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**Brilliant
Books
Literary**

Literary Today

**BEST
BOOKS
AUGUST
2023**



[JAMES "GREG"
CARMAN]

LITERARY TODAY • BRILLIANT BOOKS LITERARY • AUG 2023



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James "Greg" Carman

Born in Southeast Missouri in the early 1950's, he joined Warren, Valla Jo, and Gwenn as the 2nd sibling. Brother Brad arrived 2 years later and completed this family. Finishing elementary school and the 7th grade at Doniphan R-1, the family moved to the big city (approx. 17,000 population) of Poplar Bluff, Missouri. Graduating in 1971, he began Jr. College at Crowley's Ridge in Paragould, Arkansas that summer and completed an A. A. degree in 1972.

With no clear path for life's next step, Greg moved to Illinois, Tennessee, Mississippi and back to Missouri over the next three years. He worked at a myriad of labor positions including sales, construction, cooking, factory assembly among several other positions. Maturing and seeing the world in a different manner, he decided to return to College and finished a B.S. in Criminal Justice and a minor in Psychology at Southeast Missouri State University.

During his time at SEMO, he began working with abused neglected youth first at the County Juvenile office and soon for the Mo. Division of youth Services. This is where he found his niche in life. First supervising the youth in the change process, later running a "Group Home" and eventually spending many years Training and developing employees in many skills. In 1994 he returned to College part time and completed an M.A. in Community Counseling.

After retirement from DYS, he continued offering private or contract training for several private and public organizations. Spending the last four years doing contract work for the Community Resource Council of Butler County. The main emphasis was to assist adult probation and parolees to find work and reintegrate into the community.

Greg was raised a Christian but like many others, turned away from his faith for a few years. In 1986, struggling with the responsibility of 2 children and a loving wife, he turned his life back to God and the Biblical teachings that put Love above self. Beginning an intense daily bible study, increasing his prayer life and listening to Jesus and the Holy Spirit, he improved his relationship with God. After teaching Bible classes for over 25 years, it became clear to him that most people do not know the God of scripture. That includes many who go to church. The book MEET GOD; An Introduction to the God of the Bible is his effort to remedy this tragedy.

- *What do the words "writer's block" mean to you?*
It is time to stop and do something else. The words/thoughts are not flowing, so I take a break.
- *How do you process and deal with negative book reviews?*
After the first reading I set it aside and ask myself, "What can I gain from this review?" Remind myself that it is just 1 persons opinion. Then re-read the review for anything of future value.
- *What, to you, are the most important elements of good writing?*
Know your topic and write with your audience in mind.
- *What comes first for you — the plot or the characters — and why?*
In MEET GOD, the characters are the story.

The intent of this book is to provide a simple but accurate description of God, the Creator and sustainer of life, as revealed in the Bible. It is intended for those not previously acquainted or personally familiar with Father God, Jesus the Son, or the Holy Spirit, who are one in purpose but three in activity. The book gives examples of the power, love, compassion, and justice that God represents to a fallen world. Many of His attributes and traits are discussed. Some mysteries are exposed and explained. There is also a short chapter on the salvation process that enables anyone to claim eternal life through the grace of God, revealed in Jesus and identified by the seal of the Holy Spirit. In the hands of one who seeks life to the fullest, wishes to live eternally, and seeks their Father's blessings, this book will clarify and assist in meeting your greatest need. God bless your journey.





Kenny Harmon

www.sadpapawbooks.net

- *What is the most difficult part of your writing process? How long have you been writing or when did you start?*
Editing is the most difficult part. I started writing in 2016.
- *How many books have you written, and which is your favorite?*
I've written four books. *Sad Papaw's Heritage* is my favorite.
- *What inspired the idea for your book?*
My dad told me that his grandpa had been an outlaw in Missouri.
- *How much research did you need to do for your book?*
More than 100 hours.
- *How did you come up with the title for your book?*
My pride for my family is the reason for the title.
- *What is the ultimate goal for the book?*
A book deal with a major publisher.

Kenny Harmon first gained media attention via a tweet by his granddaughter Kelsey Harmon. In her pictured tweet, Kelsey stated that he prepared 12 burgers for his six grandchildren, but she's the only one around to join her grandfather. Little did Kelsey know that the next 24 hours after her tweet would change his Sad Papaw's life as the picture went viral and earned over 181,000 Retweets. A few days after, another of his grandkids made another tweet. This time, Brock Harmon decided to host a cookout for all the people touched by Sad Papaw's story. They invited everyone to try Sad Papaw's burger or buy the "I ate burger with Sad Papaw" t-shirt. At least 2,000 people turned up that Saturday, and the rest, as they say, is history.

Before becoming an Internet celebrity, Kenny Harmon was born and raised in Oklahoma. For most of his life, Kenny lived an ordinary life. Just like his

forefathers, Kenny grew up in the American Kentucky lifestyle. The Harmons have a rich history upon which Kenny is very proud. The book begins in 1726 when my ancestors left Germany to journey to America.

Kenny Harmon enjoyed a happy childhood and a farming experience. A retired ironworker from Dibble, Oklahoma, Kenny Harmon worked hard to build his family. At seventy-one years old, Kenny happily spends his golden years with family and friends.

