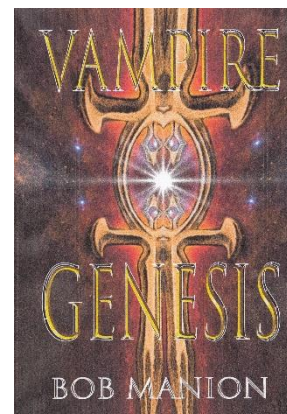
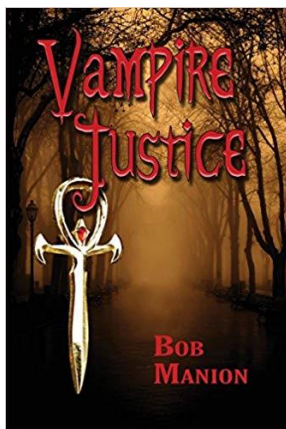
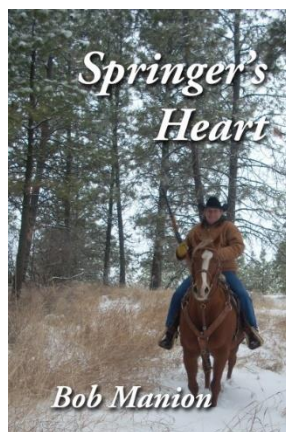
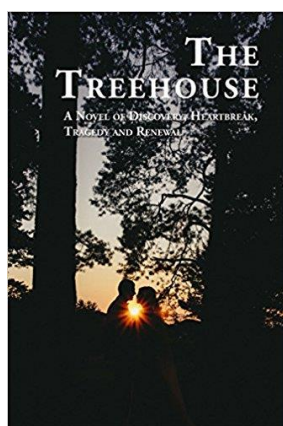
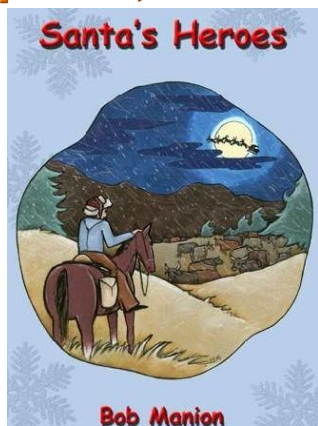




# Literary Gazette

August 2024

**Spokane Authors**  
**P. O. Box 18573**  
**Spokane, WA 99228-0573**



**Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers (SASP)**, now known as **Spokane Authors**, began in 1998 when *Chuck O'Conner, Elmer Freeman, Joe Meiners, and Dan Vollmer*, Spokane area authors, formed a club to share knowledge and experience with those interested in writing and alternative publishing. Today, SASP is an organization dedicated to anyone interested in any aspect of writing and art. Members include aspiring (and successful) authors, poets, journalists, illustrators, editors, publishers, printers, writing instructors, and many others. Monthly meetings provide inspiration and education by way of knowledgeable and entertaining guest speakers, and the cheerful camaraderie of people sharing common interests and goals. Membership is open to all who love writing, art, and interesting people.

**Spokane Authors** meets the **second Friday** of each month at the **Sans Souci West Club House**, 3231 W. Boone Ave., Spokane.

Presentations and discussions begin at **2:00 pm**. Members and guests also have a chance to relate accomplishments and note upcoming activities. We usually draw for door prizes.

**Spokane Authors** also meets the **third Saturday** of each month in the social hall of **St. Francis of Assisi Church**, 1104 W. Heroy Ave., Spokane.

Meetings begin at **2:00 pm**. We must be out of the room and building by **4:00 pm**.

We often provide refreshments such as bottled water, cake, or cookies. We set up a collection jar for those who wish to help reimburse whoever brings such refreshments.

**Membership benefits** include listing on the Spokane Authors website, [www.spokaneauthors.org](http://www.spokaneauthors.org). Many members provide short biographies and links to external personal websites, creating more marketing exposure. Current members may list and describe their published works on the Spokane Authors website and offer their work for sale at meetings.

Visit the "members" page on our website to connect with members' webpages. Our "links" page connects to interesting on-line locations.

**Guest speakers** inform, inspire, and entertain with a variety of topics designed to provide knowledge about writing and publishing.

