAISE FOR *BUCKSKIN BORDER*

“Several stories reflect touchy subjects, which got Savage in trouble with publishers—including mixed-race relationships, which were common enough in the Old West, but taboo in the 1940s and ’50s. This collection showcases Savage’s gift for telling bold, dramatic, and exciting western tales.”

— *Publishers Weekly*

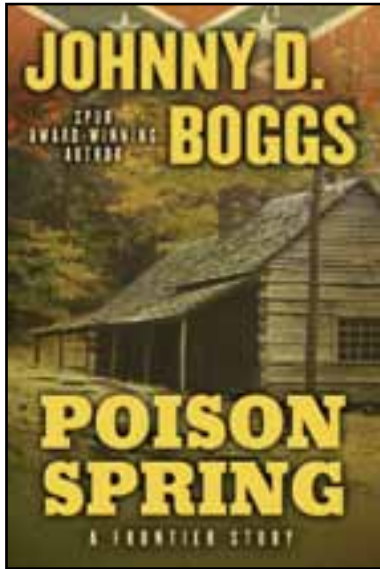


**Les Savage, Jr.** was born in Alhambra, California. He published almost ninety magazine stories set on the American frontier, before his first novel appeared in 1947. Due to his preference for historical accuracy, Savage often ran into problems with book editors in the 1950s who were concerned about marriages between his protagonists and women of different races — a commonplace on the real frontier but not in much Western fiction in that decade. Savage died young, from complications arising out of hereditary diabetes and elevated cholesterol. However, as a result of the censorship imposed on many of his works, only now are they being fully restored by returning to the author’s original manuscripts.

*The Joker’s Den* will be his next Five Star Western.

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PUB DATE: 4/18/14  
ISBN: 978-1-4328-2765-6  
PRICE: \$25.95 U.S.  
GENRE: Western  
BINDING: Hardcover  
TRIM: 5 x 8.5  
EST. PAGES: 232

**MARKETING PLANS:**

- Advance reading copies
- Print and online advertising
- National print and online media
- Social Media Outreach

## POISON SPRING

### A FRONTIER STORY

by Johnny D. Boggs

FOR FANS OF:  
JEFF SHAARA

“That was the year we had no food.”

It's the spring of 1864, and times are hard in Washington County, Arkansas, especially for thirteen-year-old Travis Ford. He hasn't heard from his father, a sergeant in the 2nd Arkansas Cavalry, in months. His mother is struggling to make ends meet on the family farm and abandoned sawmill near Poison Spring. All Travis really wants to do is to follow his passion — make up adventure stories in the style of Alexandre Dumas.

But the Civil War keeps getting in his way. Since his mother hails from Illinois and has Abolitionist leanings, the Ford family — including Travis's twin sister, Edith, and their seven-year-old brother, Baby Hugh — has few friends to turn to for help, only eccentric Miss Mary Frederick, who owns a cotton plantation down the road, and Uncle Willard Ford, a slave trader in nearby Camden.

For the most part, Anna Louella Ford and her children find themselves alone, and they are about to become even more isolated.

#### CRITICAL ACCLAIM FOR JOHNNY D. BOGGS

“The prolific Boggs chronicles one of the more painful episodes of the Civil War: the border violence between Southern-sympathizing Missouri bushwhackers and Union-sympathizing Kansas jayhawkers. Boggs turns in a fine effort here, with a subtle appreciation of race relations, the uncertainty of youth, and the nuances of seemingly familiar stories.” — starred *Booklist* on *Wreaths of Glory*

“The prolific Boggs intercuts the stories of two Civil War recruits, Missourian Caleb Cole and Texan Ryan McCalla . . . Boggs captures the quick terror of combat in harsh scenes that bring to mind *The Red Badge of Courage* . . . Students of the battle will note his flawless research.”