Although separated from his wife since 2008, Kenny remained a dutiful father to his children (three sons and six adopted children). Kenny is a loving grandpa to his six grandchildren Bryn (12), Brandon (17), Brody (18), Kelsey (19), Brock (20), Kaleb (21). He speaks highly of his grandkids and is very proud of their achievements. He particularly likes to take his grandchildren to sporting events (Kelsey is a Division II softball player while Brock is a college student who plays football). We also learned that trips to Disneyland were a tradition.



On March 16, 2016, a playful tweet by Kelsey Harmon soared through cyberspace making her Papaw into America's Sad Papaw. Now through the pages of Sad Papaw's Heritage we get to learn more about the man behind the image. A history that began on the wheat fields of Kentucky. Revisit the days when America's first took to the fields to play a new game called baseball. Be there as the farmers struggled with hard work, doubts, and dreams of a new life in America. Experience the days when children first tasted graham crackers and peanut butter cookies. Days when parents and doctors struggled to find a cure for simple ailments for pneumonia, headaches and even labor pains. A time in America that will never be forgotten.

Frankfurt Book Fair

Celebrate the 75th Frankfurter Buchmesse with us from 18 - 22 October 2023

And the story goes on: For the 75th time, Frankfurter Buchmesse will open its doors in October to celebrate exciting stories and their authors. This year's Guest of Honour, Slovenia, will present itself not only as an attractive destination for travel, but also a country with a long-standing literary tradition. Cultural-political debates will again take place in the Frankfurt Pavilion on the Agora, which has received multiple awards for its architecture.

Frankfurter Buchmesse is your place to gain valuable industry insights from top-class publishing experts as part of our professional programme at Frankfurt Studio and many other venues. From March onwards, you can already experience the Frankfurt Factor online: Network with publishing professionals worldwide and learn more about the latest trends in publishing at The Hof and our Masterclasses.

75TH FRANKFURTER BUCHMESSE 75TH FRANKFURTER BUCHMESSE 75TH FRANKFURTER BUCHMESSE 75TH FRANKFURTER BUCHMESSE 75TH FRANKFURTER



A highly diverse programme

Discover the highlights of the programme of Frankfurter Buchmesse

Our 2023 programme for the trade and general public



Professional programme

Discover our professional programme and gain access to valuable business opportunities, professional input and new impulses at numerous B2B and networking offers.



Public events

Experience international bestselling authors and TV stars live at the heart of the community: our multi-faceted public events from October 20 – 22!

In-Depth Review



In-Depth Review is one of several services designed to help you get your book turned into a film. It is a way to assess the potential of a book or script to become a film.

The Book to Film Review discusses the potential of the project to become a film and how to best present and pitch it. The review begins with a summary of the book and a short overview describing the basic story line. Then, it focuses on how well the book is suited to being adapted into a film and how this might best be done.

For example, if the book has many characters or multiple plot lines, the review might suggest how to reduce the number of characters and focus on the most important plot elements to make a more effective film with a budget that makes filming possible.

The review can also suggest what you might need to sell the project, such as pitching film rights or creating

a treatment or script to increase the potential for selling your story.

In short, the review is like a map that can guide you on the path to turning your book into a film, and it can help you decide whether to take that journey.

DELIVERY

- Your manuscript will be forwarded to our screenwriter for the In-Depth Review.
- The screenwriter will read the manuscript from cover to cover to fulfill the said details above.
- The In-Depth review will be completed 1-2 weeks from the date that we receive the manuscript.
- Once completed, author's consultant will send the document

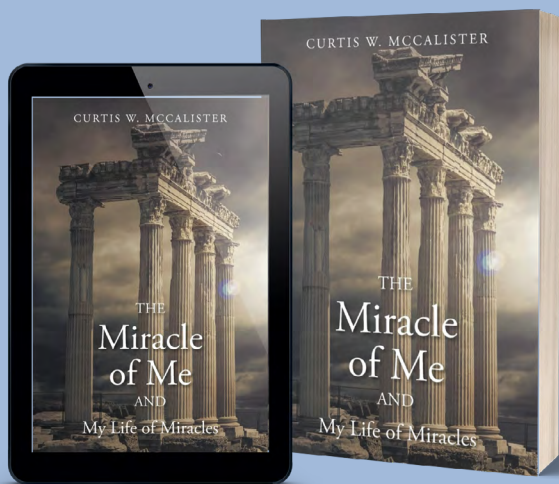
Curtis W. McCalister

The Miracle of Me and My Life of Miracles” is the creation of published author Curtis W. McCalister, a widower and loving father who carries a bachelor’s degree from the University of Central Missouri. McCalister worked for W.W. Grainger from 1984 to 2009 and enjoys collecting Japanese anime and manga, as well as playing golf.

McCalister shares, “This book is a culmination of many people’s suggestions that I actually write a book about all of the miracles that I’ve seen during my life. Beginning with my own life and including what it was like

growing up in the 1960s, the majestic temple I saw floating in the sky, the power and the glory I beheld while looking at the vision I saw while working for W.W. Grainger, and especially the two people I saw whom I knew had already passed away.

“Because of the things I’ve seen, I felt compelled by God to let people know that death is not the end, but a doorway to the next level of human existence! He wants me to reassure and counsel everyone who has had a loved one taken from them, and to let them know that they are young again and very much alive on the other side.”



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- *What part of the book did you have the hardest time writing?*

The most difficult part of writing it was remembering all the different miracles, when they happened, and how to put them in chapter form. I started writing in late 2019, and finally finished in mid 2021.

- *What, to you, are the most important elements of good writing?*

The most important elements to good writing are: 1) know your subject matter thoroughly, and 2) have a really good grasp of the English language.