**Spokane Authors members** are encouraged to purchase or trade completed works with fellow members. They are also encouraged to donate copies of their work as door prizes. Winners of other members' work are expected to provide a review.

**Note:** Your name tag is yours to keep and maintain. We provide space to display your books, but *you* must bring them to each meeting.

**Submissions Due by:  
August 25<sup>th</sup> for the September  
2024 issue.**

### 2024 Officers:

**President:** *Carl Northup (Nathaniel Bennett)*  
(509) 445-0166 ikneadedthat53@yahoo.com  
(509) 671-3949

**Vice-President:** *Bob Manion*  
(509) 448-2901 heygunnerbob@gmail.com

**Secretary:** *Linda Sonntag-Noble*

**Treasurer, Newsletter Editor, and Web Master:**  
*Dave McChesney*  
(509) 325-2072 daveeva@comcast.net  
(509) 768-6178

**Public-Relations:** *Marilee Hudon*  
(509) 325-9465 mjnoduh2@gmail.com

**Equipment Manager:** *Bob Hildahl*  
mr.inky@yahoo.com

### Advisory Board:

**Member:** *Esther Hildahl*  
mr.inky@yahoo.com

**Member:** *Mary De Bord*  
(509) 999-4797 violetpetalsbook@gmail.com

**Member:** *Bob Weldin*  
(509) 514-2747 minersquest@comcast.net

**"Like" the Spokane Authors Facebook Page:**  
[www.facebook.com/pages/Spokane-Authors-Self-Publishers/1640079982945679](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Spokane-Authors-Self-Publishers/1640079982945679)

**"Join" the Spokane Authors Facebook Group:**  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1646364128981815/>

**"Follow" us on "X":** <https://twitter.com/AndAuthors>

**Contact us at:** [authors@spokaneauthors.org](mailto:authors@spokaneauthors.org)  
Or: [saspworks4u@gmail.com](mailto:saspworks4u@gmail.com)

**Videos of many of our presentations are available at:**  
<https://www.youtube.com/@spokaneauthorsself-publishers>

**Cover:** Books by Spokane Authors member *Bob Manion*

## THE BOOKS ON THE COVER...

Spokane Authors member Bob Manion has written several books in a variety of genres. Visit his Member Web Page at:

[www.spokaneauthors.org](http://www.spokaneauthors.org)

Go to "MEMBERS," scroll down and click on his name.

## OUR JUNE MEETINGS!

We will meet at 2:00 pm. on Friday, August 9, 2024, at the San Souci West Club House, 3231 W. Boone Ave., Spokane, WA.

Our speaker will be local author Colin Conway, who will talk about branding and marketing.

Visit <https://store.colinconway.com> for more information.

We will also meet at 2:00 pm. on Saturday, August 17, 2024, at St. Francis of Assisi, 1104 W. Heroy Ave., Spokane, WA 99205. The conference room in the social hall is available from 1:30 to 4 pm.

We plan to continue to use this meeting to share ideas and thoughts about writing. It is likely these alternate meetings will feature group discussions.

### NOTE:

As there was minimal change to the roster and a \$2.00 cash donation to our "cake fund," we will not be providing updates of those two items this month.

## FROM THE PREZ

Our president was unable to provide a message for this month's edition.

## FROM THE VEEP

### FEEDBACK

How about Feedback? You know, that mini conversation you may have about you or your work with a speaker or with someone who

has influenced you. Is there value there? I would think so. Maybe they saw or heard something that sticks in their memory, whether good or bad. Maybe there is something you want to expand or change. How do we know if we don't listen to feedback? Sometimes it appears negative when it wasn't meant to be negative. How are you supposed to know if you don't listen or ask?

"I'm busy! I don't have time for feedback." A few

minutes of listening may reveal a tidbit of information that will help you improve. We can all use something to help us improve our work. Let's take a few minutes in our meetings to ask others what they think. Talk to the person sitting beside you. Find out what interests them and provide a little something about yourself and your craft. Writers let's talk to each other. Offer feedback and remember it can be positive. It doesn't have to be negative. When providing feedback, try to keep it on the positive side. Writers are communicators, so communicate! Smile! Laugh a little. Be outgoing. Be yourselves. Have fun! We are fun people.

