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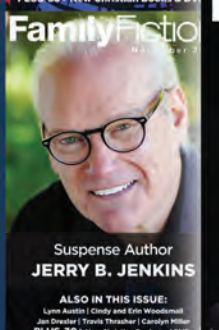
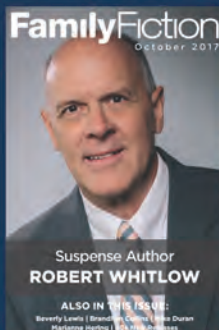
Romantic Suspense Author **ELIZABETH GODDARD**

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:

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Leslie Gould | Amanda Clearly Eastep

New Christian Fiction Book Releases



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Features



ROMANTIC SUSPENSE

ELIZABETH GODDARD

Elizabeth Goddard is the award-winning author of more than 50 novels, including the romantic mystery *The Camera Never Lies*. She is a Daphne du Maurier Award for Excellence in Mystery and Suspense finalist for her *Mountain Cove Series*—*Buried*, *Backfire*, and *Deception*. Now Goddard offers readers another riveting adventure in ***Present Danger***, book one in her new *Rocky Mountain Courage Series*.



ROMANTIC SUSPENSE

COLLEEN COBLE

In this interview, Colleen talks about the recently released book number three in her *Pelican Harbor Series*, ***Three Missing Days***.

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Publisher/GM/Editor

Ross Cluver
Ross@FamilyFiction.com

Proofreader

Michele Thompson

Design & Digital Production

Ross Cluver

National Account Executive Salem Media Group

DeDe Donatelli-Tarrant
805.987.5072
DeDe@salempublishing.com

Web Ad Traffic Coordinator Web & Social Media Support

Brandon Woolum
BWoolum@salempublishing.com

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Features



CONTEMPORARY ROMANCE

IRENE HANNON

In 2015, Irene introduced readers to the small coastal town of Hope Harbor, Oregon. Now, seven books later, Hannon continues to weave captivating stories based in this seaside community with her newest *Hope Harbor Series*, ***Blackberry Beach***.



AMISH ROMANCE

LESLIE GOULD

Leslie Gould is a Christy Award-winning and #1 bestselling author of over 35 novels. In this interview, Leslie shares some insight behind her new *Plain Patterns Series* book, ***A Patchwork Past***.



MIDDLE GRADE KIDS

AMANDA CLEARY EASTEP

Amanda is a middle grade kids author. In her much-anticipated series debut, the *Tree Street Kids*, Amanda introduces readers to her amazing characters Jack, Ellison, Roger, Ruthie, and little sister Midge in ***Jack vs the Tornado***, the first book in the series.



ROMANTIC SUSPENSE

LYNN H. BLACKBURN

Lynn is the author of many popular books including *Beneath the Surface*, *In Too Deep*, *One Final Breath*, and *Covert Justice* just to name a few. In this interview, she talks about her latest book, ***Unknown Threat***, the first book of her new *Defend and Protect Series*.



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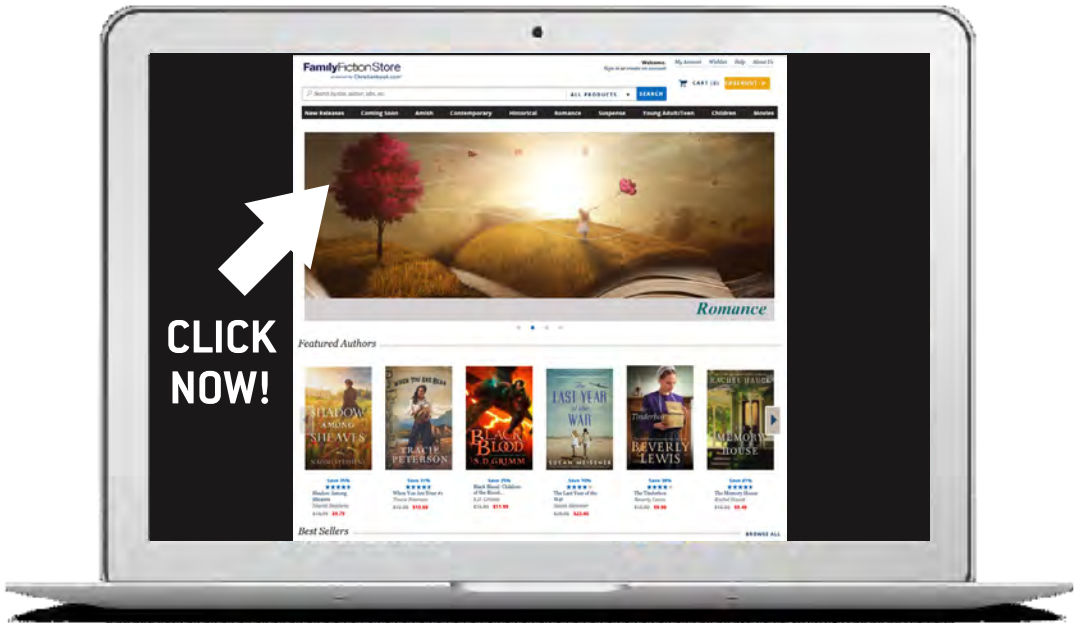
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ROMANTIC SUSPENSE:

Elizabeth Goddard

Present Danger

Elizabeth Goddard has sold over one million books and is the award-winning author of more than fifty novels and counting, including the romantic mystery *The Camera Never Lies*—a 2011 Carol Award winner. She is a Daphne du Maurier Award for Excellence in Mystery and Suspense finalist for her *Mountain Cove Series*—*Buried*, *Backfire*, and *Deception*—and a Carol Award finalist for *Submerged*.

Now Goddard offers readers another riveting adventure in her newest novel, ***Present Danger***, book one in her new *Rocky Mountain Courage Series*.