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

If you’re writing fiction, I think the characters should be first, then the plot. Why? Because it’s hard to think up really strong dynamic characters. Then think of what kind of plot would work best for them.

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

I use Facebook and Instagram to message people about my miracles because I want the whole world to

know that they are real, and to let them know the truth about the other side! I also write to celebrities and to those who have mentioned the passing of a loved-one, or if they speak about their church or about how God has helped them or changed their life.

- *What’s your favorite and least favorite part of publishing?*

My favorite part of publishing is being able to actually hold a copy of my book in my hand and say “I did it!! I actually wrote a book!!” My least favorite part is not being able to see it on the shelves of bookstores!!

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

Well, I wanted the title to be about my miracles, but there were so many called “My Life of Miracles”, so I wanted to change it a bit. The more I thought about it, I wanted to include something about myself, so I thought about how I was adopted, and pondered that anything bad could have happened to me! But, thank God nothing bad did happen!

Movie Treatment

Why Do You Need A Film Treatment?

Most screenwriters create film treatments for one of two purposes:

- Working out a complex idea: Writing a film treatment allows you to structure the story and find issues with the plot. It can also help with world-building and developing compelling characters.
- Marketing a screenplay: Before deciding to produce or invest in a movie, studio executives often read film treatments. A great film treatment can get producers interested in your screenplay.

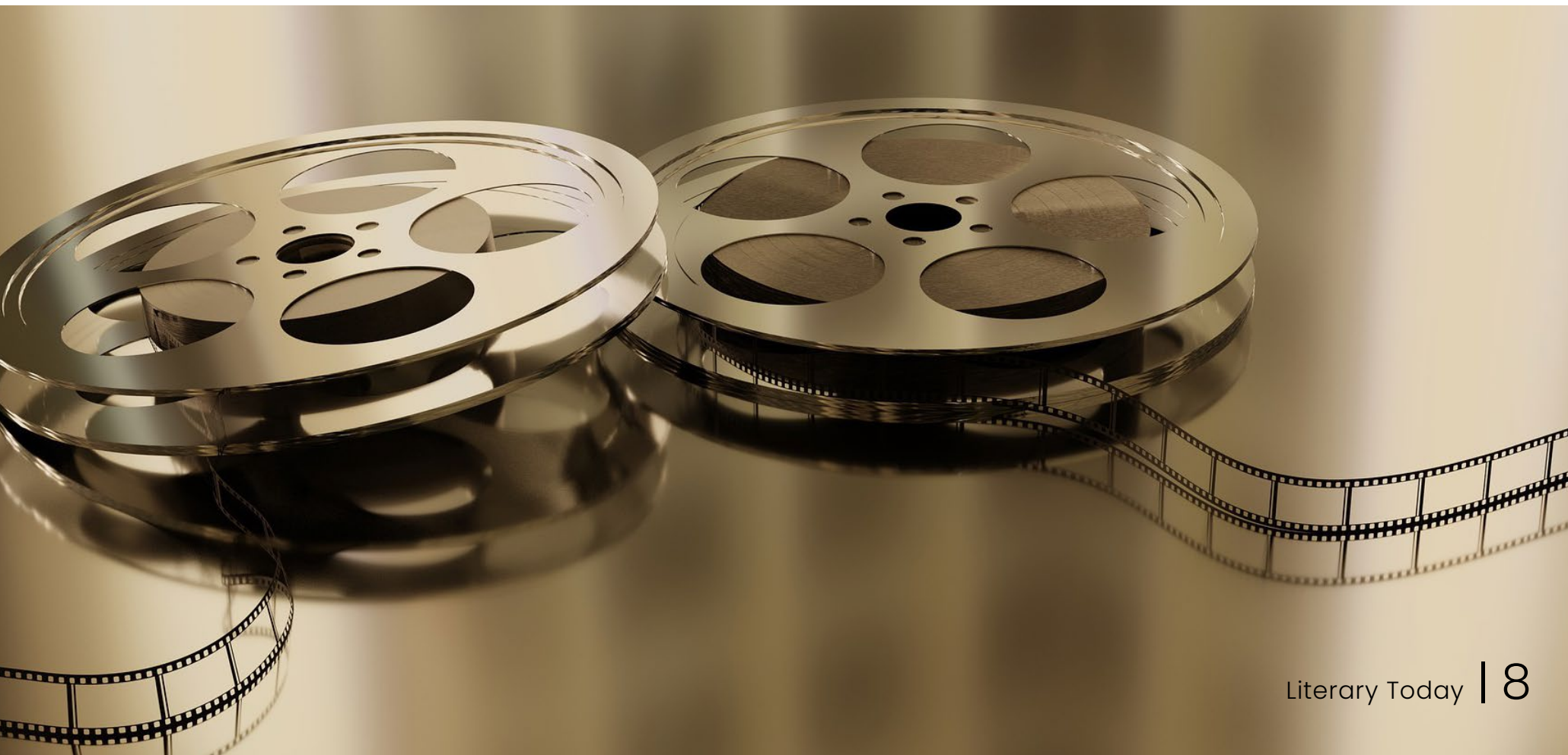
A film treatment is a written document that describes the story that your screenplay will tell. Most film treatments follow a narrative format and include key information about the characters and the plot while guiding the reader through the story arc and the acts of the film.

Screenwriters generally develop film treatments before writing the screenplay. That's because film treatments are ideal for working out ideas and narratives before investing time and energy in the screenplay.

