

Powered by



Brilliant
Books
Literary

Literary Today

BEST BOOKS

DECEMBER 2022

[JONATHAN
KITHCART]



Contents

Editorial Board	2	Peter Hubbard	12
Jonathan Kithcart	3	Snips from Publishers Weekly Dec. 19, 2022 issue	14
Susan Kauer Ritchie	5	Flint McDowell	16
William Bill McIntyre	6	Donn Ziebell, PhD	17
Google Ads	7	Lucia Mouat	18
Mary Virginia McCormick Pittman	8	Ron Williams	19
Kenneth Smith	9	Book Trailers	20
Literary Today Magazine	10	Kathey Darnell	21
Bobbi Blok	11	Jesse Stockard	22

EDITORIAL BOARD

Editor-in-Chief:	Jay Williams
Section Editors:	Kevin Miller, Paul Baron, and Nicole Anderson
Marketing:	Max Collins
Distribution:	Paul Baron and Kevin Miller
Layout and Graphics:	Fortis Book Formats

Jonathan Kithcart

Minister Kithcart has spent over twenty years studying the Word of God through careful examination of the Greek and Hebrew texts. The Lord has appointed him for such a time as this to reveal the truth about the matter of tithing. He has served as a volunteer for Morris Cerullo's ministry, bringing the Word of God to those in need. Jonathan Kithcart's new book serves as an awakening reminder to all Christian readers that they should break the bad system of their Church for them to be able to free from the false teaching these tithe teachers are telling them.

Through this book, the author wants the readers to know and realize that the apostle Paul has instructed the Galatians, "Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage" (Gal. 5:1).

"Yet in my book, you will see and understand the craftiness of the tithe teachers will attempt to justify their teaching by proclaiming that tithing was before the law, but what they won't tell you is that it was a common practice of the pagans in Abram's time. A full understanding of this perversion is within my book.

During this CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC when people are really suffering to the point of death and separation of loved ones jobs are being lost, unemployment checks are late, children going hungry, still, the call for the tithe is intact. What kind of God are they representing?"

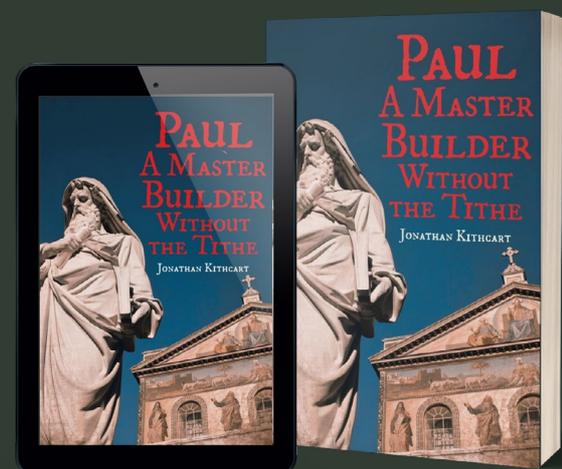
“Why Would Christ die to redeem us from the curse of the law, and then turn around and place us right back under the same curse? That's crazy, man!”

—Jonathan Kithcart

The Truth is my brethren and friends, Acts 15 and 21 are crucial documents relating to tithing because they describe the struggle of the FIRST CHURCH COUNCIL to deal with how the Law should apply to the Jews and Gentiles. Acts 15:1 And certain men which came down from Judea taught the brethren and said, Unless you are circumcised after the manner of Moses, you cannot be saved. (I've even heard of ministers that proclaim that if you don't tithe, that you cannot get in heaven. Now for sure, that is a DIFFERENT GOSPEL, my friend.) To have the galls to attempt to put the law above the redeeming blood of Christ! But listen to Acts 15:5. There rose up certain of the sect of the Pharisees which believed, saying That it was needful to circumcise them (Gentiles) and to command them to keep the law of Moses.



- *What inspired the idea for your book?*
The Spirit of Truth : Jn. 14:17; 15:26; 16:13 and 1 Jn. 4:6.
- *What is the ultimate goal for the book?*
To help Christians understand that Grace Giving from the heart by faith is the will of the Head of the church not heresy and perversion of the tithe teaching.
- *How many books have you written, and which is your favorite?*
Two books and the second one is my favorite.
- *How much research did you need to do for your book?*
Off and on over twenty five years.



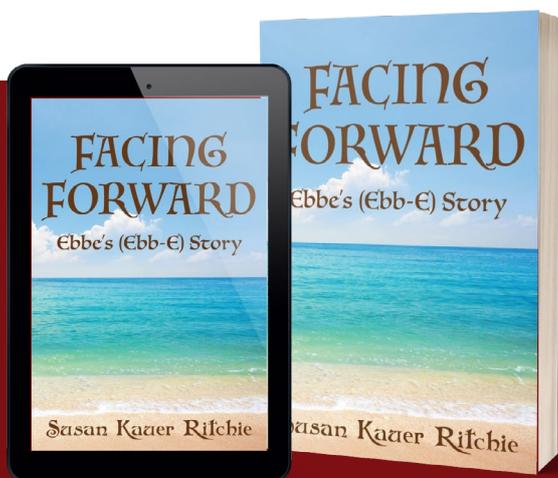




Susan Kauer Ritchie

Susan Kauer Ritchie was born and raised in Long Beach, California. She graduated from Polytechnic High School in 1964. She has been a caregiver, a massage therapist, the owner of a flower shop and a house-cleaning business. She has been lucky enough to travel the world with her late husband. Susan currently lives in Klamath Falls, Oregon with her three cats, Lenex, Silvie, and Lottie and enjoys working in her yard. She has written and illustrated two children's books, *Ebbe Finds His Heart* and *The Forest Where the Faeries Dwell*. She has a son, Jason, and a daughter, Jenni; both live in Oregon.

- *What do the words “writer’s block” mean to you?*
Writer’s block happens to all writers at one time or another. Walk away and let your mind and thoughts reset and listen to what your characters tell you.
- *How much research did you need to do for your book?*
I did a lot of research since my book takes place in Norway. Norwegian names and translated the ‘life lessons’ intertwined throughout the book from Norwegian to English.
- *How do you develop your plot and characters?*
The characters come first. As you develop a rapport and know them, they tell you how they would react to what is happening in their world.
- *What inspired the idea for your book?*
I have written and illustrated two children’s books. Over Covid, I felt the need to continue Ebbe’s story, *Facing Forward*. It is the story of Ebbe and his father, Larsyn, and their life-long relationship as Ebbe faces forward through his life.



Every folklore has a beginning, a place where magic merges with imagination, where it weaves its web around our hearts and takes us on a journey that is part truth and part fable.

Do you believe in trolls? Trolls have existed longer than we can imagine, in seven villages along a river that laughs white-water, and where each season dresses the realm in her colours. This is where we meet Ebbe, a young troll who embarks on adventures, faces obstacles and learns through life’s lessons to believe in himself.

This is the story of Ebbe and his father, Larsyn. A relationship between father and son.



William Bill McIntyre



- *What do the words “writer’s block” mean to you?*

Writer’s block means that my thought process for what I am writing is temporarily “empty” of needed or desired wording. That person needs a brief rest and a temporary change in focus and concentrate on that for a period of time to refresh his/her mind and let their empty reservoir of thought reconstitute itself.

- *What advice would give to a writer working on their first book?*

Do extensive research regarding the subject and ongoing sequences of the contents desired. Having first-hand knowledge of the subject content also greatly matters!

- *What inspired the idea for your book?*

Due to trying times, exacerbated by the COVID pandemic, churches have been closed, with fear and depression gripping people everywhere. This prompted me to write a book regarding faith-based encouragement!

- *What is the ultimate goal for the book?*

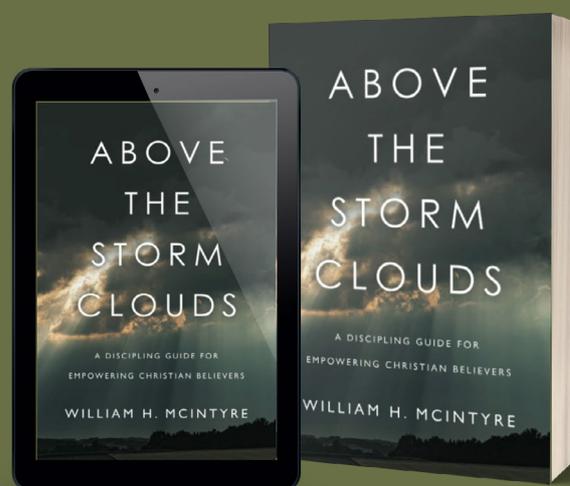
My goal for the book *Above the Storm Clouds* is to bring God breathed encouragement to Christians around the world for them by always trusting God in the midst of trials and truly difficult times; and then start walking by faith and not by sight!