FF: Can you give a brief synopsis of your newest novel, *Present Danger*?

Detective Jack Tanner is responding to a search-and-rescue callout when he comes across a body in the national forest. He also runs into his old flame, USFS Special Agent Terra Connors. A murder investigation ensues, and as they dig deeper, Terra discovers evidence to suggest artifact trafficking, for which her expertise is especially needed. In the hunt for clues, the body count grows and the stakes rise, bringing Terra and Jack to unexpected places and much too close to home. During his time as an FBI special agent, Jack failed to save someone, and he fears he'll fail again, in which case he and Terra will lose more than their hearts. They could lose their lives.



FF: *Present Danger* is the first book in your new *Rocky Mountain Courage Series*. What ties the books in the series together?

All three stories take place in a fictional county in the southwest corner of Montana near the gateway to Yellowstone National Park. Main characters in each book shared a tragedy that drew them together when loved ones were killed by an avalanche during a SAR mission. This team of searchers made the ultimate sacrifice to help others. A memorial was established commending their “rocky mountain courage” and remains near the base of the mountain on which they died.

FF: Can you tell us a little more about Jack Tanner and Terra Connors, the main characters in this book?

Terra loves the outdoors, and it’s her job to investigate offenses against natural resources. She’s a take-charge person, though she struggles to live up to her mother’s heroism—her

mother died on the mountain conducting a SAR mission, and a memorial plaque at the base of the mountain serves as a reminder of her mother's sacrifice.

Jack Tanner is a former FBI special agent who worked undercover and is now a county detective. He comes back to stay with his aunt who raised him and who is in the early stages of dementia. He struggles with his family legacy and is driven to prove he's better than his father. He doesn't want to let anyone down like his father let him down.

FF: Jack and Terra have a complicated past. Without giving away any spoilers, what can you tell us about their relationship?

Love is complicated, and their breakup left them both reeling, but they have each moved on . . . or have they?

FF: This book features criminals who traffic valuable archaeological finds. What kind of research was required for you to write this story?

I spent many hours reading, though the subject has always fascinated me. In fact, I've long wanted to write a story featuring this particular archaeological looting incident. I won't say more because I don't want to spoil the story.

FF: What do you hope readers take away from reading *Present Danger*?

As always, I hope readers will experience a roller-coaster ride full of twists and turns, and the story will resonate as they think about the characters for hours, even days, after finishing the story. But I also hope they'll get a glimpse into the artifacts-trafficking world they hadn't previously experienced.

FF: What is the most challenging part of the writing process for you?

The challenges have shifted over time, and lately I'm finding the hardest part is making sense of the first draft, which is always messy!

FF: What do you love about writing romantic suspense novels, and what do these kinds of books offer readers?

I love reading romantic suspense. So when I'm writing a romantic suspense, I simply write the story I want to read. I love the genre because it offers double the tension—romantic tension and the suspense plot tension. If good mystery is included, then that's even better. In the case of Christian romantic suspense, the spiritual thread is another huge benefit.

FF: What other projects are you working on right now?

I'm working on book number two in the *Rocky Mountain Courage Series*. **FF**

Visit Elizabeth Goddard's author page here:

<https://familyfiction.com/authors/elizabeth-goddard>

Elizabeth Goddard — *Present Danger*

<https://familyfiction.christianbook.com/present-danger-1-elizabeth-goddard/9780800737986/pd/737982?event=ESRCG>



Present Danger

Rocky Mountain Courage #1

Elizabeth Goddard

Revell

Genres: Suspense, Romance

Buy Now



Book Summary:

Hidden crimes. Open threats.
Long-buried secrets. They'll be fighting for the truth—and their lives.

Former FBI Special Agent Jack Tanner is working as a detective in Montana when he comes across a body in the national forest during a search and rescue mission. He's committed to finding the killer, even if it means working alongside his old flame, US Forest Service Special Agent Terra Connors.

When Terra discovers that the murder victim had ties to a powerful and dangerous trafficker of archaeological artifacts, the investigation takes a deadly turn—one that hits too close to home. As Terra fears she lacks the courage to face what comes next, Jack is more determined than ever to protect her. But he's failed her before.

If he fails this time, it will cost them far more than just their hearts.

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ROMANTIC SUSPENSE:

Colleen Coble

Three Missing Days

Best-selling Christian fiction romantic suspense author **Colleen Coble**'s novels have won or finaled in awards ranging from the **Best Books of Indiana**, **ACFW Book of the Year**, **RWA's RITA**, the **Holt Medallion**, the **Daphne du Maurier**, **National Readers' Choice**, and the **Booksellers Best**. She has nearly 2 million books in print and writes romantic mysteries because she loves to see justice prevail. She lives with her husband Dave in Indiana.

In this interview, Colleen talks about the recently released book number three in her *Pelican Harbor Series*, ***Three Missing Days***.

FF: Readers love the fast pace of the previous novels in the series. How do you get the pacing just right to keep readers on the edge of their seats, but still developing the story and characters?

You have to make sure to give the reader a chance to breathe—but not too big of a gap. I try to make sure the reader is worried about multiple layers so even as they are relaxing from the cessation of danger for a few minutes, they're intrigued by another problem the characters are dealing with. I also like to zero in on character as my protagonist deals with the blows that come her way. How she handles things are part of the world building and show who she really is inside.

FF: How do you create the right balance of romance and suspense in your novels? What does a romance thread add to a suspenseful story?

As a reader, I pick up a book to immerse myself in another world—to understand the world and people a little better than I did before I read the last page. We are made for relationship. A romance adds that layer of relationship we all crave. I try to add more than just romance though—I try to show how real love is more than physical attraction. It's about finding another person who really “gets” us, who fills a hole in our lives that we didn't know was missing. In a suspenseful story, the romance gives the reader space to breathe even as they worry about the outcome of the relationship. Relationship transcends danger for more readers. As a suspense reader, I love the action and danger, but the relationship adds to the urgency of the escape from death.