Treatments can help you find your film's story, while simultaneously helping to raise money. The research for both treatment and film involves gathering the same facts, talking to the same individuals, and shaping the same story. By figuring out how to communicate your passion, knowledge, and vision on the page, you reach a deeper understanding of how your story needs to be told on the screen.

A script treatment comes earlier in the writing process, before any actual scriptwriting, which allows you to sort out the necessary story elements you need. The point of writing a film treatment is to:

1. Set up the world you want the reader to envision.
2. Lay out the structure of your whole story.
3. Help you identify plot holes, or parts of the film you're missing.
4. Flesh-out characters and figure out the importance of each role.
5. Serve as a road map that makes the journey of your film easier to navigate.



Carlotta Maria Shinn Russell

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 Facebook: <https://www.Facebook/CarlottaMariaShinnBooks>
 Twitter: https://www.twitter.com/author_CRussell

Women sometimes look at the world through rose-colored glasses, rather than realistically. Life is hard to the fact, therefore skewing the facts makes it easier to deal with life's troubles; hiding is at times more attractive than facing the reality of a situation. We as women must force ourselves to accept situations "as is" and have the strength and willingness to change with the situations and problems and accept and deal with heartaches that come into our lives. These situations and problems are like strong gusts of wind. Women often create a situation in their minds that makes dealing with life's tragedies easier-they will skew the facts to make their life less painful.



Carlotta makes her home in State of Alabama. She is a Novelist, Writer, Author, Lecturer, Speaker, and Storyteller. A winner of the Southern Regional Literary Competition on Civil Rights (I Lived on The Other Side of the Line: 1960's Civil Rights Era through the Eyes of a Child: The Road to Freedom). A Stanford Who's Who among Business Professionals; a graduate of William Carey University with a Master of Business Administration; and a graduate of the University of South Alabama with a Master of Art in Communication; a Professor of Business at Faulkner University for 22 years; a member of Top Cats Toastmasters Club, a Member and President of the Mobile Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW), and the recipient of the Educational Leadership Award for Service to Citizens of Mobile County and the State of Alabama. Her thirty plus years career was in the Field of Education.

The 'Trilogy Simone' was chosen to go to the International Literary Book Festival in Frankfurt, Germany; also, the title was chosen to be showed-cased in the Atlanta Journal Constitution Literary Book Festival in Decatur, Georgia. She is the author of nine plus books. Website: Carlotta Maria Shinn-Russell

- *What part of the book was most fun to write: The Plot and the Vision?*
What the book's beginning and ending can be is built around the plot and the vision.
- *Are you are planning a sequel? Can you share a tiny bit about your plan for it?*
I have a sequel: Simone.' My plans are for it to be a movie and it is a look at true love in another thyme (time).
- *What was your hardest scene to write and why?*
The love scene in the Simone' Trilogy. At times I struggled with the male response.
- *What is your writing process like?*
I imagine the scenes before I can write them playing them out in my mind before they become a reality on paper. Are you more of a plotter or a pantsner (Pantzer)? I am a plotter; it is more exciting and challenging.
- *Would you and your main character get along?*
Yes, views of right/wrong; ethics/integrity and the need for honesty in love is essential.
- *What is the goal for the book?*
My goal, for my books, them being read, enjoyed, and appreciated for the message and putting the reader into each scene.
- *What advice would you give to a writer working on their first book? Write about subjects you are familiar with. Be able to identify character or put yourself in their place or you as the writer can travel back mentally and emotionally to that time or place.*
- *If you could spend a day with another popular author whom would you choose?*
I have three: Jane Austen; Charlotte Bronte;' and Daphne du Maurier.



Snips from Publishers Weekly

August 21, 2023 issue

News

Will the BookTok Bump Last?

July was the first month to date when sales from the roughly 180 BookTok authors tracked by BookScan fell from the prior year

