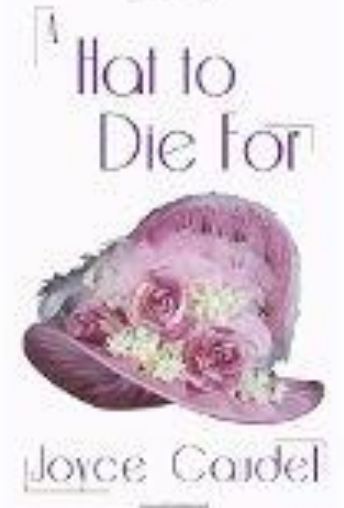


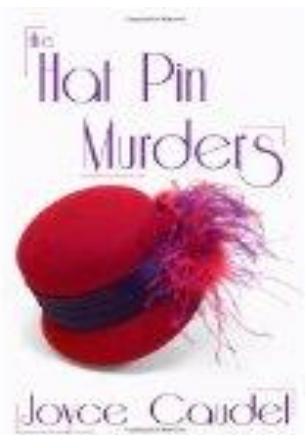
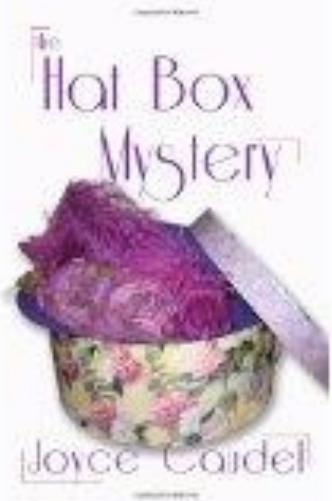


SASP NEWS

May 2023



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



Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers (SASP) began in 1998 when *Chuck O'Conner, Elmer Freeman, Joe Meiners, and Dan Vollmer*, Spokane area authors, formed a club in order to share knowledge and experience with those interested in writing and alternative ways of publishing. Today, SASP is a large non-profit organization dedicated to anyone with interests 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 luncheon 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 and Self-Publishers meets the **second Friday** of each month at the **Corbin Senior Activity Center**, 827 W. Cleveland Ave., Spokane.

Presentations will begin at **2:00 pm**. After a short break, members and guests relate their accomplishments, note upcoming activities, and we draw for door prizes. We must be out of the room by 4:30.

We will 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 SASP website, 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 SASP website and offer their work for sale at meetings.

Visit the "members" page on our web-site to connect with members' web-pages. 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.

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

Note: SASP no longer transports name tags and display books to and from meetings. Your name tag is yours to keep and maintain. We provide space to display your books, but *you* must bring them to each meeting.

Submission Deadline: Items for inclusion in SASP NEWS must be received by the 25th of the month preceding the issue month. **(May 25th for the June 2023 issue.)**

2023 Officers:

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Secretary: **Linda Sonntag-Noble**

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(509) 768-6178 (c)

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

"Like" the SASP Facebook Page:
www.facebook.com/pages/Spokane-Authors-Self-Publishers/1640079982945679

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

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

Contact us at: authors@spokaneauthors.org

Cover: A Hat to Die For, The Hat Pin Mystery, & The Hat Pin Murders by SASP Member Joyce Caudel

OUR NEXT MEETING!

We are scheduled to meet at 2:00 pm. on Friday, May 12th, 2023, at the Corbin Senior Activity Center, 827 W. Cleveland Ave., Spokane, WA 99205. The Lower South Room will be open at 1:30 pm, and we will need to be out by 4:30 pm.

Enter the building through the south entrance from the parking lot. Take the elevator to the basement. Step off the elevator and the room will be to your immediate right.

Our speaker is slated to be SASP's own Treasurer, Web-Master, and SASP NEWS editor Dave McChesney.

FROM OUR PRESIDENT

May the Fourth be with you
as the Lilac City blooms!

The month of May is full of Spokane-based events, most of them based around the annual Lilac City celebration. Sunday, May 7, 2023, marks the 47th running of the Bloomsday run, a 7.46-mile race including the fated "Doomsday Hill." Runners from all over the world gather to compete, and the ranks are swelled by runners, walkers, moms pushing strollers, and wheelchair-bound competitors.

Another Lilac event is the May 16 Lilac Legacy Art Show & Competition. On May 20, the Cruzin' the Falls Car Show will be followed by the Armed Forces Torchlight Parade at 7:45 p.m. By the way, the parade is the largest military torchlight parade in the nation and has an 80-year history right here



in Spokane.

Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers (that's us) is another Spokane tradition and celebrates 25 years of support for local authors and supporting disciplines in the publishing industry. We can be proud of our history and accomplishments, as well as our commitment to continue to contribute to the writing community.

