

Murder As You Like It Word Search

B K Q Q S L G M U O N N A O E N E H P E T S
X S A L K P S R E D R U M A S U D E M W L I
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L N M E D C N C Y K D A A N I B D W X S A F
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R L X L T R H O A B I L L P E S C H E L Z C
S V U E H B S J V H K P J D O N U K O O R J

AFTER PEARL
BILL PESCHEL
BRUCE ROBERT COFFIN
BRUCE MOWDAY
CHRISTINE TRENT
DENNIS ROYER
DOUGLAS STUART

ELLEN CROSBY
JOHN GILSTRAP
JOY ANN RIBAR
JOYCE TREMEL
KATE BELLI
LYNDEE WALKER

MEDUSA MURDERS
NO SECRETS REMAIN
ROOK
STEPHEN EOANNOU
THE GENERAL'S GOLD
WILLIAM LIVEZEY



Something Wicked

this way comes... 2024 • Vol 5 • Issue 2



Upcoming Events At-A-Glance

June 15

Yard / Used Books Bag Sale

June 26

PROMM* - James Rada, Jr. - Page 3

July 14

Mindmapping with Misty • Book
Launch / Book signing - Page 4

July 24

PROMM* - TBA

August 3

Murder As You Like It - See page 6

August 18

PROMM* • Mark Nesbitt - 2:00 pm
Details TBA

September 20-21

PA Tea Festival - See page 6

October 12

Cozy Mystery Fete - Details TBA

*Peculiar, Random, Odd, Mysteries
and More

Inside this Issue...

Book Reviews. 2
Upcoming Events. 3
Hours. 5
Word Search. Last Page

Bag / Yard Sale - June 15 9 am to 5:30 pm

We will be hosting our popular Bag and Yard Sale event earlier than we have in the past. A large bag will be provided to all customers, who are invited to fill them up with as many books as they can fit inside. There will be designated tables with the participating books out for everyone to pick from.

Once filled, the bag costs a flat price of \$5 (plus sales tax). This year, we will be including sci-fi and western books in our sale.

The yard sale portion of this event will be held outside.

**Please note...we will be
closed July 3 - 6.**

**Our apologies for the
inconvenience.**

**Collectible
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on sale at 40%**

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Book Reviews

These books are available for sale on our website
or by stopping in at the shop.

The Seafarer's Secret - Christie Bookshop Mystery 1

by Carol Ann Collins

Type: Mystery / Folk Takes - Trade Paperback - \$17.95

I try not to judge a book by its cover because if I did, I would not have read this book. The cover is pretty, but speaks the romance genre to me, which is not what I read. Romance does play a part in the storyline, but no more than most cozies, which is my normal genre; in fact, I would say less than others. While in a bookshop, I came across this book upside down and went to “fix” it, catching the word “Blackbeard” as I did. This caught my attention because I do like to read about pirates, and Blackbeard is probably the most well known to have existed in the real world.

Two women die in accidents a year apart with one similarity, each is found with one very old gold coin. The first one, Catherine, was the estranged wife of the current police chief, William Templeton. When the second woman is found, the chief steps down because his wife’s case is reopened. Eva Knightly is asked to help with the coins because she is a Historian and an expert about Blackbeard. More coins appear and the town is abuzz with talk of the coins being part of lost treasure buried long ago by Blackbeard. The past is heavily involved in the present, as Eva and William work together to solve the mysteries of the Devil’s coins, the deaths, and Blackbeard’s possible involvement.

The author keeps things moving and while I did figure out who the guilty party was, the author threw in an interesting twist. With two dead ladies and two gold coins, one can assume they are related, but one should not make assumptions. If you are like me and enjoy mysteries, pirates, treasure hunts, and the Outer Banks, which is a favorite location of mine, then this book should not be on your to-be-read list, it should be in your hands right now. This book was a hit with me, and I thoroughly enjoyed the read.

...Reviewed by Sherr I.



“People say, ‘But Betty, Facebook is a great way to connect with old friends.’ Well, at my age, If I want to connect with old friends I need an Ouija board.”

— Betty White

Bold Forecast

by Gary Letcher

Type: Non-Fiction - Trade Paperback - \$17.95 each



Everyone knew the flood was impossible. But the sentinels warned it was coming.

A vivid saga of courage, sacrifice and survival, *Bold Forecast* brings home the power of Nature - and the power of ordinary people in the face of epic catastrophe.

When 1972's Hurricane Agnes roared up America's east coast, it brought the most rain and wreaked the worst damage in U.S. history up to that time. The scope of the Agnes's floods remains the widest ever, bringing death and destruction across twelve states.