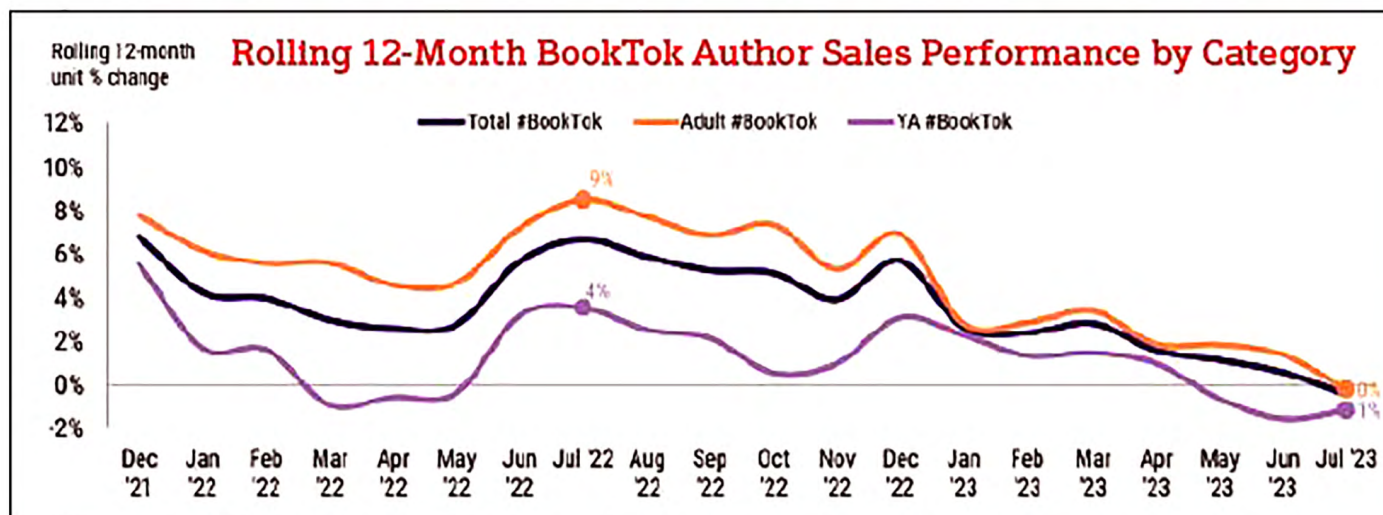
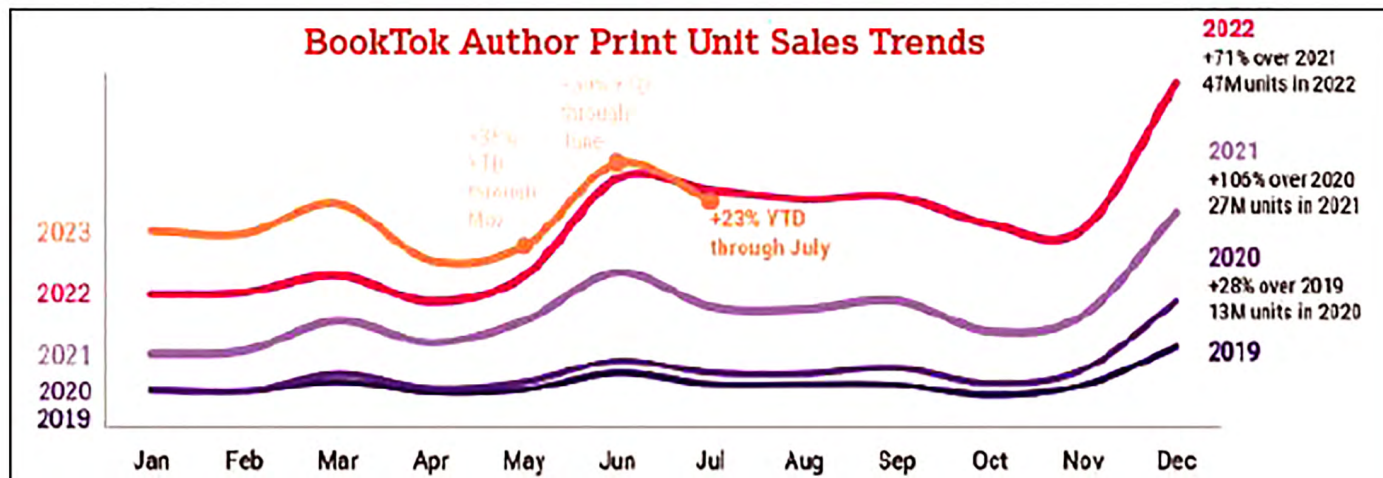
Adult fiction has been publishing's steadiest-selling category for the past 18 months. Unit sales of print adult fiction books were up 8.5% in 2022 over 2021 at outlets that report to Circana BookScan, making it the only category to post an increase last year. In the first six months of 2023, adult fiction was once again the only category to register an increase, with sales up 4.2%. The biggest driver of those gains, of course, has been books that have the backing of BookTok.

But a new analysis by BookScan shows that BookTok's effect on sales is diminishing. The most notable sign of that softening came in July, when, for the first time, sales from the roughly 180 BookTok authors BookScan follows fell compared to the prior year. The 4.5% July sales dip means

that year-to-date sales, which had been up by as much as 38% through May, were up 23% through July. (Total adult fiction unit sales have fallen every week since late June and are now up only 1.4% through August 12.)

BookScan analyst Kristen McLean estimates that monthly BookTok author sales comps for the rest of 2023 will be at or below 2022 levels, and that final sales will be close to the 2022 totals, when the BookTok authors tracked by BookScan sold about 47 million copies. In 2020, the first year BookScan tracked BookTok authors, sales for the group totaled 13 million copies, which then skyrocketed in 2021 to 27 million copies.

BookScan also took a look at how BookTok author sales were faring by examining trends within a July 2021 to July 2023 window. In that comparison, sales of adult authors,



SOURCE: CIRCANA BOOKSCAN

Even if BookTok sales are softening, it remains the industry's most important platform for discovering new writers.

—BookScan's Kristen McLean

after increasing 9% between July 2021 and July 2022, were flat in July 2023 compared to July 2022, while sales of young adult authors were down 1% in July 2023 after increasing 4% between July 2021 and 2022.

McLean explained that BookTok author sales couldn't continue to increase at the rate they had when the platform started to become a major discovery engine in 2020. She noted that books by BookTok authors are facing some of the same headwinds that the industry in general is, including consumers reading less in the period since Covid restrictions were lifted.

Even if BookTok sales are softening, McLean said, it remains the industry's most important platform for discovering new writers. "BookTok is really, really important for book discovery," she emphasized, noting that in today's social media-driven world BookTok is especially important as a place to find books for younger readers. There is one caveat, however: McLean said not as many new authors are making the type of splash that new authors did in 2021 and 2022. The top 10 BookTok authors continued to sell in big enough numbers that their sales through July 2023 are equal or slightly above sales in the July 2021–July 2022 period. But sales of other BookTok authors, including newer authors, are not selling at the same pace, which suggests to McLean that the BookTok community "is becoming less efficient or engaged in surfacing new authors overall."