FF: How did you research/create the setting for the *Pelican Harbor Series*, Alabama?

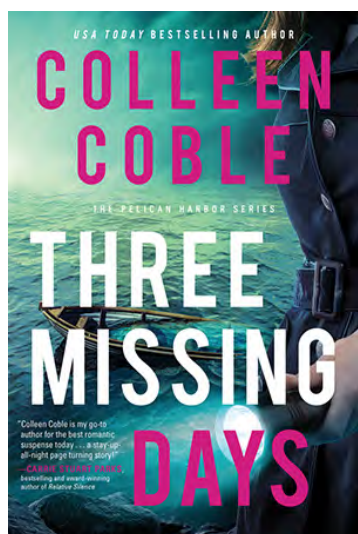
I always have to visit the location because you discover things while there you never would notice by reading travel books. For example, I knew nothing about Bamahenge before my first visit. I didn't know about the dinosaur statues nearby either. You have to taste shrimp gumbo to really appreciate it, and there is nothing like watching the pelicans swoop over the water and snatch up fish. I wouldn't have realized oil and gas platforms dot the landscape offshore without seeing them from the beach. It was during our first visit that a young friend working on a shrimp boat told me about the things they haul up in the nets. That was the catalyst for the entire series. I always start with setting when crafting a new book. I know that sounds backwards, but what is important to people living in the area helps so much with character and plot! **FF**

Visit Colleen Coble's author page here:

<https://familyfiction.com/authors/colleen-coble>

Colleen Coble — *Three Missing Days*

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Three Missing Days

Pelican Harbor Series #3

Colleen Coble

Thomas Nelson

Genres: Mystery, Suspense, Romance

Buy Now

Book Summary:

A chilling murder.

Chief of Police Jane Hardy plunges into the investigation of a house fire that claimed the life of a local

woman as well as one of the firefighters. It's clear the woman was murdered. But why? The unraveling of Jane's personal life only makes the answers in the case more difficult to find.

Her son's arrest.

Then Jane's fifteen-year-old son is accused of a horrific crime, and she has to decide whether or not she can trust her ex, Reid, in the attempt to prove Will's innocence—and whether she can trust Reid with her heart.

Her stolen memories.

Three days of Jane's past are missing from her memory, and that's not all that has been stolen from her. As she works to find the woman's murderer and clear her son's name, finding out what happened in those three days could change everything.

It all started with one little lie. But the gripping truth is finally coming out.

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CONTEMPORARY ROMANCE:

Irene Hannon

Blackberry Beach

Irene Hannon is the bestselling author of more than fifty novels, including *Hope Harbor*, *Sea Rose Lane*, *Sandpiper Cove*, *Pelican Point*, *Driftwood Bay*, and *Starfish Pier*, as well as *Point of Danger* and the *Code of Honor*, *Private Justice*, and her *Men of Valor Series*. Her books have been honored with three coveted RITA Awards from Romance Writers of America, and she is a member of that organization's elite Hall of Fame. Her many other awards include National Readers' Choice, Daphne du Maurier, Retailers' Choice, Booksellers' Best, Carol Award, and Reviewers' Choice. She is also a two-time Christy Award finalist.

In 2015, Irene introduced readers to the small coastal town of Hope Harbor, Oregon in her beloved *Hope Harbor Series*. Now, seven books later, Hannon continues to weave captivating stories based in this seaside community with her newest Hope Harbor novel, *Blackberry Beach*.

FF: Can you please provide a brief description of your new *Hope Harbor Series* book, *Blackberry Beach*?

Blackberry Beach is the story of a woman who's pursued a dream with single-minded determination—only to discover that the dream may not, in fact, be her heart's desire. It also features a man who lived someone else's dream until he walked away from worldly success to follow his true destiny. The story is about discovering what really matters and having the courage to change course midstream, no matter the obstacles.

FF: The secondary storyline focuses on an older couple who seem mismatched initially but who discover it can be a mistake to judge a book by its cover. Why did you include an older romance?

Because the heart doesn't age, and we can fall in love at any stage of life. I think it's important to show that love can transform a life, no matter how old we are. Romance isn't only for the young!

FF: Katherine Parker, the female protagonist, is on the cusp of having everything she ever wanted—fame, money, and acclaim. Yet, she is still feeling unfulfilled. What lesson can we learn from Katherine's life?

That it's important to recognize success comes with a price, and to be absolutely certain that price is worth paying. Also that it's important to keep our priorities straight and figure out what really matters in life. At the end of the day, it's not awards on the wall or money in the bank or a corner office that give our life meaning. It's the people we love—and who love us. Love is what makes life worth living.

FF: Although each of your *Hope Harbor Series* novels introduces new characters, there are also some people who continue to make an appearance in each of your books. Can you please tell readers how these charming characters make a difference within their community?

Everyone's favorite secondary character in the Hope Harbor books is Charley Lopez, the resident taco chef and renowned artist, who dispenses wisdom from his stand on the wharf. Charley has received more reader comments than all of the other characters in my 50+ books combined. His kindness and empathy are legendary, and he's often the glue that holds

characters together in their time of need. Floyd and Gladys, my seagull couple, always provide a touch of humor. Readers love them. So much so that they now appear on the cover of every book. And my two bantering clerics, Father Murphy and Reverend Baker, not only dispense wisdom but have a friendly rivalry that's always a stitch. I love showcasing these two best-friend church leaders from different denominations because it allows me to illustrate how we can live in harmony despite differences in tradition, ritual, or certain dogma points—because in the end we're all brothers and sisters in Christ.