- *How did you come up with the title to your book?*

When flying above the storm clouds in a commercial airplane, there is sunshine, peace and tranquility. That is what I desired to achieve with my book! To assure my readers of peace and encouragement by keeping their focus on God and trusting with their whole hearts in Him and His Word!

- *How do you use social media as an author?*

I test the prevailing thoughts of a wide variety of participants in an attempt to understand their anger, frustrations, and their apparent mindset! Also, the issues of greatest interest and what trends are being promoted to give me perspective and food for thought!



Above the Storm Clouds communicates that as an active Christian, you are to continue growing stronger daily in Biblical truth until reaching the level where you’re confident and able to counsel, tutor, and disciple new believers. It’s an exciting adventure regarding the greatest and most rewarding assignment given to mankind.

Google Ads

With mobile and desktop capabilities, Google Ads is an effective way to drive good-fit traffic to your books by optimizing you in Google, at the moment ideal customers are making similar searches. With the right campaign, an author can see a boost in website traffic, increased book sales, and a surge in in-store visits.

Over time, Authors can also utilize the data Google Ads provides to analyze and improve campaigns so that they are reaching more people and hitting all their goals.

Google is the most used search engine, receiving over 5 billion search queries daily. Not to mention, the Google Ads platform has been around for nearly two decades, giving it some seniority and authority in paid advertising.

Google is a resource used by people worldwide to ask questions answered with a combination of paid advertisements and organic results.



Mary Virginia McCormick Pittman



As a seventh-generation Texan and an award-winning author, Mary Virginia McCormick Pittman is a recipient of the Outstanding Achievement Poetry Award from the International Society of Poets and the youngest honoree to receive the Legend of Texas Award. Her poems have been published in numerous magazines and books. Her poetry collection includes images and colors relating to the verses.

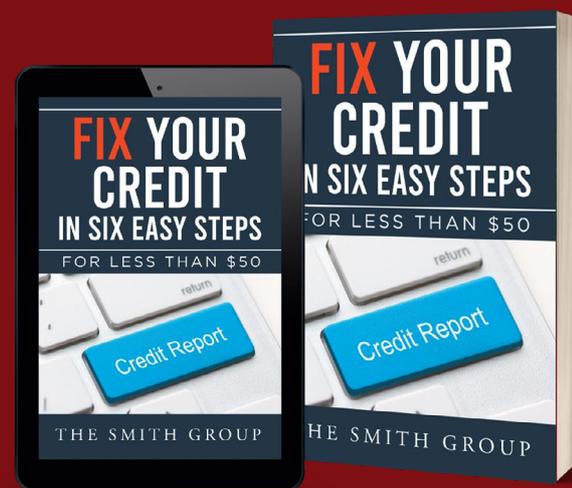
McCormick Pittman is a child advocate, wildlife photojournalist and lecturer, international conservation researcher, wounded-warrior medical advocate, and an Arctic musher. Enjoy a sampling of her poetry, which she says is “dedicated to our warrior heroes of America.”



Four Legged Heroes: The Mama Magina Books is the first of a series. Is it animal magic or the unique DNA of the wolf? Three incredible stories will transport you into a world of canine courage, endurance, and fortitude, which can be called nothing less than miraculous. Animal lovers will be brought to tears, and new fans of the husky will be created for life.

“I want to stimulate creativity, innovation, and imagination in a child’s mind! And to inspire children to ‘be your own hero’ by absorbing noble character traits that will bring success and self-fulfillment.”

This manual is a detailed step by step process in fixing, cleaning, repairing and monitoring one's credit. This book provides examples and illustrations of credit reports, credit letters and provides definitions as well as myths versus facts in credit repair schemes. This is a MUST have for any consumer, college student, relative, friend and loved one who has had credit problems and desires to fix and monitor their credit reports.



Kenneth Smith



I was born in Virginia and raised in the Washington, DC, area. After I grew into adulthood, I joined the United States Marine Corps and that is where my credit education began. My parents were always teaching us how important credit management was to us, however, boys will be boys. I received great gift of a high balance credit card when I was a young marine and as many young people do, I headed straight to the local mall. Imagine my surprise when the actual bill came and I had to pay. I was a man of meager means and the payments were astronomical to me at that point of my life. Needless to say, I learned the hard way about credit management. I eventually paid the cards off and actually started to teach other Marines on the benefits of proper credit management. As I got older, I would meet people while working as a credit manager for software and oil and gas companies. It was difficult for people to get credit as well as gain access to homes and vehicles and other assets without good credit. This is what motivated me to draft this book. I am a living example of how bad credit can limit your dreams or how good credit can enhance your life and make your dreams come true. Please read this book and take this journey with me and others to learn the history of credit, the types of good and bad credit and how good credit can save you money and make your life better. Remember “your dreams are as real as you are prepared to make them” Sidney Poitier.