Nevertheless, new stars are still being made. Among this year's breakouts are Rebecca Yarros, whose *Fourth Wing* has sold almost 400,000 copies since its release in May, and Carley Fortune, whose *Meet Me at the Lake* has sold more than 230,000 copies since it was published in May. —Jim Milliot

The Weekly Scorecard

Print Sales Fell 7.6% in Early August

Unit sales of print books dropped 7.6% compared in the week ended Aug. 12, 2023, from the comparable week in 2022, at outlets that report to Circana BookScan. Once again, sales were down across all categories, including the once-sturdy adult fiction category, where sales fell 9.6%. The reason for the decline in adult fiction is not hard to find: the lack of titles that can match the sales velocity that books by Colleen Hoover and other BookTok-fueled authors achieved last year. A year ago, Hoover had seven titles among the top 10 on the adult fiction list that sold a total of more than 330,000 copies, led by *It Ends with Us*, which sold nearly 90,000 copies. In the most recent week, *Fourth Wing* by Rebecca Yarros stayed at #1, selling more than 40,000 copies. The three Hoover titles that made the top 10 list sold a total of about 61,000 copies. The strongest debut was Danielle Stee's *Happiness*, which sold almost 21,000 copies, putting it in fourth place on the category list. The adult nonfiction category had the best performance, but sales still fell 5.9%. *Atomic Habits* by James Clear returned to the category's top spot, selling nearly 21,000 copies. *American Playbook* by Clay Travis had the best debut, selling almost 16,000 copies—good enough for third place on the category list. The bestselling new release across all four children's categories was *Disney Growing Up Stories*, a juvenile fiction sound book set published by P1 Kids, which sold about 6,500 copies. Unit sales in juvenile fiction fell 7.6%.

TOTAL SALES OF PRINT BOOKS (IN THOUSANDS)

	AUG. 13, 2022	AUG. 12, 2023	CHGE WEEK	CHGE YTD
Total	14,252	13,172	-7.6%	-3.9%

UNIT SALES OF PRINT BOOKS BY CATEGORY (IN THOUSANDS)

	AUG. 13, 2022	AUG. 12, 2023	CHGE WEEK	CHGE YTD
Adult Nonfiction	5,255	4,944	-5.9%	-5.2%
Adult Fiction	3,957	3,579	-9.6%	1.4%
Juvenile Nonfiction	1,159	1,009	-12.9%	-9.7%
Juvenile Fiction	2,935	2,711	-7.6%	-6.0%
Young Adult Fiction	656	614	-6.3%	-4.0%
Young Adult Nonfiction	87	72	-17.3%	-4.1%

UNIT SALES OF PRINT BOOKS BY FORMAT (IN THOUSANDS)

	AUG. 13, 2022	AUG. 12, 2023	CHGE WEEK	CHGE YTD
Hardcover	3,401	3,277	-3.6%	-3.9%
Trade Paperback	9,050	8,253	-8.8%	-3.4%
Mass Market Paperback	609	497	-18.4%	-20.3%
Board Books	724	690	-4.7%	-0.2%



SOURCE: CIRCA NA BOOKS CAN AND PUBLISHERS WEEKLY. DO NOT INCLUDE U.S. CONSUMER MARKET IN REL. COVERS APPROXIMATELY 80% OF THE PRINT BOOK MARKET AND CONTINUES TO GROW.

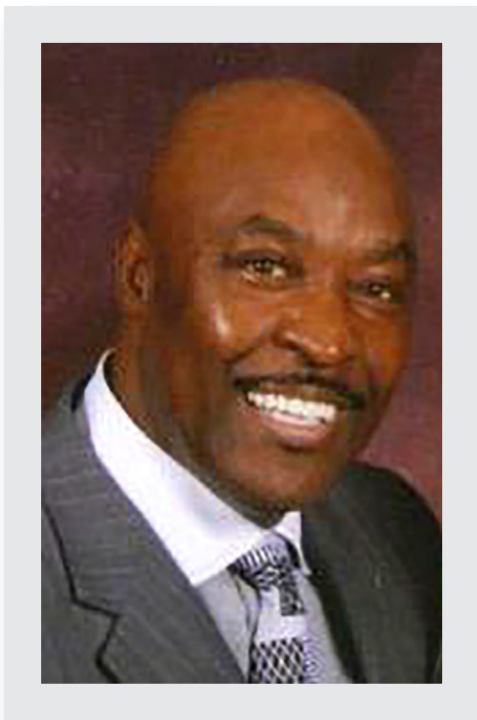


A story of a young African American man who has recurring dream of the trail of suffering of Christ where Simon of Cyrene is compile to carry the cross of Jesus unbeknown to Rafael Smith is historical lineage to Simon.