FF: The theme for your *Hope Harbor* books is “Where hearts heal . . . and love blooms.” Can readers always expect a “happy ever after” in each of your *Hope Harbor* novels?

Absolutely. I won't write a book without a happy ending. I want people to finish my books uplifted, encouraged, and reassured that no matter the challenges we face, anything is possible—including happy endings.

FF: You first started writing books based in *Hope Harbor, Oregon*, in 2015. What was your inspiration for these books?

I wanted to create a charming small town that would give readers a feeling of “coming home.” While each story can be read as a standalone, readers who follow the series will find a beloved cast of secondary characters who appear in every book and who provide a sense of community and a true small-town feel. Based on reader response after the first six books, I think I've succeeded in creating a town Publishers Weekly calls “a place of emotional restoration that readers will yearn to visit.”

FF: Before you began writing this series, you researched the Pacific Northwest. Can you please tell us what you learned from your research?

While traveling the Oregon Coast from top to bottom during my research trip, I saw and learned many things that made their way into my fictional town, from the amazing cinnamon rolls at Sweet Dreams bakery to seagull romance to fantastic tide pools. I also absorbed the ambiance of the coast and soaked up the scenery. There's nothing like in-person research to give you a true feel for the sights and sounds and smells of a location. That kind of firsthand experience makes it much easier to bring a place to life on the page.

FF: What are you working on next?

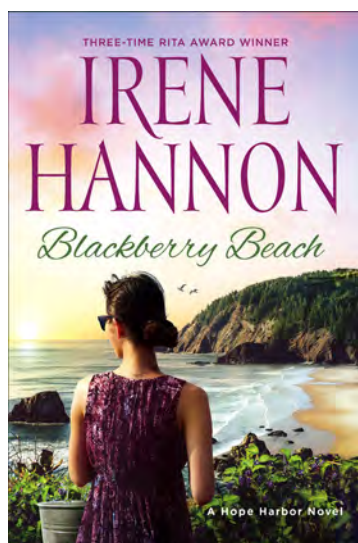
Book 2 in my *Triple Threat Series*, which features three sisters in truth-seeking professions that put them in the line of fire, will be out in October 2021. In spring 2022, I'll return to Hope Harbor with Book 8 in the series.

FF: How can readers connect with you?

General information about my books and background can be found on my website at www.irenehannon.com. I'm also active on social media. While I do post on Twitter and Instagram, Facebook is my favorite place to hang out. I love to chat with readers there! **FF**

Visit Irene Hannon's author page here:

<https://familyfiction.com/authors/irene-hannon>



Blackberry Beach

Hope Harbor #7

Irene Hannon

Revell

Genres: Romance, Contemporary

Buy Now

Book Summary:

Katherine Parker is on the cusp of having everything she ever wanted—fame, money, and acclaim. So why isn't she happy? In search of answers, she comes incognito to

Hope Harbor on the Oregon coast for some R&R. Maybe in her secluded rental house overlooking the serene Pacific she'll be able to calm the storm inside.

Coffee shop owner Zach Garrett has found his niche after a traumatic loss—and he has no plans to change the life he's created. Nor does he want to get involved with his reticent new neighbor, whose past is shrouded in mystery. He's had enough drama to last a lifetime. But when Katherine and Zach are recruited to help rehab a home for foster children, sparks fly. And as their lives begin to intersect, might they find more common ground than they expected . . . and discover that, with love, all things are possible?

Bestselling and award-winning author Irene Hannon invites you to come home to Hope Harbor—where hearts heal . . . and love blooms.



AMISH ROMANCE:

Leslie Gould

A Patchwork Past

Amish Romance Christian fiction author **Leslie Gould** is a **Christy Award**-winning and #1 bestselling author of over 35 novels, including her *Lancaster County Amish Series*. She holds an MFA in creative writing and, besides writing fulltime, teaches at Warner Pacific University. She and her husband live in Portland, Oregon, and are the parents of four adult children.

In this interview, Leslie shares some insight behind her new *Plain Patterns Series* book, ***A Patchwork Past***.

FF: *A Patchwork Past*, like others of your recent novels, is written with a contemporary and historical timeline. Why did you choose that style? What opportunities and challenges does it have?

In *Requiem for a Nun*, William Faulkner wrote, “*The past is never dead. It’s not even the past.*” I agree with Faulkner. The past is only a split second away in our memory, and not only our own past but also the pasts of our parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents, communities, nation, and world—as long as those stories have been shared. I love exploring that in dual-time (or time-slip) novels.

I especially love that Amish dual-time stories provide historical backgrounds for Plain communities. I think it’s easy for people to sometimes think Amish communities don’t change. Or it’s easy to think they weren’t affected by historical events. Neither is true and contrasting historical time periods with current Amish life shows that.



The challenge with writing about the Amish in any time period is getting specific details that weren't or aren't documented correct. I dig deeper, asking questions and reading more, but if I can't find the answer I have to make a decision, with help, about what would be plausible. The challenge with writing dual-time novels is connecting the contemporary and historical threads. There needs to be a solid, shared theme that runs through both stories.

FF: Learning about Amish involvement in helping survivors from the Great Chicago Fire must have been fascinating. Tell us more about the research that went into your historical timeline.

The seed of the Amish involvement in the story came from my friend Marietta Couch, who grew up Amish in Elkhart County,

Indiana. She remembers hearing as a child that her Amish ancestors donated supplies after the fire and some of the men even helped with rebuilding in Chicago.

Besides tugging on the heartstrings of those living near Chicago who were close enough to help, the story of the fire—the 300 dead and the one in three residents who were displaced—touched the entire world. Material donations from across the nation arrived by train (thankfully most of the Chicago railroad tracks survived) and financial donations arrived from around the world. Specific donations, from water from the Joseph Brewing Company in Milwaukee, Wisconsin to 5,000 sewing machines to a financial donation from England to rebuild the city library and make it public, made all the difference for the people of Chicago.