I challenge you to write a piece like you were the President of SA or even me der VP. Don't shut down, take a bite out of your silence and jump in. The laughter is fine, the grins and smiles welcome. A step forward is always better than a step back, except off a platform thing, sort of...

Come on, let's show our new members what we really are, smart, happy, full of life and adventure.

**Bob Manion**

The Veep





## FROM YOUR EDITOR, WEB-MASTER, TREASURER

Once again it seems I am waiting until the last moment to send out our newsletter. I'm hoping to get it done and out to all of you later tonight or tomorrow (Monday) morning. I might need to be more timely and direct when reminding folks about the submission deadline. It is in fairly bold type on the inside of the front cover, but... And as I've mentioned, it is not a drop-dead deadline, but a target anyone wanting to have something included in the newsletter should shoot for. Ideally, if you want to have something in the newsletter that won't get here by the deadline, just give me a heads up and I'll wait for it. (To a point, of course, as I believe it is important that you all receive the newsletter in advance of our upcoming meetings.



You might be aware that we are working on a catalog of books by our members. Basic things to know about it, are that if you want to have your books included, you need to be a paid up Spokane Authors member for the 2024 calendar year. We

will have somewhere around forty authors, and up to 120 books listed. In most cases, author bios, and book descriptions are a bit long for what we are trying to list. If you can whittle your author bio and book descriptions down and send them to me, that would be great. You can always check your member webpage to see what we currently have. Lastly, if we do not have an author photo or headshot, we could use that as well.

To see your member webpage, visit our website [www.spokaneauthors.org](http://www.spokaneauthors.org) and check out the MEMBERS page. If you are not listed, it is because we show you as not being paid up for the current year.

## OUR JULY 2024 MEETINGS

Compiled by Dave McChesney

Friday July 12 at 2:00 pm found Spokane Authors meeting for the second time at the Sans Souci West Club House at the far end of West Boon Avenue. In attendance were Caryl Briscoe-Michas, Larry Danek, Jennifer Day, Mary De Bord, Sheri Decker, Sue Eller, Denise Guy, D. J. Guy, T. Hammond, Amy Logan, Bob Manion, Dave McChesney, Carl Northrup, Kate Poitevin, Elena Smith, and Terry Stratton. Visiting was Shandra Tanner, an illustrator.

Dave McChesney announced he'd received signup information for the Craft Fair at Ridgeline High School to be held in December and would sign up for a booth if a couple of other members were willing to go along with him. He also mentioned trying to get a booth and sell books during Palouse Days on September 14<sup>th</sup>. Again, he said we would sign up if others wanted to take part. (Two or three individuals indicated interest in each activity.)

Carl Northrup noted a vendor event north of Priest River on the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> of September. He also talked a little about some fairly obscure but potentially ominous government regulations regarding businesses organized as LLCs.

Carl also shared a rather detailed list of thoughts regarding the compilation of a Spokane Authors catalog that had originally been prepared by Dave McChesney. It had originally been shared with those members who had said they would work on the catalog project

Larry passed around examples of some query letters he had written in the past. He talked a little of where to find listings for literary agents and reminded us to be on the lookout for "rip-off" companies. Bob Manion added to the discussion by mentioning a number of publications listing agents and publishers.

Sue Eller warned us to watch for companies that imply a connection to Amazon, while in reality they have none. T. Hammond noted a site known as "Query Shark" that could

be of help for anyone looking for an agent.

Carl said his kid's book, *Princess who had no Name* was in the final stages of preparation. Shandra Tanner was doing the illustrations for it. He also talked a little about bulk pricing for having bookmarks printed up, and stated they often work better than business cards, especially when dealing with younger readers.

Finally, Terry Stratton read from his story based on the writing prompts he had drawn a few meetings earlier. As his story was longer than originally intended, he will finish it at our next meeting.

As the meeting wound down, we held our door prize drawing, Carl declared the meeting adjourned and we went our separate ways.

Spokane Authors also met at 2:00 pm. On Saturday July 20<sup>th</sup> in the social hall of St. Francis of Assisi Church. Attending were Larry Danek, Denise Guy, D. J. Guy, Kevin Hostbjor, Bob Manion, Dave McChesney, Carl Northrup, and Terry Stratton.