Michael Goings

Apostle Dr. Michael Goings is a lifelong resident of Dillon, South Carolina, where he was born and raised. He is the founder and pastor of Outreach Family Fellowship in Dillon and Florence, South Carolina, as well as the founder

and co-founder of several other churches. He is the Apostle and Prelate of the Fellowship of Interdependent Churches International (F.O.I.C.I.), where he serves as Apostle and counselor to many pastors. He is a prolific writer and author of several published books that have made an impact on the Body of Christ. He is also a historian for over 40 years. Apostle Goings



attended the American International College in Springfield, Massachusetts and served three years in the Army. He credits this brief stint in the military as his “boot camp” for life. Apostle Goings’ main hobbies, beside his addiction to reading and writing, is watching old westerns and the military channel, and his daily morning visit to his favorite convenient store for coffee. He travels extensively throughout America, as well as abroad, conducting conferences and seminars in regards to biblical and theological issues. He holds many awards and citations from the state of South Carolina. He is also the recipient of an Honorary Doctor’s Degree in Theology from Cathedral Bible College.

Apostle Goings is married to Overseer Dr. Louise Goings. They have two adult children – Jennifer Goings Rouse (husband, Demetrius) and Michael (Farr) Goings, II and one granddaughter, Elisha Rouse. Apostle Goings is a man who leads by example in commitment, integrity, and most of all, prayer.

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

The most difficult part of my writing is correct spelling. I’ve always been a poor speller. I have been writing for at least fifty-four years.

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

Do your research and prep work and do not quit once you get started until the manuscript is completed.

- *What, to you, are the most important elements of good writing?*

The most elements of good writing are imagination, observation, and research.

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

The plot because it will create and determine the characters.

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

I have written ten books and my favorite is “Growing Old In Newtown”.

- *What inspired the idea for your book?*

I was inspired by the way of suffering that Christ experienced and Simon of Cyrene being compelled to carry the cross.

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

The title of the book came from Simon of Cyrene and a fictitious descendent of his, who live in present day America.



Rene Mauricio Menjivar

Rene was born and raised in El Salvador. In his early twenties he followed his girlfriend to San Francisco where he got married to form a family. He and his wife had lived in San Francisco Bay Area for the last 40 plus years. He started to write during high school exchanging long letters with his mother. The letters at time were 10 or more pages.

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

I have written two books. The first book a short story based on true events which was in English then later on I translated into Spanish for my dad's birthday as a gift. The second book a crime fiction novel with romance elements.

- *What inspired the idea for your book?*

I read an article of an artist's gallery for the unknown model. The artist used samples of DNA collected on the street to make 3D figures.

- *How much research did you need to do for your book?*

I spent tons of time looking for the geographical information of the cities where the robbers committed the series of jewelry heists.

- *What characters in your book are most similar to you or to people you know?*

One of the key characters the doctor who contributes with DNA samples and the creation of 3D images that helped capture the criminals is based on a close friend of mine.



The robbers use gel to make their cheeks appear bigger, using fake facial hair on the eyebrows, dying the hair, and learning and rehearsing British accent when speaking is part of the costumes to rob the stores. They only assault jewelry shops. Each member of the band also holds a regular job to sustain themselves while waiting for the cooling period after the heist and sell the loot. A girl who helps with moral principles to one of the robbers.

Jackie Aikin

YT: <https://www.youtube.com/@mssatire14/videos>



I am a working mother with two children and four dogs that I also refer to as my children. I like to write poetry, song lyrics and quotes and create stories using humor to lighten up the darkness of reality. Two quotes I created for the thought process of the book are:

Let's not cry today; let's find a way to laugh instead. (2014)

Those who attempt to seek the light will be less likely to be forever shaded out by the darkness.

Ms. Satire 2023

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

If you are planning on writing a book, Go with your feelings in the moment, past or future. Meaning, go with what you know and is in your heart and mind, be it anger, sadness, love, or searching of...do it for you and not for anyone or anything else.

- *If you're planning a sequel, can you share a tiny bit about your plans for it?*

I do plan on a sequel and am in the process of fine tuning it. It's called Ms. Satire's How to have fun. I have a video called Mr. Adventure on Youtube that gives an idea into the darker world of Ms. Satires journeys.

- *What perspectives or beliefs have you challenged with this work?*

I think the perspectives and beliefs I have challenged are With hurt comes despair, However, if you can survive your ordeal, you have to find a way to laugh again, sometimes by making a joke out of the situation.

- *What is the most difficult part of your writing process?*

I find the most difficult part of writing is finding quiet time to concentrate. Not only does working a full-time job and having children take up time but so does everyday life and chores. I have so many ideas in my head but not enough time to extract them from my mind and make it happen.



This book is an oxymoronic contradiction. It is appropriately inappropriate, clean-dirty fun, and has a good-bad character. She is an intellectual idiot and loves her crowd, although incapable of love. To her, the crowd longs to obtain her knowledge and expertise. She is an optimist with a pessimistic quality, compliments with a backhand, and knows what she does but doesn't realize what she is doing. It is never intentional, never meant to be malicious or deviant. She is truly and simply unaware and innocent. A nice mean lady, and it is never her fault even if it is.

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Bookstores like to carry books whose publishers offer full returnability. In lay-men's terms, returnability means a retail bookstore can return books that they do not sell to the publisher. The books are shipped back to the publisher, the publisher absorbs the cost, and the store owner is not left with a stockroom full of unsold books. Bookstores tend to over-order, so they return a substantial percentage of books. Why not? Over-ordering entails no liability for them.