Although 1871 seems like a long time ago, as far as sources, there's a plethora concerning the Chicago Fire and the aftermath, including eye-witness accounts, newspaper reports, and photographs. It is a well-documented, historical event, complete with detailed maps, which made the research absolutely fascinating.

FF: Tell us more about Sophie Deiner. What qualities make her a main character you (and readers) cheer for? Are there any elements to her that you had never included in a character before?

Sophie has Lupus, and a flareup forces her back to her Amish parents' farm to rest. Writing about an autoimmune disease was a first for me. Considering how many suffer from autoimmune diseases, it became an important part of the story.

Although I didn't realize it when I started planning the novel, Sophie turned out to be one of those main characters who would practically write the story. She's a go-getter who is fighting past trauma, which makes her all the more in-tune with others who struggle to overcome challenges.

FF: What ties the books in the *Plain Patterns Series* together?

In all three of the stories—*Piecing It All Together*, *A Patchwork Past*, and *Threads of Hope*—Jane Berger, the owner of the quilt shop Plain Patterns, tells the historical tale. She's a never-married Amish woman in her 60s, and she's especially drawn to young women in her quilting circle who are struggling to find their places in the world. Jane encourages them through stories of strong Amish women from the past. **FF**

Visit Leslie Gould's author page here:

<https://familyfiction.com/authors/leslie-gould>

Leslie Gould — *A Patchwork Past*

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A Patchwork Past

Plain Patterns #2

Leslie Gould

Bethany House

Genres: Amish, Romance

Buy Now



Book Summary:

Could the Past be a Patchwork for Mending the Present?

When wild child Sophie Deiner—the daughter of an Amish bishop—is forced to return to Nappanee, Indiana, quilt-shop owner Jane Berger is one of only a few who welcome her back. It's the last place she wants to be, but Sophie's recent illness requires that she lay low for a while.

As Sophie recovers, she befriends a group of migrant workers and is appalled when one of them is detained and threatened with deportation. Sophie begins advocating on their behalf but soon finds herself opposed by an ex-boyfriend, who is the farm foreman.

As Sophie finds respite from the world in the quilt shop, Jane begins to tell her the story of her Amish ancestors who rescued survivors of the Great Chicago Fire of 1871, many of whom were Irish immigrants. And Sophie is more convinced than ever that she needs to fight for the powerless. But when digging deeper makes conditions even worse, has she chosen a fight she can't win?

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MIDDLE GRADE KIDS:

Amanda Cleary Eastep

Jack vs. the Tornado

Amanda Cleary Eastep is a middle grade kids/children's author. Amanda knows kids because she's still one at heart. When she is forced to act like an adult, she edits nonfiction books by grownup authors. In her much-anticipated series debut, *The Tree Street Kids*, Amanda introduces readers to her amazing characters Jack, Ellison, Roger, Ruthie, and little sister Midge in ***Jack vs the Tornado***, the first book in the series. Readers will quickly connect with this loveable band of friends and finding out how they came together on Cherry, Oak, Maple, and Pine Street. Set in a 1990s suburban neighborhood, and located in the Chicago-land area, the characters find adventures, challenges, and God's great big love in their own small neighborhood.

FF: The first book in *The Tree Street Kids Series* is *Jack vs. the Tornado*. Introduce us to Jack and tell us how he ends up leaving the farm and heading to the Chicago suburbs.

Jack Finch and his family (his parents, and his little sister Midge) have always lived with his grandparents in their farmhouse. But the farm is getting to be "too much," as grownups say, and his grandparents have decided to sell it. Jack's dad also has to travel for work, so his parents buy a small house in the south suburbs of Chicago. On Jack's 10th birthday, he's faced with leaving everything he's ever known.

FF: Jack had a hard time leaving the farm, and one of the things he struggled to leave behind was Henrietta.

Who is she and why is she important to Jack?

Henrietta is Jack's pet chicken and just one of the beloved



things, along with his hayloft fort, he'll have to leave behind. My editor, Marianne Hering (who is also the author of many of the *Imagination Station* books), told me I needed to add an animal to the beginning of the book. Tossing a chicken into the mix (not the Shake 'n Bake kind) heightened the tension and raised the stakes. That relationship helped develop the compassionate side of Jack and should help readers to more quickly empathize with him.

FF: Jack's dad goes away to do his contracting job, which adds another difficult element to Jack's life. What prompted you to make that decision about Jack's dad?

Jack's dad having to be away all week for a contracting job is another challenge that Jack has to work around and a choice I made to help develop his character. In addition, the absence of a parent is sadly a common scenario in lots of children's lives

for various reasons, especially today. Mr. Finch isn't completely out of the picture and communicates with his family as much as he can. It's the mid-90s, so that means calls to landline phones and no immediate access to each other...something very foreign to kids' now.

FF: The books are set in the Chicagoland area.

Why did you set the book in a suburban neighborhood?

By setting the books in the Chicago suburbs I accomplish a couple things. First, I'm writing what I know. My characters have some traits and experiences in common with my own children who were raised in the suburbs in the '90s. I was raised in a farm town far south of Chicago, and my parents were born and raised in the city. I also attended college and worked in Chicago. Second, these varied settings allow the characters to have varied experiences throughout the series that will resonate with different readers.

FF: The books include illustrations, why the need for illustrations?

Kids love illustrations, and we planned from the start to include at least a few. My own reluctant readers grew up on graphic novels, especially comic books and Japanese anime, and I'm a huge fan of picture books, as well as maps in books. Illustrations also help to keep text-heavy explanations to a minimum. The cover art and interior line drawings are by Aedan Peterson. Also, throughout the books are Midge's Phenomenal Facts, Ellison's Bookmark, and Roger's Riveting History notes. I didn't want these fun facts to end up as footnotes though. Moody's designers came up with the coolest idea: each fact looks as if it's handwritten on a notecard and "taped" onto the page.