- In upstate New York, the mayor assured his nervous citizens they were safe behind the levees, unaware of the incredible deluge hammering the river's headwaters. The fire chief was the first to die.
- In Pennsylvania, ten thousand youth stood with grizzled miners in a frantic effort to buttress their city's groaning floodwalls. "Thank God for the hippies," marveled conservative elders.
- In Maryland, imminent collapse of the biggest dam in the Eastern U.S. threatened to wipe the cities below from the map. Engineers prepared to blow the dam open to relieve the pressure.

Through it all, readers look over the shoulders of scientists at the little-known River Forecast Center, who struggled to predict the path of disaster as their equipment washed away around them.

This is an easy-to-read book about Hurricane Agnes in June 1972. It is a chronological account of the flood most of us remember. There are lots of pictures and maps. The storm not only hit the eastern U.S. hard but also parts of Central America. A map of Agnes's path shows why Pennsylvania was hit so hard. The storm made a huge circle over our state before moving north.

The author explains “river stage” vs. “river depth” which gave me a better understanding of these terms.

There are many personal interest stories including Governor and Mrs. Shapp's evacuation of the mansion by state troopers.

I lived on Market Street in Duncannon, near the Sled Works at that time. We were right where the Juniata empties into the Susquehanna so we got a double dose.

A very interesting and very informative book.

...reviewed by Sandy

MURDER



As You Like It

M•Y•S•T•E•R•Y CONFERENCE

Saturday, August 3, 2024

Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania

Registration materials are included with this newsletter. Sign up now to receive a discount on the registration fee.



September 20-21 - 10:00 am - 3:00 pm

Join our friends at The Rosemary House on Market Street in Mechanicsburg for two days of Garden Activities, Lectures, Tea Tastings, Crafting, Music and Literary Chats.

We have been asked again to have a Literary Chat area at the Festival. This year's authors include Sarah Ickes and Alex Erickson (Friday at 10 am and 12 pm, respectively). On Saturday Geri Krotow and Mindy Quigley will join us (10 am and 12 pm, respectively). For more information and tickets, go to <https://www.teafestpa.com/event-information/tickets> or call 717-697-5111.

Planning to attend one (or many) of our bookshop events? Please remember to make reservations by phone, email or internet:

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www.MysteryBooksOnline.com

Mindmapping • July 14

This event is for authors and readers alike, who are interested in learning more about a process called "Mindmapping."



"Mindmapping" is helpful in laying out a plot for writing a book. Cozy mystery author, Misty Simon, will be teaching this event in the classroom style, where all attendees will help in creating the outline to a story in fun exercises.

There is a \$12 per person admission fee to participate in this event.

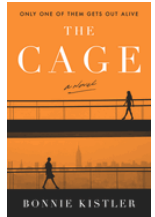
Please register by contacting us at: 717-795-7470

Book Reviews - continued

The Cage

by Bonnie Kistler

Type: Thriller - Trade Paperback - \$18.99



On a cold, misty Sunday night, two women are alone in the offices of fashion conglomerate Claudine de Martineau International. One is the company's human resources director, Lucy Barton-Jones. Impeccably dressed and perfectly coiffed, she sits at her desk and stares somberly out the window. Down the hall, her colleague, company's lawyer Shay Lambert, is buried under a pile of paperwork, frantically rushing to finish.

Leaving at the same time, the two women, each preoccupied by her own thoughts, enter the elevator that will take them down from the 30th floor.

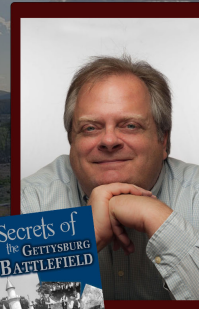
When they arrive at the lobby, one of the women is dead.

*This mystery is a page-turner. Did the company's human resources director really kill herself or did one of the company's lawyers kill her? Shay Lambert insists that she is innocent and Lucy Barton-Jones killed herself. However, the company's "powers that be" want to incriminate her and will stop at nothing to make sure she is either jailed for the murder or murdered herself. Not helping her case is her back ground story of a "fall from grace"...from an up-and-coming attorney in a high-powered legal firm due to the 2008 financial crisis which leaves her without a job and millions of dollars in debt. If you liked **The Firm** by John Grisham, you will enjoy this book.*

...reviewed by Anonymous

PROMM with James Rada Jr.

June 26th
@ 7 pm



THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF GETTYSBURG

In 1863, more than 165,000 soldiers fought and tens of thousands died on the battlefield at Gettysburg, Pa. Many historians consider this the turning point of the Civil War. As the years passed, the surviving veterans grew older and passed away. By the turn of the century, the remaining veterans were in their 70s.