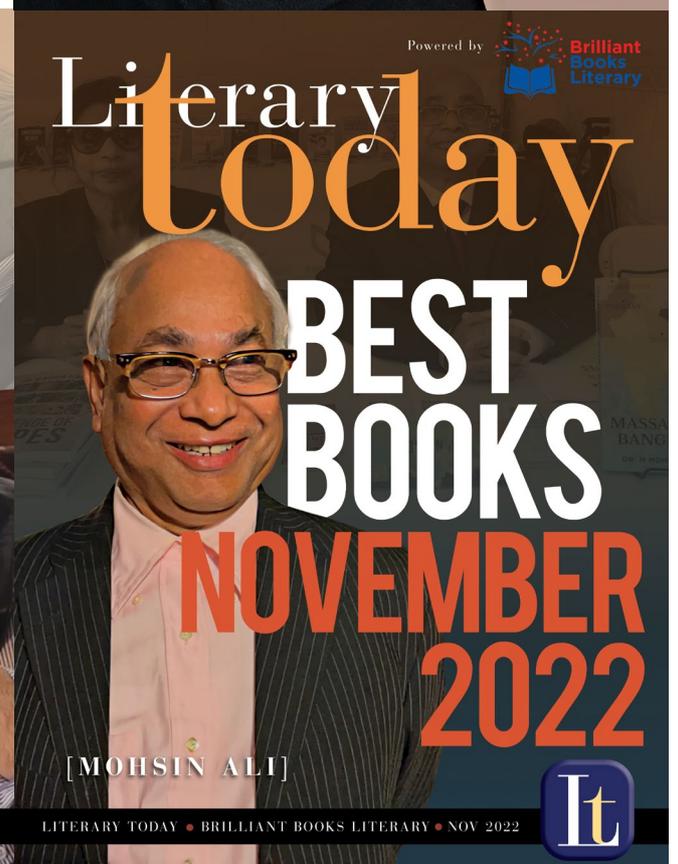
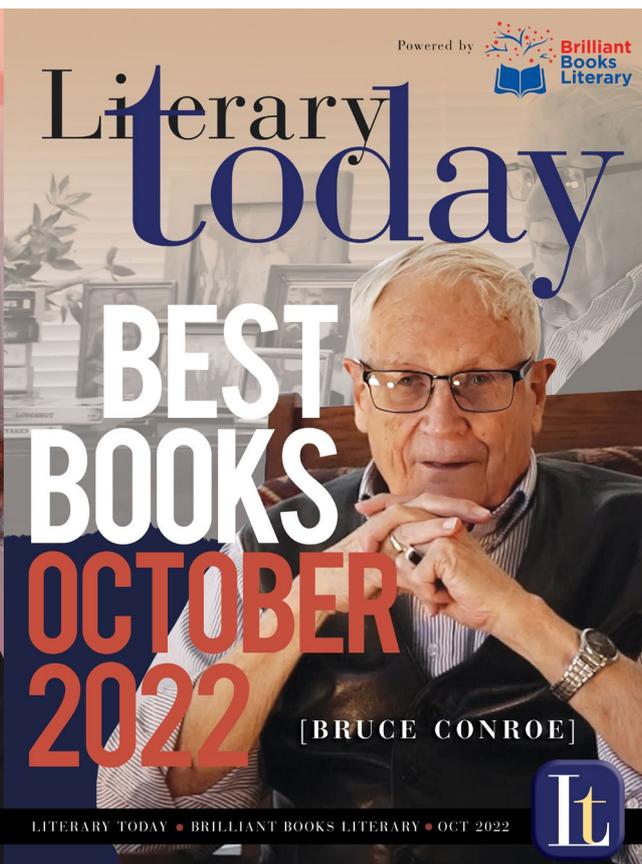
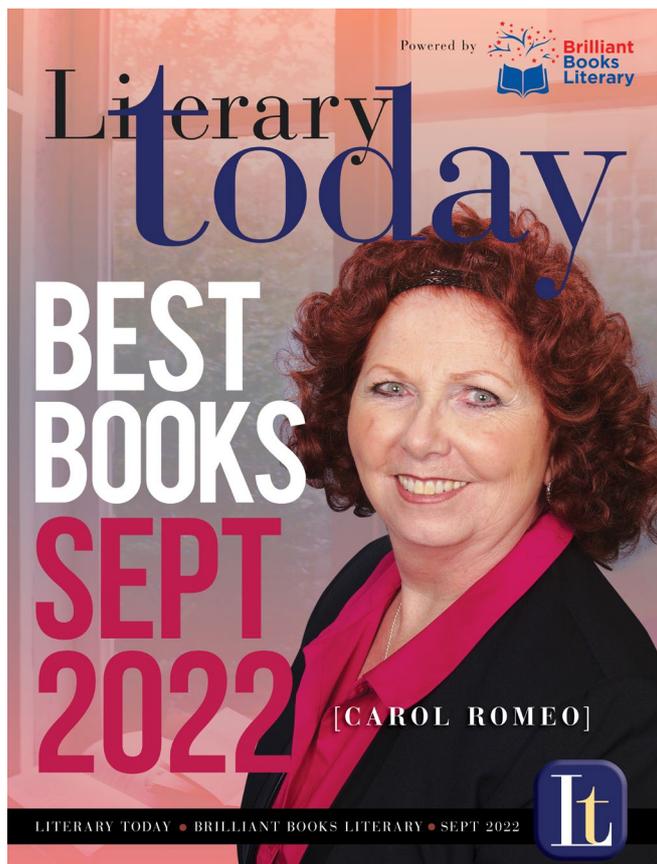
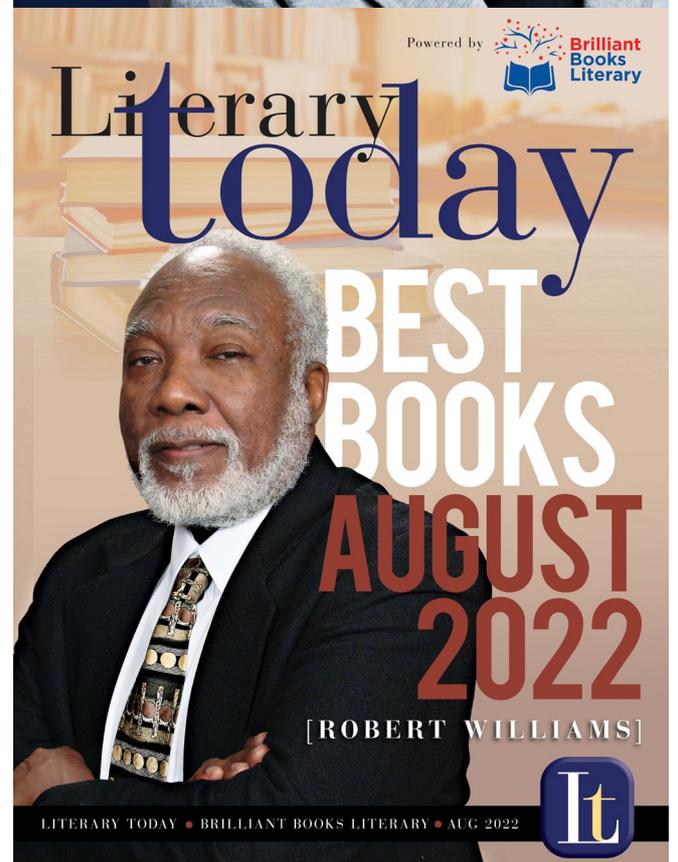
- *How do you process and deal with negative book reviews?*
Each review is an opportunity to improve.
- *What is the most difficult part of your writing process? How long have you been writing or when did you start?*
The difficulty in my writing process was procrastination. Other life experiences motivated me to start. I started several years ago.
- *What advice would you give to a writer working on their first book?*
Do your research and go for it.
- *What, to you, are the most important elements of good writing?*
Research and adventure for the reader.
- *What's your favorite and least favorite part of publishing?*
Bad deals, lol.
- *How many books have you written, and which is your favorite?*
One. This is the first.
- *What part of the book did you have the hardest time writing?*
The history of credit. The information was so vast.
- *What part of the book was the most fun to write?*
All of it.
- *Which of the characters do you relate to the most and why?*
Victims.
- *If you're planning a sequel, can you share a tiny bit about your plans for it?*
Yes, scams and cons will be my next book. Be on the lookout for it.

Literary Today Magazine

Magazine advertising continues to be an effective form of communicating to targeted audiences.

Digital magazine advertising is not a rare thing nowadays. Having a digital magazine is a common thing in this era when humans has gone mobile. Smartphones have become an essential device for most people and of course, it also has a great impact on its users. In the meantime, this increased smartphone usage has led to an increase in the consumption of digital content including digital magazines.

The Literaty Today magazine is a love product of the Brilliant Books Literary publishing company. The company aims to give authors the exposure to the world stage of publishing. Our authors are selected by BBL's top-calibre publishing consultants and design team. Each author is given an opportunity to present themselves through sharing their life, showcasing their life's works, and by answering our literary questionnaire.





Bobbi Blok

Bobbi has long been an artist and community advocate in Washington, DC. From the streets of the inner city, to the White House, the District Building, to the halls of Congress and law offices, early childhood programs and public schools along the way and then to the mountains of West Virginia, she's been a courageous compassionate voice. She has worked closely with Dr. Elisabeth Kubler-Ross, a pioneer in the hospice movement, on a one-woman play focusing on the healing power of living and giving. Her mission is to promote quality services for every child and people who are dealing with grief, feeling isolated and marginalized. She stresses

the importance of evolving, that we're worthy; basically being the presence of light from cradle to grave. She has won numerous child advocacy awards, contributed articles on early childhood, and presented workshops across the country. She has also won awards for her work in theater, including the Source Theatre Festival and Washington Women in Theater. She has appeared on both local and national broadcasts including CBS's "48 Hours." Her work has been showcased at the National Theater and Kennedy Center. She believes that we can ALL benefit by sharing the message that love overcomes hate.

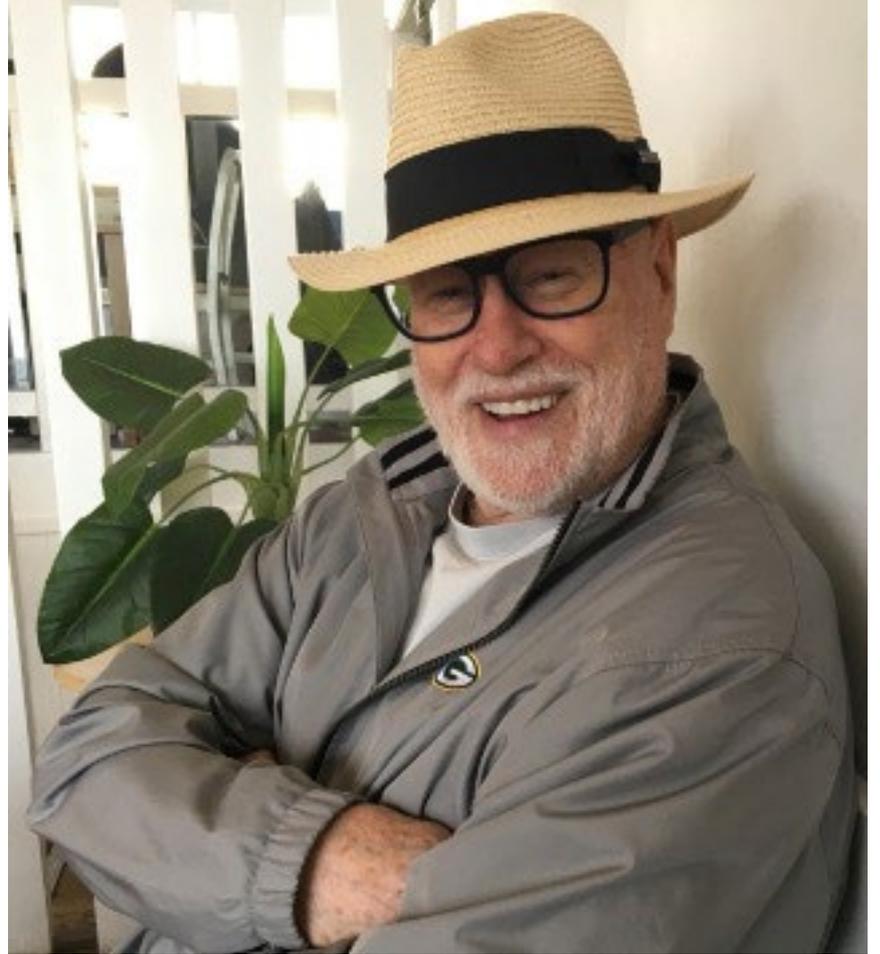


- *What is the most difficult part of your writing process? How long have you been writing, or when did you start?*
Dealing with technologies is the most difficult part, especially since I live in the mountains and my internet connection is a challenge. I've been writing for decades including theatrical plays. I started writing *Soulful Courage* in 2000 incorporating heartfelt written testimony.
- *What inspired the idea for your book?*
My commitment as a child advocate inspired me to encourage people to come together in the spirit of love.
- *How much research did you need to do for your book?*
It's more of an experiential thing; it's based on my personal experience.