This month we meet again at the Corbin Senior Activity Center on Friday, May 12. The meeting room will open at 1:30 p.m., and the meeting will begin promptly at 2:00. I hope to see many of you in person for a lively meeting and a gathering of friends.

Sue Eller President

FROM OUR VICE-PRESIDENT

Hello SASP members,

For those who didn't make it to our last meeting, we are now located in the basement of the Corbin Senior Activity Center. Enter from the parking lot, go down the stairs, and to your right. We'll post a sign on the wall and I'm sure you'll hear some of us chatting as you get close. Also, remember that our meetings have been moved to the second FRIDAY of the month, though the time (2:00 pm - 4:00 pm) remains the same.

Our speaker for this month will be our favorite sailor turned author, Dave McChesney! I hope to see you all soon. Take care and write on!

Marilee Hudon Vice President



FROM YOUR EDITOR, WEB-MASTER, TREASURER

The next time you look at our roster you will likely notice it is a little shorter. Those individuals who had not paid dues since 2020 have been removed. They have also been removed from our mailing lists, both for e-mail and surface mail. Any books these folks have on our list of books available on Amazon will also be removed.

Over the next few days, I'll be updating the Members List on the website. Basically,



anyone who has not paid dues for the current year, 2023, will not be listed, and there will not be a link to the individual's Member Web-Page.

We've now had our first meeting at the Corbin Senior Activity

Center, and it seemed to go well. There were, however, a couple of minor glitches. We touted the place as having a lot of available parking, and on the day of our meeting, the parking lot was full. They had another event going on at the same time. Time will tell if that is a trend or not. And I believe a few folks were distracted by the sound of the elevator outside of our meeting room. However, I believe we will be able to adapt.

I've decided to simplify the submission due date for material to be included in the newsletter. Simply, it is the 25th of the month proceeding the issue month. As I mentioned last time, that is not a hard cutoff date' especially if I know something is coming.

At our special meeting in March, we discussed the possibility of dropping "self-publishers" from the organization's name. We could simply become Spokane Authors, but I'm thinking that perhaps we could become

Spokane Independent Authors or perhaps Spokane Writers and Independent Authors. I'm sure it will come up for discussion at a future meeting.

Paying dues is easy. You can pay at any SASP meeting, or you can send a check or money order for \$15.00 to:

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

I check the mail weekly, and if we receive any dues payments, I take those payments directly to our financial institution for deposit. I also try to notify anyone who pays that the dues payment has been received... usually by way of e-mail.

If your personal situation means paying dues will pose a financial hardship, please contact a SASP Officer or Advisory Board Member. We will see what we can do to accommodate you.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dave McChesney".

OUR MARCH 2023 MEETING

Compiled by Dave McChesney

Our April meeting was notable on a couple of counts. First, it was the first time for Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers to meet at the Corbin Senior Activity Center. Secondly, it was the first time, as far back as anyone can remember, that the group had ever met on a day other than Thursday. Present for our Friday April 14th meeting were: Caryl Briscoe-Michas, Larry Danek, Mary DeBord, Betty Deuber, Esther and Bob Hildahl, Marilee Hudon, Fred Jessett, Bob Manion, Dave McChesney, Rich McKay, Carl Northrup, Peter Quint, Mikel Stevenson and quest, and Bob Weldin. Guests included David Wyrick, who has since joined, Bob Slack, and Andrea Griffin.

President Sue Eller was unable to attend, so Vice-President Marilee Hudon took charge. After a brief welcome she introduced our speaker, fellow SASP member Bob Weldin. Bob spoke briefly about his background before launching into his primary topic, which dealt with ranking some of the most common rules of writing. At this point the program became a group participation event, with Bob asking members to offer comments and reflections on the rules brought up for discussion. Rules discussed included: Having a solitary workplace, having a regular writing schedule, creating and keeping back up files, don't edit as you write, and more.

Following Bob's presentation, we took a short break. When we resumed, Marilee told us of several events taking place in the near future where those interested might have a chance to market their books. Events include *Artspiration* in the Garland District on Saturday July first from 10 am to 4 pm. Booths are \$30.00. Point of contact for this event is Denny Carman, who can be found on Facebook. He is also point of contact for *Art on Monroe*, which is slated to be held on Saturday September 9th.

The Garland Business District will be holding the *Garland Summer Market* every Wednesday afternoon beginning May 24th through September. It goes from 3:30 to 7:30 each week, and if there is enough interest from SASP members, Marilee will see about getting us a booth. We would want to have at least one or two members available to take part each and every Wednesday over the summer.

Other upcoming events include Xmas in July in Athol, Idaho, sponsored by Northwest Crafters and the River Park Square Christmas event, also known as *BrrrSAAR 2023*, sponsored by Terrain.