Dave McChesney talked about the catalog and showed some examples of how he thought it should be laid out and formatted. He had set it up with two columns per page, with each column having three items, either an author bio, or a book listing. General opinion was that this made the page a little busy and hard to read, so it was suggested to go to a single column of three items per page. Dave noted that in most cases, author bios and book descriptions were too long for the space available, so asked that individual members work on cutting these items down to a workable length. He suggested that we all have these done no later than the end of August, or with a grace period, by the time we meet at Saint Francis of Assisi in September. (September 21<sup>st</sup>.) That should allow time to get the catalog put together and printed, prior to the Holiday shopping season and the various arts and craft fairs.

Dave said he would send the information and request to the rest of the Spokane Authors membership. He also noted that if one wanted to be included in the catalog,

they would need to be current in their dues... paid up for 2024, by the deadline noted above. It was also agreed that book entries in the catalog should include ISBNs and utilize a coding system that would indicate where and how the books are available. We also talked about including the prices of the books in the catalog.

A month or so earlier, President Carl Northrup had suggested we put together and publish another anthology. Vice-President Bob Manion suggested it should be a Christmas themed book, noting that such items tend to sell quite well, even during the non-Holiday season. He also suggested that we each write and bring a Christmas/Holiday themed story to our next (August) meeting at St. Francis.

By then, our allotted time was nearly up, so we packed up and headed home.

## MEMBER WEB-PAGE GUIDE

1. Name and **photo/headshot**
2. Brief biography
3. Links to any web-site, blog, or other on-line locations.
4. Information about any books published.
  - a. Book cover shot/thumbnail
  - b. Brief description/blurb.
  - c. Amazon ASIN, ISBN or other catalog number
  - d. Locations where physically available.

In many cases your editor/webmaster can find much of this on-line, if it is there. If it's not and you would like to have a member web-page that is as complete as possible, please e-mail information to [daveeva@comcast.net](mailto:daveeva@comcast.net), [authors@spokaneauthors.org](mailto:authors@spokaneauthors.org), or send via USPS to:

Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers  
P. O. Box 18573  
Spokane, WA 99228-0573

We are always ready and willing to update and correct your member webpage. Do not hesitate to contact your webmaster if your page needs attention.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Arts and Crafts Fairs and more

#### Palouse Days Main Street Vendors

Saturday September 14

Contact: Palouse Chamber of Commerce

[www.palouse.com/palousedays](http://www.palouse.com/palousedays)

(Dave McChesney will have a booth and welcomes other Spokane Authors to join him.)

#### University High School

Saturday & Sunday October 18-19

Contact: Mariah Newwill.

[craftfair@uhighmusic.com](mailto:craftfair@uhighmusic.com).

#### Central Valley High School

Saturday & Sunday November 2 - 3

Contact: Debra Long, 14222 E Desmet,  
Spokane, WA 99216

#### Mt. Spokane High School

Saturday & Sunday October 11 - 12

Contact: Jod Magee (?)

[mshscraftfair@gmail.com](mailto:mshscraftfair@gmail.com).

#### Mead High School

Saturday & Sunday November 9 - 10

Spokane Authors Larry Danek and Marilee  
Hudon have information

#### Shadle Park High School

Saturday & Sunday November 16 - 17

Spokane Authors Esther and Bob Hildahl have  
information

#### Ridgeline High School

Saturday & Sunday December 7 – 8

[www.ridgelinebandboosters.org/craft-fair](http://www.ridgelinebandboosters.org/craft-fair)

Thanks to Sue Eller for information  
about a number of these

## Other!

### Auntie's Local Author Book Club

Wednesday August 7, 2:00 pm (ZOOM)

#### Spokane Authors

Friday August 9, 2:00 pm

Sans Souci West Club House

#### Inland Northwest Writers Guild

Saturday August 10, 2:00 pm.

In Person meeting, **Coffee with Linda**  
*The Meeting House*, 11<sup>th</sup> and Pittsburg, Perry  
District. Looking for volunteers or just to  
socialize. Please RSVP at

[lindathewriter@gmail.com](mailto:lindathewriter@gmail.com)

#### Spokane Authors

Saturday August 17, 2:00 pm

St. Francis of Assisi Social Hall

#### Inland Northwest Writers Guild

Wednesday August 21, 7:00 pm.(ZOOM)

Contact: Linda Bond at [lindathewriter@gmail.com](mailto:lindathewriter@gmail.com)

### Auntie's Local Author Book Club

Wednesday September 4, 2:00 pm (ZOOM)

#### Spokane Authors

Friday September 13, 2:00 pm

Sans Souci West Club House

#### Inland Northwest Writers Guild

Saturday September 14, 2:00 pm.