- *How did you come up with the title for your book?*
The book's original title is based on the title of the play, which is "Torch," which provides light. Acknowledging the importance of, shining a light on everything that happens; to manage the windstorms, we need light and courage; all the light is coming from our soul, and that's how I came up with the title "Soulful Courage."
- *What is the ultimate goal of the book?*
The goal of the book is to share the message that we are here to love unconditionally and be of service, to herald the need for us to be messengers of the Golden Rule.

Peter Hubbard

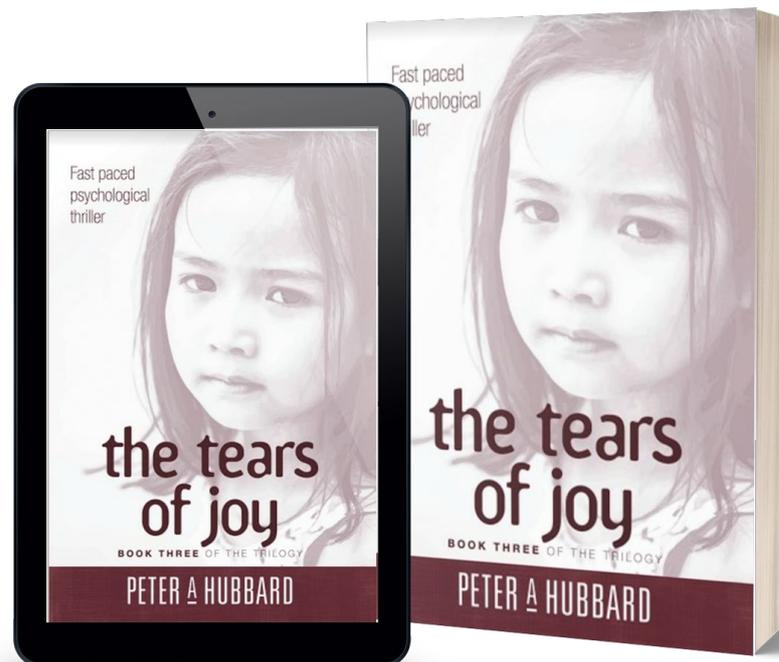
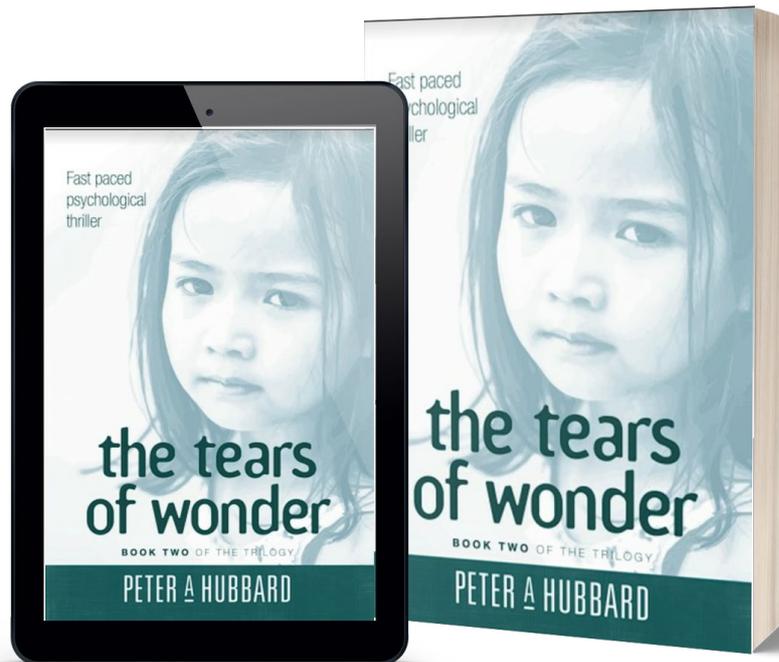
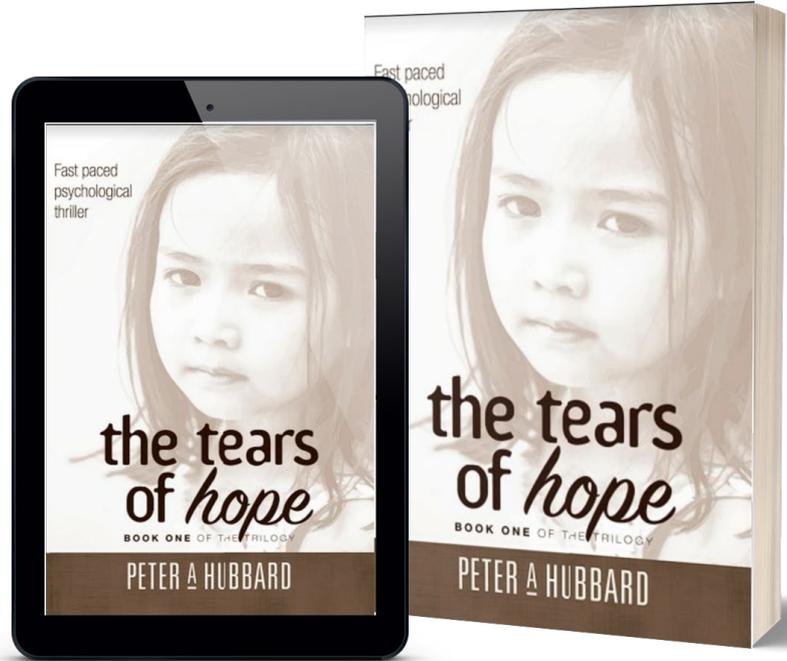
Aeronautical engineer, computer scientist, psychologist, author, I ask the hard questions, and as a scientist realize that any answer will likely change tomorrow.



- *How do you process and deal with negative book reviews?*
You can always learn from a critic – but I make sure it's based on what I have written, not on something the critic has made up.
- *Are there therapeutic benefits to modeling a character after someone you know?*
Not necessarily, as a behavioral scientist I base my characters very much on what I feel a particular character would react to emotionally. At the end of the day, every character has something of me in them, even if it's only a tiny behavior trait or attitude.
- *What is the most difficult part of your writing process? How long have you been writing or when did you start?*
Getting the time to write – I started when I left the military decades ago, made a few false starts, but split my time between academic (and anemic!) tomes no one read, and then a fiction book based on my early experiences. Riddled with mistakes, classic first-book cathartic process, which I stumped book store to book store. I learnt a lot about the writing process from that.
- *What advice would you give to a writer working on their first book?*
Stick at it. Have a clear focus about the idea you are writing about. Make mistakes – rewrite every day until you see yourself in what you have written. You need to feel the book writing itself from inside your heart and stomach, I would have said 'soul' but I don't want to start that fight here. At the end of the day, you are your book, even it's it Sci Fi or hard core fiction. If you can't find yourself in it, it's not your book.
- *What, to you, are the most important elements of good writing?*
Personality and characterization and story flow. You have to feel the characters, emphasize with them, feel their pain and their joy, their happiness and sadness. And the story arc has to flow like a river, bubbling over rocks, wearing away the stubborn bits, turning corners, always stronger on the inside than the outside.
- *What comes first for you — the plot or the characters — and why?*
The idea – the plot and the characters develop themselves during the process of writing. I often find that during a writing session I have introduced many aspects

I had never imagined when I started the day. That's good, creative writing! You may have an anchor character in mind, but many develop as the plot thickens!

- *How do you develop your plot and characters?*
From the idea – although I have no idea how my stories will end until I get there. As for characters, in the main they are stable until someone else pops up to create characteristic tension and add to the story. They can be very minor, but you have to feel them and make them real and relevant to the story. As for 'plot' – I prefer story arc.
- *How do you use social media as an author?*
Up until now, badly, mostly ignored. However, I am being taught by my wonderful publishing agent, Lyla Brooks, what the social media scene is all about, so I expect this time I will use it more powerfully to reach my audience.
- *What's your favorite and least favorite part of publishing?*
Favorite – working with Lyla and with Jay. Least favorite – trying to get distribution.
- *How many books have you written, and which is your favorite?*
Seven professional books, twelve novels, and my personal favorite is book two *The Tears of Wonder* in my new trilogy. Professionally, *The Handbook of Personal Power* because I have seen it literally change lives.
- *What part of the book did you have the hardest time writing?*
I always find it hard to finish – it's as if the book has a life of its own, and it doesn't just want to stop. In terms of *Tears*, keeping the balance between the dark and the light. *Handbook* wrote itself at a time I was passionately involved in learning about behavior and how to change a person's individual story from the inside.