FF: The hayloft door that was in the barn where the tornado hit had Hebrews 11:9 carved into it. What was the significance of that scripture on the hayloft door?

Hebrews 11:9, the verse carved into the hayloft door, is one of the foundational verses of the story. “By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise.” Jack’s grandfather carved it into the door he had built himself years ago. It speaks to Jack, and the whole family really, of believing and trusting God when he has to leave his home.

FF: In addition to *Jack vs. the Tornado*, you have also released the second book in the series, *The Hunt for Fang*. Can you give us a sneak peek?

Both *Jack vs. the Tornado* (book 1) and *The Hunt for Fang* (book 2) were released simultaneously on April 6, 2021. (Books 3 and 4 will be released together in summer 2022). The theme of *Hunt* is stewardship of God’s creation. I was inspired by many years of hiking the forest preserves with my daughters and by my elder daughter’s studies of the suburban coyote population for her master’s degree studies in environmental biology. In this book, Jack and the other Tree Street Kids learn some survival skills at the church’s summer camp. They end up needing them. Sure that “Fang,” the local wildlife is the enemy, Jack becomes determined to protect his new dog. When Ruthie’s Mr. Beans, Ruthie’s cat, goes missing, the kids head deep into the woods, only to realize someone else has gone missing. **FF**

Visit Amanda Cleary Eastep’s author page here:

<https://familyfiction.com/authors/amanda-cleary-eastep>



Jack vs. the Tornado

Tree Street Kids #1

Amanda Cleary Eastep

Moody Publishers

Genres: Middle Grade Kids,
Children's

Buy Now

Book Summary:

The Tree Street Kids live on Cherry, Oak, Maple, and Pine, but their 1990s suburban neighborhood is more than just quiet, tree-lined

streets. Jack, Ellison, Roger, and Ruthie face challenges and find adventures in every creek and cul-de-sac—as well as God's great love in one small neighborhood.

In *Jack vs the Tornado*, the first book of the *Tree Street Kids Series*, 10-year-old Jack is shocked to discover his parents are moving from their rural homestead to the boring suburbs of Chicago. Full of energy and determination, Jack devises a plan to get himself back to his beloved farmhouse forever. Only three things stand in his way: a neighbor in need, a shocking discovery, and tornado season. Will Jack find a solution? Or is God up to something bigger than Jack can possibly imagine?



ROMANTIC SUSPENSE:

Lynn H. Blackburn

Unknown Threat

Romantic suspense author, **Lynn H. Blackburn**, is the author of many popular books including *Beneath the Surface*, *In Too Deep*, *One Final Breath*, *Hidden Legacy*, and *Covert Justice* just to name a few. Winner of the 2016 Selah Award for Mystery/Suspense and the 2016 Carol Award for Short Novel, Blackburn believes in the power of stories, especially those that remind us that true love exists, a gift from the Truest Love. She's passionate about CrossFit, coffee, and chocolate (don't make her choose) and experimenting with recipes that feed both body and soul. In this interview, she talks about her latest book, ***Unknown Threat***, the first book of her new *Defend and Protect Series*.

FF: *Unknown Threat* is the first book in your new *Defend and Protect Series*. How are each of the books in the series connected?

Each of the heroes are United States Secret Service agents from the Raleigh, North Carolina, office.

FF: Your new series introduces a fresh cast of characters. Can you tell us a little more about your main characters, Faith Malone and Luke Powell?

Faith is a thirty-one-year-old FBI agent. She's determined, driven, and dedicated. She expects the best from herself and from those she works with, and she expects to solve every case she's assigned. She's loyal, she loves her family, and she has a fun side that few people ever see. If she ever lets you into her heart, you're there forever. But she's a loner, and her walls are high.



Luke is a thirty-year-old US Secret Service agent. He's focused, worries about the safety of anyone he cares about, and is unafraid to push against rules he thinks are stupid. Luke's slow to trust, but once he does, he will jump in front of a bullet (literal and metaphorical) for the people he loves.

FF: Faith and Luke serve in some of the most dangerous occupations in the US government. What type of research was required to accurately write about their careers?

I read books, did hours of internet research, and took advantage of very helpful law enforcement professionals who were willing to share their knowledge. But the best research came from a friend who served in the US Secret Service and was willing to answer my questions.

FF: What aspects of their stories are you most excited about?

I can't share my favorite scenes without giving away important plot points! But I'm excited for readers to meet the entire cast of characters. Faith's interactions with her sister and Luke's relationship with his entire team were a lot of fun to write.

FF: What's one thing you hope readers take away from *Unknown Threat*?

I hope readers are more confident than ever in God's faithfulness and in the power of forgiveness.

FF: What do you love most about writing in the romantic suspense genre?

I love the action and the danger and the way there's always a fun (as in, terrifying) way to make things difficult for my characters.

FF: What are you currently working on?

I'm currently writing the second book in the series while doing research for the third book. I'm also working on a few novellas. **FF**

Visit Lynn H. Blackburn's author page here:

<https://familyfiction.com/authors/lynn-h-blackburn>



Unknown Threat

Defend and Protect #1

Lynn H. Blackburn

Revell

Genres: Suspense, Romance,
Contemporary

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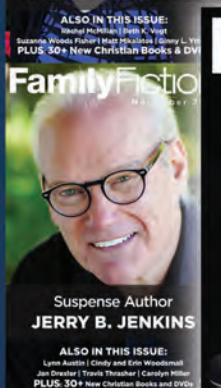
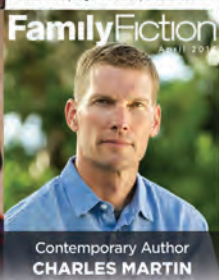
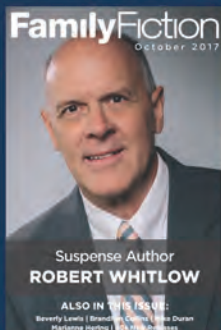
Book Summary:

US Secret Service Special Agent Luke Powell is lucky to be alive. Three of his fellow agents have died in unusual circumstances in the past ten weeks.