In Person meeting, **Coffee with Linda**  
*The Meeting House*, 11<sup>th</sup> and Pittsburg, Perry  
District. Looking for volunteers or just to  
socialize. Please RSVP at

[lindathewriter@gmail.com](mailto:lindathewriter@gmail.com)

#### Inland Northwest Writers Guild

Wednesday September 18, 7:00 pm.(ZOOM)

Contact: Linda Bond at [lindathewriter@gmail.com](mailto:lindathewriter@gmail.com)

## Spokane Authors

Saturday September 21, 2:00 pm  
St. Francis of Assisi Social Hall

### Sandpoint Writers on the Lake

Meet twice, both in person and via  
ZOOM for critiques. Information at  
[bonniemcdade@gmail.com](mailto:bonniemcdade@gmail.com)

## SASP BOOKS ON AMAZON/KINDLE

Many SASP members' books are on Amazon and/or Kindle™ (We print short parts of the list on a rotating basis. The complete, and hopefully up to date list is available on the web-site, under "NEWS")

To speed your search, add the provided ten digit numerical or alpha-numerical code (ASIN) to: [www\(dot\)amzn\(dot\)com/dp/](http://www(dot)amzn(dot)com/dp/)  
Example: [www.amzn.com./dp/B008TXC332](http://www.amzn.com./dp/B008TXC332)  
or: [www.amzn.com/dp/1936178044](http://www.amzn.com/dp/1936178044)  
ASINs for each book are the same, regardless of what Amazon Marketplace you use.

### Russell H. Ford

*Depop* B019NGA00Q 159849175X  
*Re-Ring* B01IRW4XVY

### Karen Jean Matsko Hood

*Blood Heiress* 1592108857  
*Bloom of Autumn Gold* 1592102166  
*Huckleberry Delights* B0045U9U34 1596493852  
*Transracial Adoption* 1594346690  
*Transracial Adoption Guide* 1594346704  
*Petting Farm Fun* B00H5X0Y2E 1594346186  
*Finding Rudolph* B074JZPG9X 1598082957  
*Morning Reflections* B00DH70LVG 1930948557

### Tom Wallace

*To Kill a Poacher: A Psychological Case Study  
in Empathic Health and Applied Spirituality*  
0595475442

### Ed Des Autel

*III Minutes to XII* B07B3YDPLK 1641382511

### Marilee Hudon

*Waxing Is Useless* B07HY4Y85T 172128186X  
*Lilac City Lunacy* B0BSVB117K B0BSJ6CFV4

### Dennis Held

*Betting on the Night*

0966861280

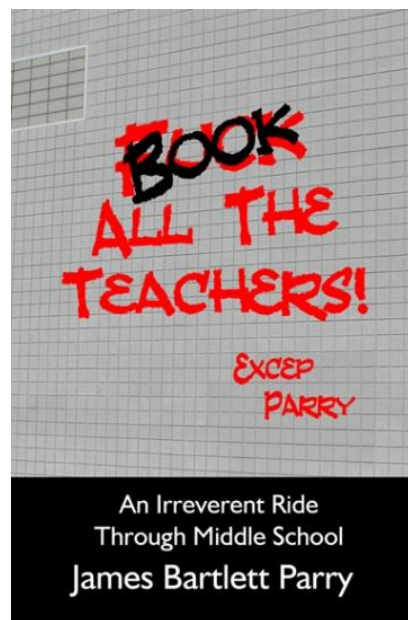
### Gena Bradford

*I Can't Rest Now, Lord! I'm Responsible...*

1072677067

## FEATURED BOOK REVIEWS

This month we resume our regular rotation through the reviews we have on file.