Snips from Publishers Weekly

December 19, 2022 issue

FROM THE ARCHIVE

December 26, 1872

Three of the four men who wrote the two-page obituary of George Palmer Putnam that ran in the last issue of our first year of publication still have their names attached to well-known publishing companies: Henry Holt, Alfred Houghton, and John Wiley. Putnam died of a stroke while working in his bookstore on Dec. 20, 1872.

Putnam's life encapsulates the early history of American publishing. After teaming up with Wiley, he moved to London, where he wrote books for the English market and exported books by English authors to the U.S. Returning to America, he published books and one of the first literary magazines, *Putnam's Magazine* (curiously nicknamed *Maga*). After a three-year run as a tax collector, Putnam returned to publishing with his eldest son, G. Harris, forming G.P. Putnam & Sons (a second son would later join the press). One of its first authors was Washington Irving.

In addition to his love of literature, Putnam was also an art lover and one of the founders of the Metropolitan Museum of Art. "Few men have included so much worth the telling," the obit's authors wrote.

No. 26, Dec. 26, 1872.] *The Weekly Trade Circular.*

697

George Palmer Putnam.

AMERICA sustains a sore loss in George P. Putnam, one of its most trusty representative men, but no man had ever better earned, by a long, earnest, Christian, effective life, that promotion from this world to that which is to come, which those whom he leaves would for their own sakes have had long deferred. He was a very quiet man, in all his doing, but his long life was crowned with work of quite as much importance to the nation and to the world as that of many who made much more stir among men.

One of the veterans of the American book trade, he was as young in thought and activity, up to the very moment of his death, as the freshest lad whom he admired and encouraged with his kindly and warm heart. During this busy season of Christmas time, Mr. Putnam had been at the store, and in the best of health and spirits, active and busy as always, all through. At five o'clock, Friday afternoon, the 20th inst., as he was showing "The Gallery of Landscape Painters" to Rev. W. H. Van Doren, he turned away suddenly, as though faint, and falling in an endeavor to rally himself, gave a deep groan, and sank to the floor, striking his head against a shelf as he fell. Two of Mr. Putnam's sons were in the store. He was immediately raised and placed on one of the book tables, restoratives were applied, and Drs. Ferguson and Brink immediately summoned, but only to discover that he was dead, the result apparently of an apoplectic stroke.

George Palmer Putnam was born at Brunswick, Me., February 21, 1814. Revolutionary blood of the best sort flowed in his veins, for he was the grandson of Gen. Joseph Palmer, and grand-nephew of the famed Gen. Israel Putnam. He was what is called a self-made man, having received but a common-school education in his native place and in Boston, and made his start in life at the age of 14, as a clerk in the book store of Daniel Leavitt, in New York.

At this early date, he began to be a book-maker in the other sense as well, and commenced in 1828 a compilation of dates which resulted finally in that well-known book of reference "The World's Progress," first published as a "chronology," in 1833. After remaining with Mr. Leavitt some years, he entered the employ of Mr. John Wiley, and in 1840 the well-known firm of Wiley & Putnam was formed. In 1838, he had issued another volume of his own, "The Tourist in Europe." In 1841, he went to London and established there a branch of the firm in Paternoster Row and a pleasant home in St. John's Wood, which many Americans still remember with delight. He remained a Londoner seven years, meantime issuing "The American Bookseller," 1843, and a compilation of "American Facts," 1845, meant partly as a reply to Mr. Dickens' "American Notes." This did

much to acquaint Englishmen with the United States and its people, and Mr. Putnam was always proud of the beneficial influence he had thus exerted. He was almost the first to introduce American books into the mother country, and was also a pioneer in the importation of English books.

In 1848 he came back to New York, and soon after engaged in business by himself. In 1850 he published his chronology, revised, and "The World's Progress," of which he has since issued numerous editions, revising it every few years to date. This was the most important literary work especially his own. The establishment, in 1852, of *Putnam's Magazine*, was however the special work and pride of his life, for it did perhaps as much as any one thing to foster the growth of a native literature, to gather our then isolated writers into a connection in which each might be encouraged and helped by working alongside his fellows. Geo. William Curtis and James Briggs were his associates in this work, which occupied a then unique place as a strictly American and original magazine. "Maga" became a considerable success, but it was sold in 1856, and its new publishers failed in the crisis of 1857. In 1863, Mr. Putnam gave up business to become a Collector of Internal Revenue, a position which he filled with ability and credit till 1866, when, in connection with his eldest son G. Harris Putnam, the present house of G. P. Putnam & Sons was founded, the plural of the second part arising from the admission later of his second son, J. Bishop Putnam. The "old pea-green" magazine was revived by the new house in 1867, and continued successfully until it was merged with *Scribner's Monthly* on the establishment of the latter in 1870.

Shortly after Mr. Putnam went into business under his own name, he began the publication of Washington Irving's works, and thus was commenced a close, vital friendship between author and publisher, which is one of the pleasantest episodes in the history of literature. He early encouraged the literary ambition of Bayard Taylor, and, indeed, it is difficult to estimate how many men of letters are indebted to Mr. Putnam for kind encouragement, when that to them was all in all. He was the publisher, also, of Poe, Cooper, Kennedy, Curtis, Godwin, and other noted American authors, and the helpful and appreciated friend of all.

* Singularly winning in manner, and even in temper, a radiance of genial feeling always on his pleasant face and a cordial greeting always in his grasp of the hand, no one who had ever met him but saw why he had been the life-long and intimate friend of such men as those and others who are left to mourn him. For these outward qualities were the expression of a beautiful soul, a warm heart, a mind well-stored and vigorous. As unassuming as the humblest could be, while the peer of the proudest, no person of whatever class met Mr. Putnam without feeling that here was one whose acquaint-

FROM THE ARCHIVE

698

The Weekly Trade Circular. [No. 26, Dec. 26, 1872.]

ance was a delight, whose friendship an honor. It was chiefly in personal influence upon individuals that his life-work was done, for with his somewhat hesitating speech, a peculiarity which gave weight to his conversation, he was not much given to public address. Yet there were few men who had done more leadership in the literary and art development of his country. In all such undertakings he was trustingly looked to for enthusiastic help, and he never failed in effective response to the trust.

In social and club life Mr. Putnam has always been a leader. His literary receptions in the earlier days at his pleasant home, where any and every one dropped in for a sure and kind welcome, and Irving, Bryant, and the other leaders of literature were often to be met, will always be remembered. He was one of the early members of the Century and of the Union League Clubs, serving for many years on the Art Committee of the latter. His art tastes were always strong, and he gave early attention to the publication of fine American illustrated books, the artist's edition of the Sketch-Book, even now seldom equalled, being a pioneer in that field. He was always a great friend of artists, was one of the founders of the Metropolitan Museum of Art, of which he was during the past year Honorary Superintendent, giving his services freely and without charge; and his position in American art circles was worthily recognized by General Van Buren in his appointment of Mr. Putnam as Chairman of the Committee on Art in connection with the Vienna Exposition.

The history of Mr. Putnam's career as a publisher was one altogether of measures toward the best interests of his country and his readers. He felt deeply the responsibility of the publisher, and never did anything issue from his press which he thought would injure in any way or degree, man, woman, or child. His conscientiousness and his Christianity were thus vital, permeating every moment and every act of his life. As a writer and compiler he had done much and good service, as all readers know. As a supporter of American art no one was before him; it is impossible to estimate how much art in this country is indebted to Mr. Putnam. He was self-sacrificing always, but never more cheerfully and continuously than in his years of voluntary rule in connection with that long series of efforts now crowned in the Metropolitan Museum of Art. We trust that some fitting record of his memory may be made in connection with this enterprise, which commanded his last efforts, and with which we believe he would like best to have his name especially associated.

We do not propose to write a memoir of Mr. Putnam; that is a work which might well be, which we trust the public will demand shall be, undertaken at length by the eldest son who so worthily represents his father. Few lives have included so much worth the telling, and we imagine sufficient material for the book is easily to be gathered. But

whatever worthy memorial, in monument of art or on the printed page, shall be made of Mr. Putnam, none will be so thorough a testimonial to his worth as the affectionate remembrance in which he is today held in many hundred hearts.