— *Booklist* on *And There I'll Be a Soldier*



**Johnny D. Boggs** has worked cattle, shot rapids in a canoe, hiked across mountains and deserts, traipsed around ghost towns, and spent hours poring over microfilm in library archives — all in the name of finding a good story. He's also one of the few Western writers to have won six Spur Awards from Western Writers of America and the Western Heritage Wrangler Award from the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum.

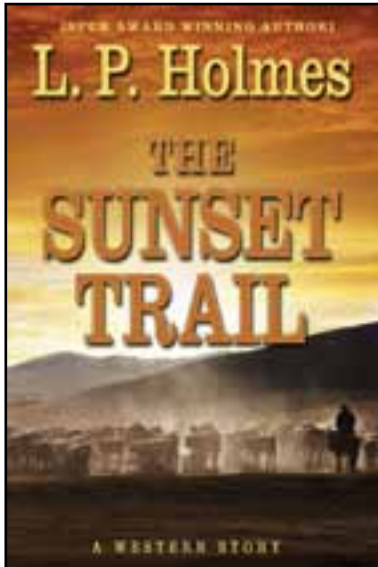
A native of South Carolina, Boggs spent almost fifteen years in Texas as a journalist. Boggs now lives with his wife Lisa and son Jack in Santa Fe.

Connect with him at [www.johnnydboggs.com](http://www.johnnydboggs.com).

His next Five Star Western will be *The Killing Trail: A Killstraight Story*.

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## THE SUNSET TRAIL

### A WESTERN STORY

by L. P. Holmes

It was a long journey and one that no one had tried before. Jeff Kennett and his drovers have brought a herd of 2,000 longhorns all the way from Texas to California. It is Kennett's conviction that there is a fortune to be made by transporting the cattle by river boat from Lassen Meadows down the Sacramento River for sale in San Francisco.

The Gold Rush is on and there is a tremendous demand for beef and no way to get it. Kennett has been referred to Captain Bill Ballinger, headquartered in Sacramento, as the man who can best pilot the cattle downriver, transporting the herd in increments aboard The Sunset Trail.

At a U.S. Army camp on the Truckee River, Kennett first met Deborah Sharpe, who was then on her way from Boston to join her father in Sacramento. Kennett renews their acquaintance when he is invited to the home of Colonel Nathaniel Sharpe, her father. The colonel with his partner, Noah Carlin, is in the shipping business with a fleet of river boats. Sharpe assures Kennett that he can accomplish the job faster and at less expense than Ballinger. And he won't take no for an answer.

When Kennett does give him a no, Noah Carlin enters the room with a man named Shag Taggart, who claims he represents the law and intends to arrest Kennett on a charge of murder. Kennett has not come to this meeting unarmed, and he is able to hold the three at bay by gunpoint to make his escape. But if he doesn't know it for certain by then, Captain Ballinger makes it plain — Sharpe and Carlin will do everything they can not only to stop The Sunset Trail from transporting Kennett's cattle, but to seize the herd before even it can be shipped.

This novel is set against a vivid panorama of California in the days of the Gold Rush, with its teeming population of men from all over the world and those ruthless fortune seekers who will stop at nothing to achieve their goals.

PUB DATE: 4/18/14

ISBN: 978-1-4328-2766-3

PRICE: \$25.95 U.S.

GENRE: Western Fiction

BINDING: Hardcover

TRIM: 5 x 8.5

EST. PAGES: 180

#### MARKETING PLANS:

- Advance reading copies
- Print and online advertising
- National print and online media
- Social Media Outreach

**L.P. Holmes** was the author of a number of outstanding Western novels. He published his first story when he was thirty years old went on to contribute nearly 600 stories to the magazine market as well as to write numerous Western novels, including *Somewhere They Die* for which he received the Spur Award from the Western Writers of America. In these stories one finds the themes so basic to his Western fiction: the loyalty that unites one man to another, the pride one must take in his work and a job well done, the innate generosity of most of the people who live in Holmes's ambient Western communities, and the vital relationship between a man and a woman in making a better life.

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