Luke is devastated by the loss of his friends and colleagues, and his inability to locate the killer feels like a personal failure. He's an expert at shielding others, but now the protectors are in need of protection.

FBI Special Agent Faith Malone is driven to succeed and confident in her ability to solve every case she's assigned. She's been put in charge of the investigation into the unprecedented attacks, and with Luke's life in danger, the stakes have never been higher. But it's hard to know how to fight back when you don't know who the enemy is.

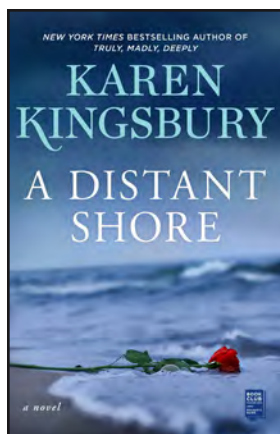
As more agents are targeted, Luke and Faith will have to work together to bring a killer to justice and prevent any more names from joining their fallen brothers and sisters on the Secret Service Wall of Honor.



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Karen Kingsbury

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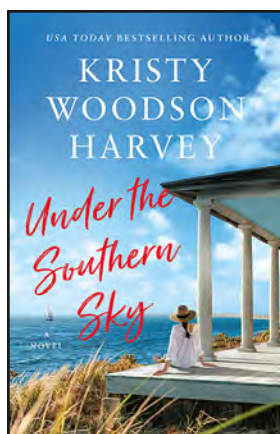
Ophelia London

Entangled: Amara

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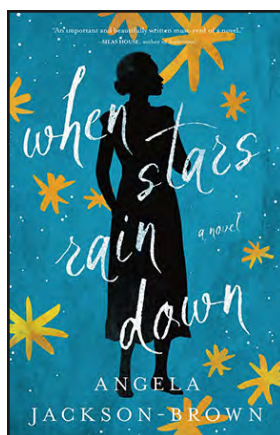
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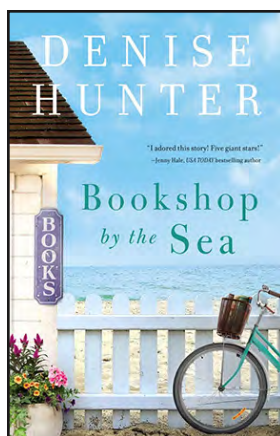
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Max Lucado

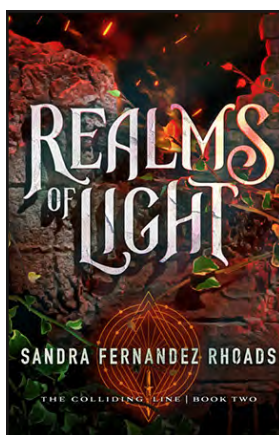
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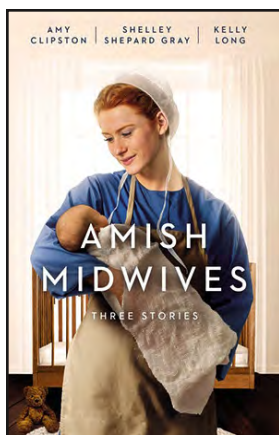
Sandra Fernandez Rhoads

Enclave Escape

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Amy Clipston, Shelley Shepard Gray,

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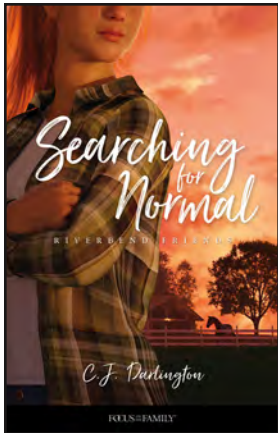
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Searching for Normal

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All That Really Matters

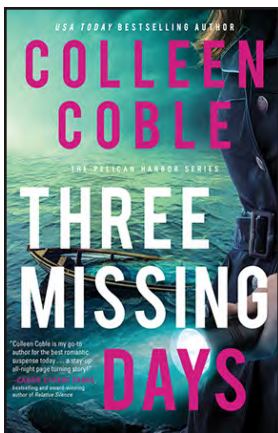
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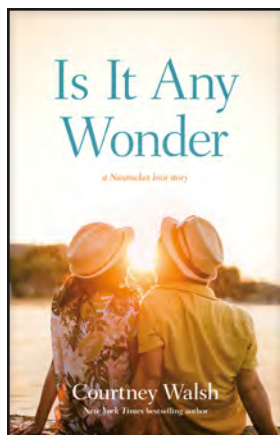
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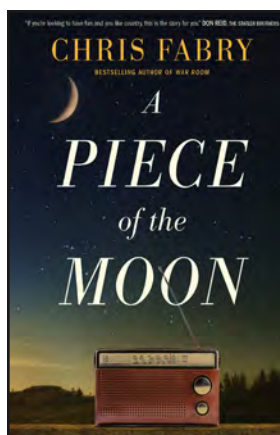
Courtney Walsh

(Tyndale)

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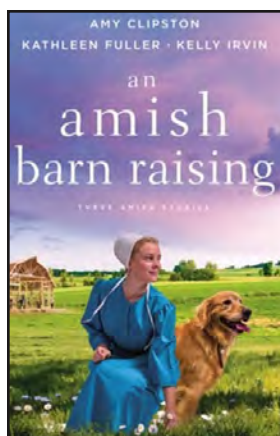
Chris Fabry