Reviewed by D. Andrew McChesney

James Parry spent the majority of his career in education teaching middle school students in Spokane, Washington. The fact that he survived and was able to write about his experiences is testament to his fortitude. From the obviously manufactured page of "blurbs" concerning the book, i.e., "Steinbeck, Hemingway, Faulkner, and, now, Parry. A remarkable book: dazzling. James Parry is a treasure. (Signed) James Parry, Author," and, "This book better sell after all the time you've spent on it. (Signed) Lynda Parry, Author's Wife," one is immersed in the hilarity and hijinks that is middle school. Even the title, *Book All the Teachers* was inspired by a true incident. Mr. Parry arrived at school one morning to find that someone had spray painted, "(Expletive Deleted) All the Teacher



Excep Parry” on the wall. As it would be sometime before a pressure washer could be obtained to remove the offending language, the custodian used his own spray paint to change the obscenity to “book.”

While *Book All the Teachers* is an over the top hilarious look at Middle School, it is also the story of one man’s dedication to making a difference in the lives of his students. That dedication never faltered during the entire span of James Parry’s teaching career. A *must read* for those who taught, attended, or want to know the truth about middle school life.

*Book All the Teachers*, ISBN 978-1-936178-00-1, was published by Gray Dog Press, and lists for \$14.95. It is available through Gray Dog Press ([www.graydogpress.com](http://www.graydogpress.com)), Spokane area book stores, and at ([www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com)).

Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

*Book All The Teachers!* is a true, educational, often humorous story that depicts the ups and downs of all those involved in a certain middle school in Spokane, Washington. It's told by the author whose teaching career spanned 35 years, including five spent tutoring kids that had been suspended or expelled from school.

As a former teacher, I really enjoyed reading this book; wondering about the title and having it humorously explained in chapter one; reading the creative front pages "Here's what they're saying about *Book All The Teachers!*" written by the author, his friends??, and his wife--very funny stuff; and the "Warning" page--again, very funny.

Parry is a gifted writer who knows how to bring his characters and settings to life. This story is well constructed, fast paced, and a real page turner.

Everybody who cares or has ever had an opinion on our school system or its teachers must read *Book All The Teachers!* to truly understand what it's really like to be on the "ground" level of teaching in a middle school.

Reviewed by Sue Eller

Parry gives the reader an insider’s look at life as a middle school teacher, and it’s not what you might expect. Any teacher who can spend 30 years trying to implant information in the brains of children who have the mistaken idea they are adults and already know it all, deserves a medal or a complimentary stay at Eastern State Mental Hospital, or both. Parry got neither, but he did get to know that he impacted the lives of at least a few of his students in a positive way. I think I would have liked to have had Parry as a teacher. Who knows? I might have even developed an interest in history. Excellent autobiography.

Available at Gray Dog Press or at local Spokane book stores.

Reviewed by Kate Poitevin

I thoroughly enjoyed *Book All the Teachers!* Mr. Parry has given us a window into the world of teachers. When I was in middle school, teachers were mysterious beings that must have lived at the school, and it never occurred to me that they had a life that didn't revolve around us. I would walk slowly past the teacher's room, hoping to catch a glimpse of what went on in there. After all these years, I finally know. I never would have believed it then.

I laughed all the way through the book, but there were also sad moments about the struggles of some of his students in their home lives. I was glad that the book followed Daniel and Holly to a satisfying conclusion, as I had become invested in their lives.

I only wish that Mr. Parry had been my grandchildren’s teacher, the youngest starts middle school this year. I wish he had been my children’s teacher. Really, if he weren’t too young, I’d wish he’d been **my** teacher!





Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

*The Delivery of Flesh* is the first book of the *Bulletproof Witch* series. This is a fantasy western that tells the story of Temperance Whiteoak, the granddaughter of the late famous pistol warlock Brimstone. She travels the continent of Korvana on her horse, Astor, who is able to talk to her by conveying his thoughts to her mind, searching for clues behind her family's murder. Along the way, she captures daemons who spread death and terror everywhere they go. She is a witch and a gunslinger who has magical bullets called hexbullets.

One day, she rode into the small town of Rosea, intent on collecting the bounty for the daemon called Belial she had just captured in a silver tube. However, before she leaves, she is talked into helping Marshal Peter Scrimshaw of the Federated Territories transport a prisoner to the town of Benson for trial. The prisoner's name is Obadiah Lalaish, and he is a dangerous sorcerer. Thus, the adventure begins, including the escape of Belial.

I enjoyed reading this book and will begin the second book in the series soon. Blair has written a very creative story with lots of interesting characters. The story is never boring and I recommend it to one and all.



Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

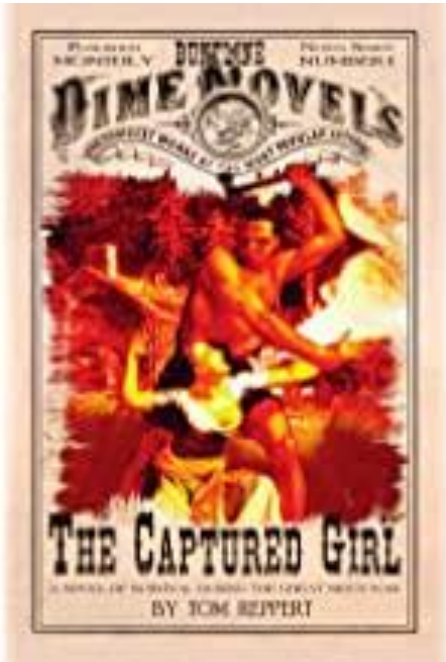
In this book Temperance continues her search for the powerful daemon Belial who destroyed her hometown and everyone she loved, including her mother, father, and grandfather, James Whiteoak, inventor of the powerful hexbullet and first of the Pistol Warlocks, the greatest sorcerer of all.

However, Belial set a trap for her, causing her to fall into a pit. Her only hope for rescue was her talking horse, Astor, but she wasn't sure he knew where she was. After three days, she was finally rescued by an old weather-beaten looking man by the name of Sven Jacoben, but her horse was nowhere to be found. Following Sven, she ends up in the little mountain town of Shady Hollow. Here she discovers that the residents have their own problems with daemons, missing young men, and she becomes friends with a young girl named Ruth.

There's a lot of adventure in this story and a surprise involving "sweet innocent" Ruth. Blair is a creative writer. Here are two examples: "Fear. That particular emotion had been absent for so long, even the sound of it felt strange in Belial's head: dry and musty as ancient spiderwebs found in a sealed room." And "It was a beautiful day, for all that it was cold. The sky was an endless blue canvas stretching away towards the horizon, the sun

overhead serving as the centerpiece. Every plant in the forest tilted skyward, trying to grasp what last bit of warmth they could before winter came upon them.”

I enjoyed reading this book and I recommend it to one and all.

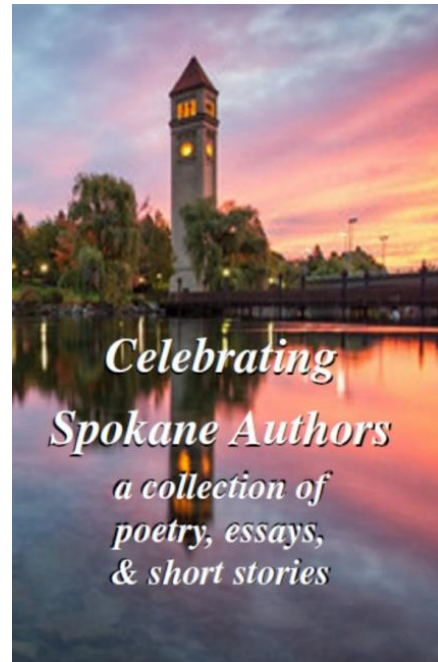


By Tom Reppert

Reviewed by Robert Hildahl

*The Captured Girl* is about Morgan O'Connor, a fourteen-year-old girl and her eight-year-old brother who are captured by Indians during the Great Sioux War. Four years later she and her young son are rescued. After being freed, Morgan went back to New York to find her aunt and uncle. She gets a job working for a wealthy family as a house maid and helping their oldest daughter. After a while she goes out west again with this rich family to hunt buffalo and to rescue her brother.

Tom Reppert has written another great book about life back in the 1800s. It's a page turner that keeps the reader interested right from the first chapter to the end. It has an exciting ending, which the reader will really like. I highly recommend this book.



An anthology by members of Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers

Reviewed by Larry Danek

I found this book to hold my interest with the fine collection of short stories and poems. It was well worth the read.

Reviewed by Joyce Caudel

This is a collection of shorts by the members of SASP, Spokane Authors and Self Publishers. As a member of SASP, I do have a small piece in the book. The other shorts are very good, and I recommend the book to anyone that is interested in what Spokane authors are writing about.