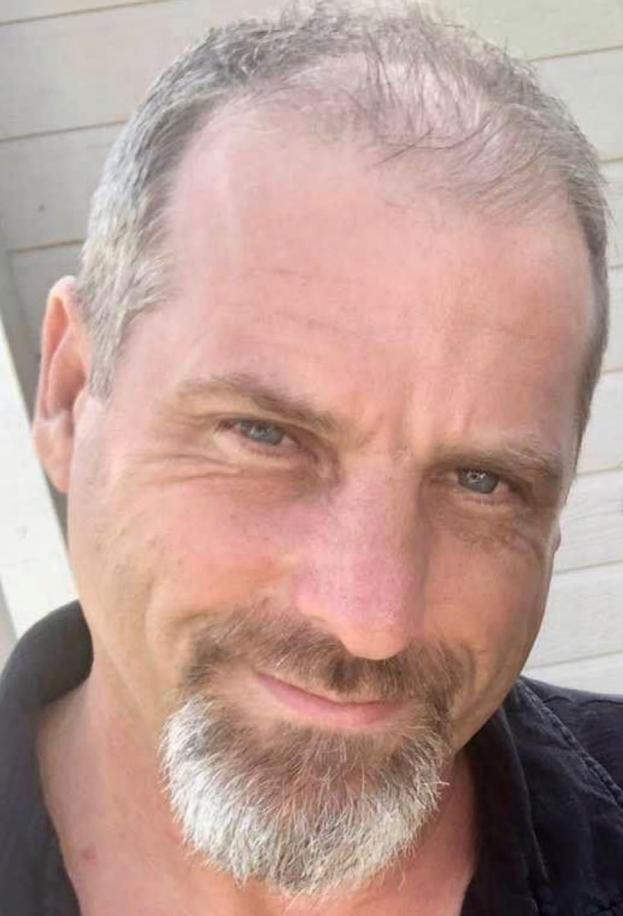
The funeral of Mr. Putnam took place on Monday, 23d inst., from the Madison Avenue Baptist Church, corner of Thirty-first street, of which he was a leading member. The Rev. Dr. Elder, pastor of the church, opened the services with prayer, after which the Rev. Dr. Tyng read a chapter from 1 Corinthians, and the Rev. Drs. Elder, Crosby, and Prentiss made feeling addresses, bearing testimony with one accord to the true greatness of their friend as a man and Christian, in his business as in his personal life. William Cullen Bryant, John Taylor Johnston, Daniel Huntington, John Wiley, Charles Collins, John O. Sargent, Vincent Collyer, A. D. F. Randolph, Henry Holt, Andrew C. Armstrong, Sanford R. Gifford, and Richard Butler, were the pall-bearers, and among many other prominent friends of the deceased present in the large assemblage, were J. A. J. Cresswell, Parke Godwin, Professor Butler, D. Van Nostrand, George A. Leavitt, Smith Sheldon, Wm. H. Appleton, R. R. McBurney, Albert Mason, the Rev. Dr. T. D. Anderson, the Rev. Dr. Samuel B. Osgood, and the Rev. O. B. Frothingham, Maunsell B. Field, formerly Assistant Secretary of the Treasury; Tetsnoske Tomita, Japanese Consul, a warm personal friend of the late publisher, and Pierre M. Irving, nephew of Washington Irving. The remains were conveyed to Woodlawn Cemetery.

The following card to the public was issued, by the timely thoughtfulness and practical sympathy of members of the trade, on Saturday: The undersigned, members of the book trade, realizing that to the affliction of the family of the late Mr. Geo. P. Putnam ought not to be added the very serious financial detriment of an interruption to the business of the deceased at this most important season, have taken upon themselves the responsibility of conducting it at the store of G. P. Putnam & Sons, corner Fourth avenue and Twenty-third street, until the surviving members of the firm can assume control.

HENRY HOLT,
ANDREW ARMSTRONG,
ALFRED HOUGHTON,
JOHN WILEY.

The memorial meeting of the trade was called for this (Thursday) afternoon at the Trade Sales Rooms.

AN essay of extremely brilliant, comprehensive, and sympathizing character, by M. Duranty, is published in the late number of the *Gazette des Beaux-Arts*, on "La Caricature pendant la (French) Guerre (1870-1871)." This paper deals with English, Belgian, and Spanish satires. The greater portion of the text refers to English works, which are described with ability.



Jesse Stockard

- *What is the most difficult part of your writing process? How long have you been writing or when did you start?*

The absolute most difficult part about writing this book is specific word selections and the form of which the lines in

the poems take. Every word and spelling of the word, along with the punctuation or lack of punctuation, the start or stop of each line, all has a reason for the way it was written! Each person who chooses to read all of this book or a page or two can and will get a different meaning or perception from it!

- *How many books have you written, and which is your favorite?*

I have two published books, *Life* and *Perfect Woman*, the first book I wrote for my kids and the second book I wrote because of my kids! I have three sweet girls and the book, *Life*, was written for them about my journey thru life up to that point when I decided to write it! *Perfect Woman* was written because I saw the struggles my three daughters were having about the image of a woman and the way, That Projected Image, affected their own ideas of who they need to become in order to be accepted in society! I don't really have a favorite book!

- *How did you come up with the title for your book?*

The title of this book, *Perfect Woman*, is misleading. There is no such thing as a perfect woman just like there is no such thing as an un-perfect woman, everyone is perfectly designed with perfect flaws. Perfection is a simple point of view, it depends on whose point of view you listen to, determines a reflected outlet from you!

- *What risks have you taken with your writing that have paid off?*

After writing this book, I decided to try and have a therapist read my book and give me an honest opinion of it from their point of view, so I found one. I went to her office and asked her if she would read my book and tell me what she thought, I really put myself on the line with this, she was a bit turned off by the title, *Perfect Woman*. Her profession dealt with women who struggled with low self-esteem and negative body image! I asked the right person for this review, I didn't want to put something out that was just an opinion of mine, I wanted to be on the right track with this special book. I was stressed but open to what she had to tell me when she was through. I was excited with what she wrote about her review which is printed in this book for all to read, I was on the right path!

- *What is the ultimate goal for the book?*

The goal for this book is to simply encourage one young lady to love herself the way she is and realize that being an imperfect woman, *perfect in all her imperfections*, is the actual definition of a perfect woman!

“As a Licensed Mental Health Counselor who works with women who struggle with low self-esteem and negative body image, I hesitated to read a book entitled Perfect Woman. Because I believe in women not perfection.

“In his work Perfect Woman, author Jesse Stockard takes a different look at perfection in women. The poems in this book describe perfection as it is found in nature, and asserts that a woman in her natural state of being possesses the same sort of perfection.

“The poems in this book challenged me to move away from the idea that women must fix their flaws and conform to the media’s example of perfection. Rather, this book encourages women to simply be confident and strong in their natural selves, and to look toward nature for a true example of perfection. A fine and profound piece of work.”

~ Tracy Kenela, M.A., LMHC, CRC, therapist, educator, public speaker.





Donn Ziebell, PhD

I was raised in Des Plaines, IL, in a scouting family. As an Eagle Scout, I found learning and then practice yielded rewards. This formula provided a successful career. From Missouri School of Mines and Metallurgy, I became a metallurgical engineer in 1957. Later, I added a MBA degree from the University of New Haven, CT, 1972. Much later, I gained a PhD in Cross-cultural Management from the Union Institute & University in Cincinnati, Ohio, 1992.

My career path included the aluminum industry, nonferrous foundry, razor blades, enriched uranium fuel elements, then later consulting and developing a mechanical process that packaged speeding rows of 120 per minute home-baked cookies. Then, by supernatural events I entered a Christian Mission Organization fully focused on Russia. I became Executive VP hired by the Board of Directors. One nationally prominent board member took me aside and said, "Donn, Remember you are working with Russians. Either they will stand in your way and block progress, or they will move in a hundred different directions at once." So it was just as he said.



- *How long have you been writing or when did you start?*

I chose a character name in 1980 and started to write fictitious action stories for my church's monthly news. My reader following grew and looked for the next story, trying to determine truth from fiction. I enjoyed people's interest and laughter from my articles and I kept copies. My "Shady Lady" was the only article turned down. I began writing my first book in 2011.