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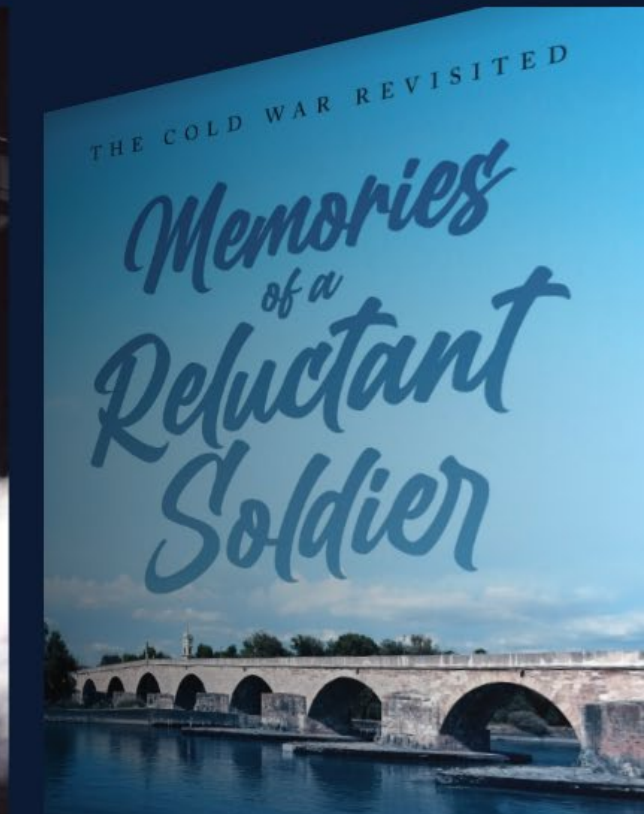
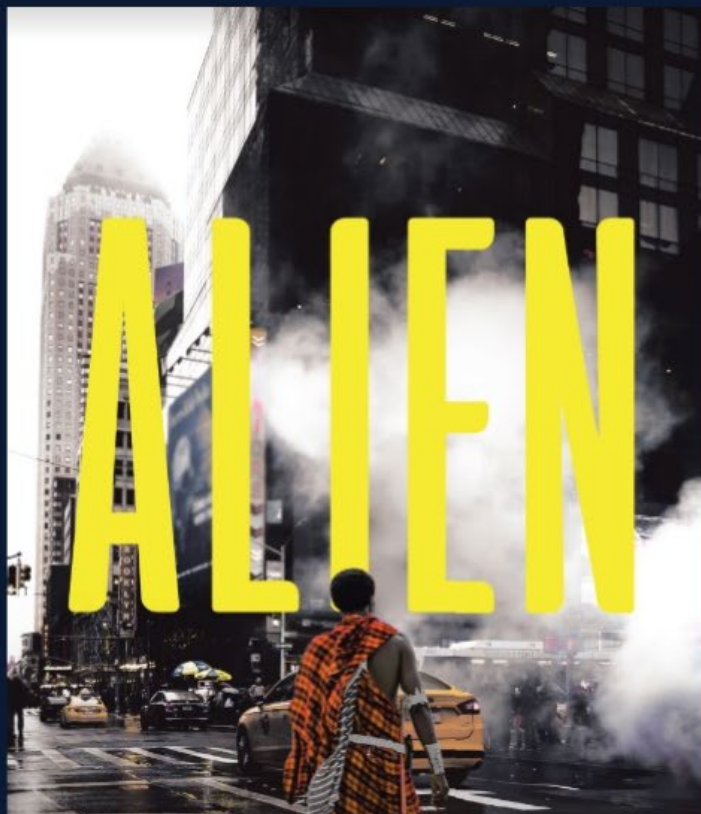
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Scott Hardin & Susan Hardin

Susan Hardin received a Bachelor's in Social Work, Master's in School Counseling and a Doctorate in Administration and Supervision. She has worked in middle and high schools as a school counselor and still loves working with young adults & adolescents.

Scott Hardin has taught over 30 years with a Bachelor's in Biology and Physics, Master's in Biology and a Doctorate in Administration and Supervision. He has taught in the middle, high school and college levels in various disciplines.

Scott and Susan have been married for over 29 years and have three children. They enjoy traveling, history and time together. Writing, *The Young Vikings and the Search for Asgard*, was a great way to spend time together doing the things we love.



- *How do we handle negative reviews?*

Literally Art is in the eyes of the beholder, therefore not everyone will appreciate our work.

We understand our book, *The Young Vikings and the Search for Asgard*, will not be for everyone.

However, if readers are interested in a tale of Vikings, Norse gods and mythical creatures it will be a wonderful journey.

- *What was the hardest/easiest in the writing process?*

The research, character development and brainstorming were by far the most fun and interesting

process in writing *The Young Vikings and the Search for Asgard*. The basic plot was simple, and the story just came together with ease. The toughest part of writing was the editing process and the most time consuming.

- *What inspired the idea for your book?*

Our children were the inspiration for the book. The characters, Jotur, Yves and Tredge, were based on their personality traits. In addition, they loved books about mythical creatures, and Norse gods. Once the story began to develop it was fun to develop the characters throughout the story with them in mind.

It was a dark time for civilization when mystical creatures and gods both good and bad still roamed among humans. Mankind was often subject to the will and whims of these supernatural beings. Settled off the shore of the North Sea live three young Vikings; Tredge, Yves and Jotur. When suddenly orphaned, the brave siblings decide to set off on a journey of hope. Tredge, Yves and Jotur must turn to each other for their mere survival finding themselves in a battle of wits with the ancient Norse gods. Along their journey they find more than courage, strength and faith in themselves and each other, but also make friends and foes among many mystical creatures of the world in which they live and a world where they don't belong.



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the world knows about them too.