As the 50th anniversary of the Civil War approached, it became apparent that if the country intended to honor its veterans, this would be the last chance to thank many of them. In the early years of the 20th century, plans began forming for a Grand Reunion in Gettysburg for the 50th anniversary of the battle. More than 54,000 Civil War veterans plus tens of thousands of spectators, family, visitors, and journalists descended on Gettysburg in 1913. The veterans stayed in a tent city on the battlefield as they remembered the great battle fought there. Jim will tell the story of how this reunion came together and the tales of the veterans who returned. This event was when peace finally came to Gettysburg.



James Rada, Jr. is a bestselling author of historical fiction and non-fiction history. They include the popular books *Secrets of the Gettysburg Battlefield*, *Canawlers*, and *Battlefield Angels: The Daughters of Charity Work as Civil War Nurses*. He has received numerous awards from the Maryland-Delaware-DC Press Association, Associated Press, Maryland State Teachers Association, Society of Professional Journalists, and Community Newspapers Holdings, Inc. for his newspaper writing.

Register for this event at www.MysteryBooksOnline.com, or by calling Mechanicsburg Mystery Bookshop at 717-795-7470

Book Reviews - continued

The Benevolent Society of Ill-Mannered Ladies

by Alison Goodman

Type: Mystery & Detective / History - Trade Paperback - \$17.00



A high society amateur detective at the heart of Regency London uses her wits and invisibility as an 'old maid' to protect other women in a new and fiercely feminist historical mystery series. Lady Augusta Colebrook, 'Gus,' is determinedly unmarried, bored by society life, and tired of being dismissed at the age of forty-two. She and her twin sister, Julia, who is grieving her dead betrothed, need a distraction. One soon presents itself: to rescue their friend's goddaughter, Caroline, from her violent husband. The sisters set out to Caroline's country estate with a plan, but their carriage is accosted by a highwayman. What follows is a high adventure full of danger, clever improvisation, and heart-racing near misses. Back in London, Gus persuades Julia to join her in a quest to help others in need—society be damned! And so begins the beguiling secret life and adventures of the Colebrook twins.

I think I found a new favorite female character in Lady Augusta Colebrook. She is brass, bold, quick-witted, and sharp-tongued, and she does not let the Regency era social customs nor her unmarried status stop her from risky adventures. This novel has a slight mystery as the backdrop, but Lady Augusta's "cases" to right the wrongs of social injustices are the reason to read. And yes, there is even a dash of romance. I found myself on a rollercoaster of emotions throughout the novel; to me, that is a hallmark of a good book.

Goodman uses this novel to also highlight female injustices and issues that have only recently been mentioned in history books. Asylums, women's health, abduction and prostitution of children and young women...Lady Augusta faces these, along with inheritance laws and the very limited rights of an unmarried woman in the early nineteenth century. These topics do make the novel hard to read at times, but Goodman introduces these topics in such a fascinating way that it is worth the discomfort to learn about these issues.

*I hope we see more of Lady Augusta soon; I will be one of the first to order a copy, for sure! In the meantime, this novel would pair well with anything by Georgette Heyer, and for a very comical Regency-esque mystery, Julia Seales's **A Most Agreeable Murder**.*

..reviewed by Jessica

Book Reviews - continued

Discovery in Great Sand Dunes National Park - National Park 2

by Aaron Johnson

Type: Action Adventure / Juvenile - Trade Paperback - \$13.99



Discovery in Grand Canyon National Park - National Park 3

by Aaron Johnson

Type: Action Adventure / Juvenile - Trade Paperback - \$13.99



In the second and third books of this series, *Discovery in Great Sand Dunes National Park* and *Adventure in Grand Canyon National Park* respectively, author Aaron Johnson does a great job writing the continuing adventures following Jake, Wes, and Amber. He includes accurate descriptions of each park, woven into the clues, and observations that will encourage new visitors as well as entice past travelers to revisit for missed nuances and adventures. The author provides an easy to understand explanation of the existence of sand dunes in Colorado, which is a landscape so out of place in my opinion, even though I have had my chance to explore them.

As I have been to a number of our country's wonderful parks, I look forward to the rest of the books in this series. Currently, there are four books that have been printed: *Mystery In Rocky Mountain National Park*, *Discovery in Great Sand Dunes National Park*, *Adventure in Grand Canyon National Park* and *Danger in Zion National Park*. With ten planned in total, I can't wait to see where they are off to next!

...reviewed by Sherry I.

Shop Hours

Wednesday and Thursday	12:30 pm til 6:00 pm
Friday	12:30 pm til 5:30 pm
Saturday	12:00 pm til 5:30 pm
Sunday through Tuesday	Closed except for special events.