- *How many books have you written, and which is your favorite?*

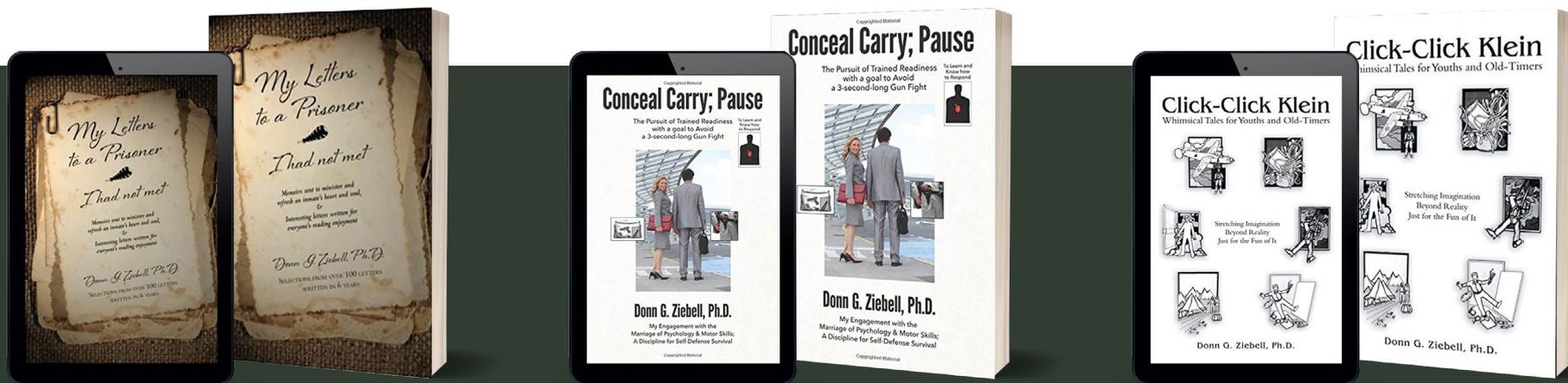
Three nonfiction and one fiction. *Gorky, Russia: First Man In* is my favorite which covers the ups and down adventures of my career path which I enjoyed.

- *How did you come up with the title of your books?*

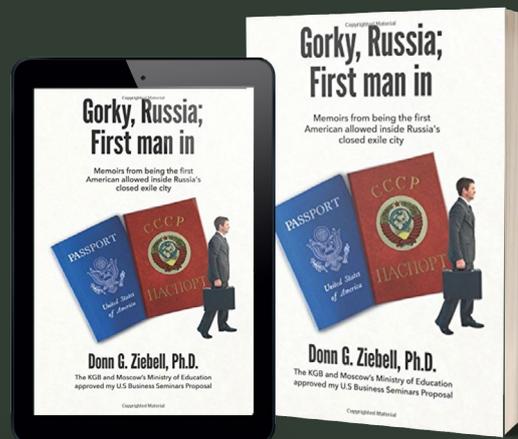
Nonfiction titles reveal the book content, and the fiction title creates curiosity with a subtitle communicating the content.

- *What advice would you give to a writer working on their first book?*

Check for resources in your possession. I had 100+ letters I had written to a prisoner in jail. I changed his name and wrote the book *My Letters to a Prisoner*. My files of used church stories were used for *Click-Click Klein* which also proved "Shady Lady" under a beach umbrella was just a painting on the nose of a B-24 bomber. A picture album, letters your aunt has, such resources paves an easier way to write your first book.

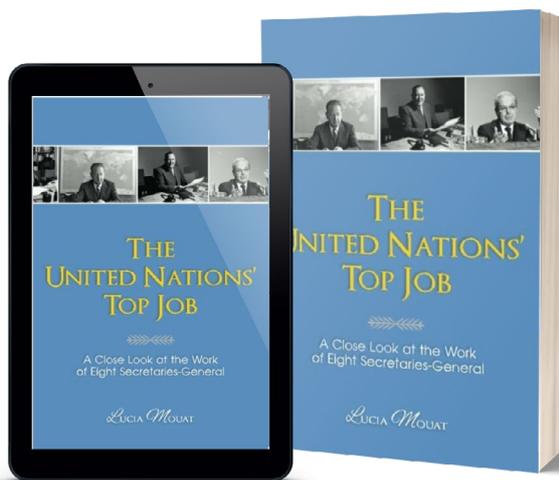


Critique: A simply fascinating, impressively informative, exceptionally well written, and thought-provoking read from cover to cover, "Gorky, Russia; First man in: Memoirs from being the first American allowed inside Russia's closed exile city" by Donn G. Ziebell (<https://www.authorsden.com/donngziebell>) is especially and unreservedly recommended for personal, professional, community, governmental, college and university library collections in general, and supplemental curriculum Russians Studies reading lists.



Lucia Mouat

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/UNtopjob>



Lucia Mouat's "The United Nations' Top Job" tells the stories of the long succession of United Nations Secretaries General from the post WW-II inception of the organization (Trygve Lie) to the current Secretary General Ban Ki-moon. Mouat's prose style is true to her background as a correspondent and editorial writer for the Christian Science Monitor: the sentences are direct, the modifiers few, and the story line is terse, descriptive and relentlessly forward-moving.

This is a great read for its excellent evocations of the struggles of the United Nations' leaders to keep the organization focused on the mission in its charter even as the demands of global politics keep intervening in ways that have forced the UN to fall short in so many of its supposedly codified endeavors. Though its spectacular failures (like Rwanda and Srebrenica) are many, some remarkable successes (e.g., the Ivory Coast elections in 2011) emerged, reminding us that the UN is as relevant as ever.

Mouat does a crafty job of blending her sources into her story line, so much so that the exhaustiveness of her research complements, rather than impedes, the progress of the narrative. Her compelling interplay between the character of the men in the "top job" and the way the job itself evolved under the leadership of each Secretary General gives Mouat's book just the right touch of biography, adding a "can't put it down" dimension of human interest to an otherwise excellent historical narrative.

This book is a must-read for lovers of modern world history.

—John Tsitrian



Lucia Mouat is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the Academic Council on the United Nations System. A long-time correspondent and editorial writer for the Christian Science Monitor, she covered the UN as her last assignment. She holds a BA in international relations from the University of Wisconsin and an MA from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy in Massachusetts.

- *What do the words "writer's block" mean to you?*
I've never encountered "writer's block" but I suppose it means you have no reason/incentive to write anything...
- *How do you process and deal with negative book reviews?*
I imagine all writers at some point get a negative review or two. You learn what you can from it - unless you feel it has NO merit - and move on from there...
- *What advice would you give to a writer working on their first book?*
Keep writing and stick to it. Think about what would really resonate with a reader while you are thinking of what to say...



Ron Williams

- *What do the words “writer’s block” mean to you?*

To me, a “writer’s block” is an interruption in the flow of ideas relevant to the subject of the writing, or even confusion about what the writer wants to communicate. When that happens to me, I meditate or think deeply about the PURPOSE of the communication, which almost always triggers even fresh ideas about the subject.

- *Are there therapeutic benefits to modeling a character after someone you know?*

I suppose there might be. To focus on someone you’re writing about might provide more insight into that person and how you feel about him or her, which, in turn, could provide you therapeutic insight into yourself.

- *What advice would you give to a writer working on their first book?*

First, I suggest listing the various elements to be addressed in the work, then to form those elements into an outline of the work that has a beginning, a middle, and a possible conclusion. This outline should always let the writer know where they are at in the work, like a map, and not feel lost.

- *What comes first for you — the plot or the characters — and why?*

For me, it can be either. A specific character or person will dictate plot circumstances relevant to that character. But if an idea for a specific plot is being followed, that should dictate and unfold the persona of the characters along that path.

- *How do you develop your plot and characters?*

A story needs a protagonist and an antagonist, and the relationship between the two should tell what the story is about—and that relationship, or conflict, should frame the necessary plot and reveal the characters’ most interesting qualities.

- *How many books have you written, and which is your favorite?*

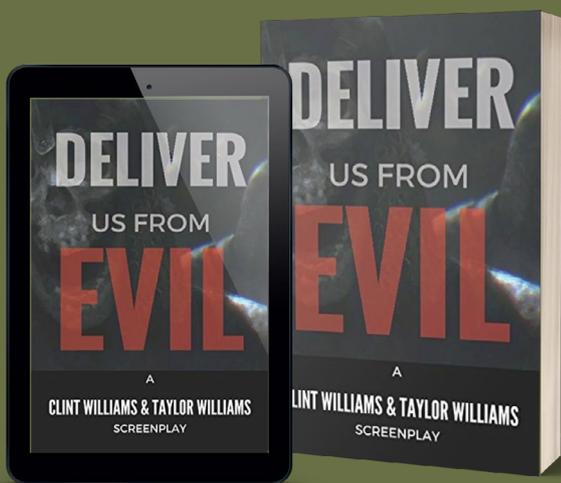
I’ve written four books—one nonfiction, one science fiction, one horror, and this psycho drama, titled *The Postman’s Wrath*, which is my favourite.

- *What is a significant way your book has changed since the first draft?*

Since the first draft, I have returned to this story to set it in the year 2020, that year of intense American political discord, especially involving the post office and mail-in ballots, for some of that background drama.

- *Would you and your main character get along?*

Yes, we would get along because Hector is basically a likable, perhaps overly-romantic, character, with a literary appreciation.