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Jack vs. the Tornado

Tree Street Kids #1

Amanda Cleary Eastep

Moody Publishers

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Release Date: April 6, 2021

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The Hunt for Fang

Tree Street Kids #2

Amanda Cleary Eastep

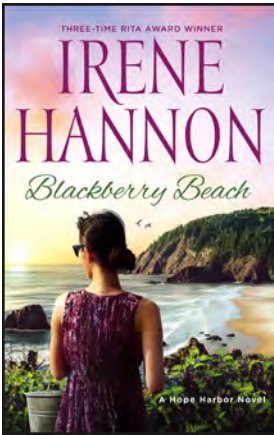
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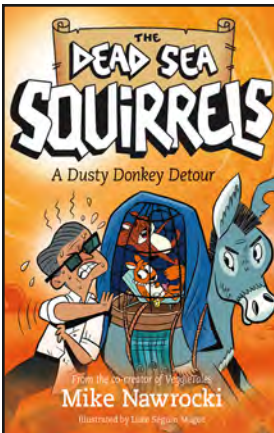
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A Dusty Donkey Detour

The Dead Sea Squirrels #8

Mike Nawrocki

Illustrator: Luke Séguin-Magee

Tyndale Kids

Genres: Children's, Animation

Release Date: April 6, 2021

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Indescribable For Little Ones

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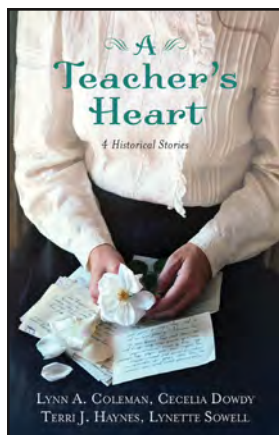
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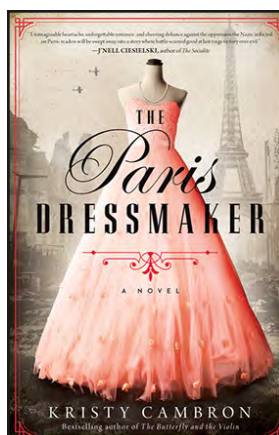
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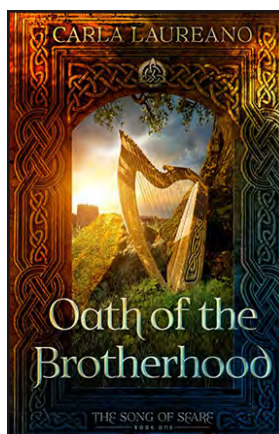
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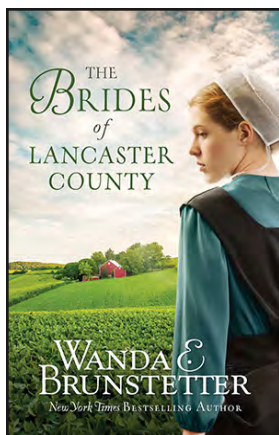
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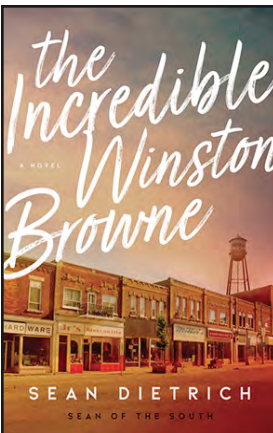
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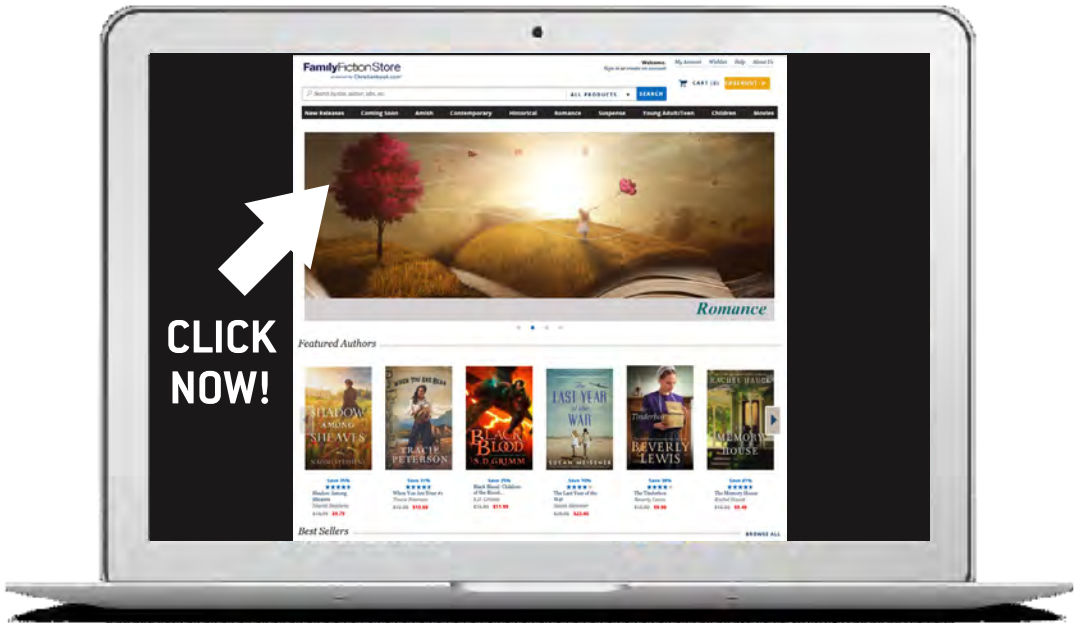
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