A soul-sick and war-weary knight home from the Crusade is forced to fight again as he leads his comrades and a motley band of refugees in a battle for survival against an army of the undead. “This is a nearly perfect zombie movie. It’s not a cheap horror flick, it’s an elegantly told war epic...” says a reader for The Black List.

Book Trailers

In case you are unfamiliar with the concept, a book trailer is a short promotional video for a book. As the term suggests, it functions like a movie trailer, giving people an in-depth look at a newly released or soon-to-be-released title.

However, there are a few key ways in which book trailers differ from movie trailers.

For example...

Book trailers tend to be much shorter than movie trailers, usually 30 to 90 seconds long.

Trailers for books are focused on teasing the audience without giving away too much.

Unlike movie trailers, which are displayed in previews, book trailers are meant to stand alone.

Ultimately, it is about engaging potential readers and getting them familiar with the narrative.

Book trailers combine audio and visual components to deliver a more well-rounded sensory experience than just text or graphics.

This means your video has the potential to leave a lasting impression on viewers. Plus, it can help your book stand out from others that do not offer a synopsis in this medium.

As mentioned previously, many authors do not put the time and effort into creating book trailers, which means you can stand out from the crowd by producing one for your next title.

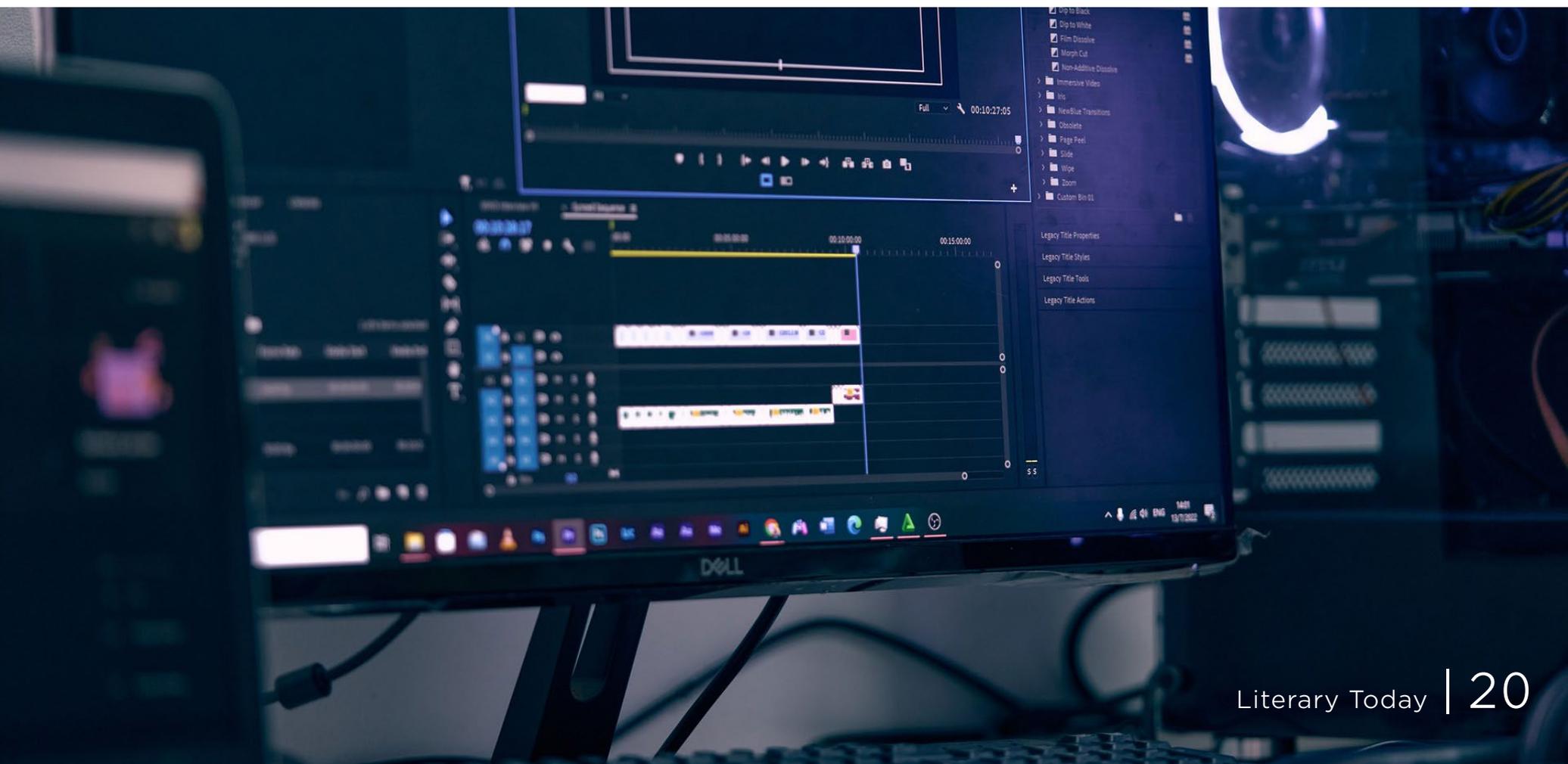
By nature, video is easy to consume and share. Therefore, when you create a book trailer, you give potential readers a fun and simple way to learn what your book is about.

Moreover, you increase your book's exposure by creating something people are more likely to share with others.

To get the most out of your book trailer, it is important to feature it in various places, including...

- On your website
- On your book's **Amazon sales page**
- On your social media pages
- On literary websites

In doing so, you can reach a broader audience and get in front of those who aren't familiar with your work already.



Kathey Darnell

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/kathey.darnell>

I grew up as a “country” girl in TN. Meaning, I lived on a farm most of my life. In my case, that meant being exposed to all sorts of animals...horses, cows, chickens, goats, dogs, and cats. I loved them all!

After I finished high school, I met the man I wanted to marry. After we married and saved up a little money, we bought a house and some land. Just enough land (you guessed it) to raise goats. My husband was an expert at raising goats. His father had taught him well. He did all the work and I just enjoyed watching and playing with them. Occasionally, I would help bottle feed them if the occasion arose.

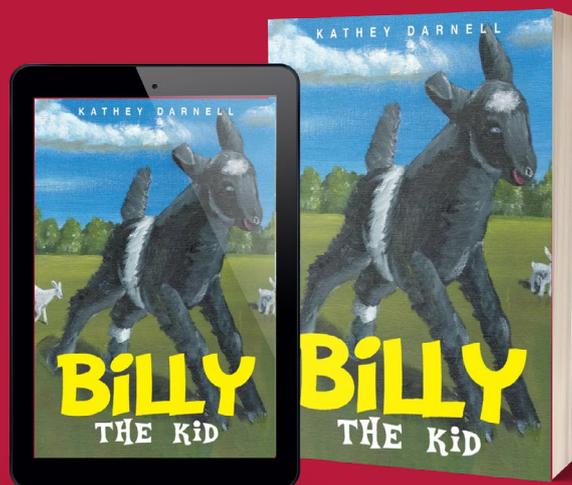
Soon I was working as a full-time administrative assistant, raising two children and going to college at night to get a business degree. What a whirlwind!

As the children got to be teenagers, we bought a larger home and more land. More room for goats!

When I received my business degree, I was promoted several times at the private label cosmetic company I worked for. I enjoyed my work very much but after thirty-two years with them, I knew it was time for a change. So, I went back to college to get a teaching degree. My favorite subject was literature!

I didn't teach very long; it just wasn't for me. I started daydreaming about writing a children's book. I knew it had to be about goats, especially fainting goats. It took me quite a while to come up with a good story, but I finally did. That story was *Billy the Kid*.

Currently, I'm the Operations Manager for a wonderful real estate company (still in TN) and dreaming about writing another book!



A heart-warming story about a fainting goat that doesn't know he is

- *How do I process and deal with negative book reviews?*

I don't know...I have not had any. I do understand that you can't please everyone. I hope that more people love it than don't. I can deal with some negativity if it makes a lot of people happy.

- *What advice would I give to a writer working on their first book?*

To not give up...it is so easy to get overwhelmed. It's a lot of work and you are constantly asking yourself "Is it good?" Go with your gut instincts! Also, as you have probably heard a million times write about something you know.

- *How much research did I need to do for my book?*

The only research I had to do for *Billy the Kid* was the history of fainting goats in TN and exactly why they are called "fainting goats." All of which was fairly easy to find.

- *What is the ultimate goal for the book?*

I only hope that the children that read this book can relate to it in some way and maybe feel better about themselves for being a little different. I also hope children smile at the illustrations. I love them!

- *How important was professional editing to your book's development.*

It is very, very important. I feel that it takes away from the book to see errors and mistakes. If there are mistakes in grammar, it feels like you don't care enough about your work of art.

At **Brilliant Books Literary**, we listen to your stories and we make it possible the world knows about them too.