As this was a great deal of information for members to copy down, Marilee agreed to send an e-mail with the details. That has been sent and has been forwarded to the membership, although it focuses primarily on the events on Garland Avenue and Monroe Street. Marilee would no doubt be willing to provide more detailed information on the other events if anyone would want it.

Peter Quint announced he would be participating in a couple events connected with the upcoming Get Lit! festival, while Mary De Bord will take part in Books and Brews in Moscow, Idaho in June. Following these announcements, we drew for door prizes and adjourned until next time.

Our next meeting will be on Friday, May 12th at 2:00 pm. Once again, we will be meeting at the Corbin Senior Activity Center, 827 W. Cleveland Ave., Spokane, Washington. At this time a speaker or program has yet to be announced, but when it is, information will be posted on our website and will be included in the May issue of SASP NEWS.

MEMBER WEB-PAGE GUIDE

1. Name and photo/headshot
2. Brief biography
3. Links to web-site, blog, or other on-line locations.
4. Information about any books published.
 - a. Book cover shot/thumbnail
 - b. Brief description/blurb/reviews
 - c. Amazon ASIN, ISBN or other
 - d. Locations where available.
5. Send as much information as possible to: daveeva@comcast.net, authors@spokaneauthors.org, or
Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers
P. O. Box 18573
Spokane, WA 99228-0573
Check out other member web-pages at www.spokaneauthors.org. Click on the "Members" button and then on the member's page you wish to view.

Contact your web-master if your page needs to be updated or corrected. Have you recently published a new book, or have you by chance republished an old one? Let your web-master know!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Inland Northwest Writers Guild

The INWG will meet via ZOOM on Wednesday, May 17th, at 7 PM.

For more information and to possibly join in, contact Linda Bond at lindathewriter@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")

(Contact the editor/web-master at daveeva@comcast.net or at authors@spokaneauthors.org to get your Amazon/Kindle books listed)

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
or: www.amzn.com/dp/1936178044

If you are overseas or shop in a different Amazon Marketplace, the URL will be as required for that location, but the ASINs, the numbers provided here will remain the same.

Joan M. Kop

The Freedom Chaser B07PNYVCSF 0578217740

Stephen D. Lalonde

The Phoenix Gift B07KGMsBDJ
A Palette of Verse B01NCJ8IP7

Sidney Hemmingsmoore

Health Secrets of the Bible
B09HJJ1K57 B09HG4KHDZ

Joyce Seebaum

I Know Your Secrets, Dad
B09G25NPY3 B09M4KTHJJ8

Nathaniel Bennett

The Ant Doctor B09QP55ZSX

Julie Bergman

Sahar's Creation 0578323656 B09N9D4Z2X
Fatal Creation B0B6LJ2NML B0B663Q9X4
The Fatal Family Affair
B0BTGFLC4M B0BRMPC1MV

Stephen B. Smart

SASP NEWS

Whispers of The Greybull

B00795J47Y 148205700X

Vanishing Raven

B00JV159IM 1505906636

Greg Clark, DC

Ashes of Arson B0768PCRYJ 1976986370
Arson Revisited B07P9BDFXB 1798492032
Arson and Opioids B07X85NKNM 1692105906
Arson's Revenge B0852SKMRR B08761CN2M
Arson's Exit B09PDG8RM6 B09P452BQW

Elinor Young

Running On Broken Legs: My Journey to Joy
B09XFDWC4X 1646455746

Sarah Vail

Old Schoolhouse Road
B09PMNPPMW 1490025583 1940025575
James Street
B09V1SG5CR 1480844683 1940025648
Snow Country Lane
B09YL18654 1480886378 1940025664

Mary A. De Bord

Violet Petals on My Heel 1667858688

FEATURED BOOK REVIEWS

Reviews featured here are typically those written by our members of books written by our members. On occasion one may find a review a member wrote of a non-member's book, or a review a non-member wrote of a member's book. Each month we try to share a small portion of the reviews that are posted on our web-site. Once we reach the end of those reviews we start over.

MY FIRST 90 YEARS

(Sorry, no cover image currently available)
By Hap Murphy (An autobiography)

Reviewed by Bob Weldin

Henry "Hap" Murphy was a storyteller with a remarkable memory for names and details. Except for a few years in the Army during WWII, and a short time at Lake

Roosevelt, Hap spent his active life on and around the lakes and rivers of Northern Idaho. He was born in Coeur d' Alene (CDA) and spent his early youth on the banks of the Pend Oreille River at Dover, at that time a bustling sawmill town. His father worked for the Dover Lumber Company and was in charge of the tugboats that towed the logs to the mill. Hap occasionally went with his father on two or three-day trips up Pend Oreille Lake for a tow of logs for the mill. He tells several stories of his mischievous boyhood in and around Dover.

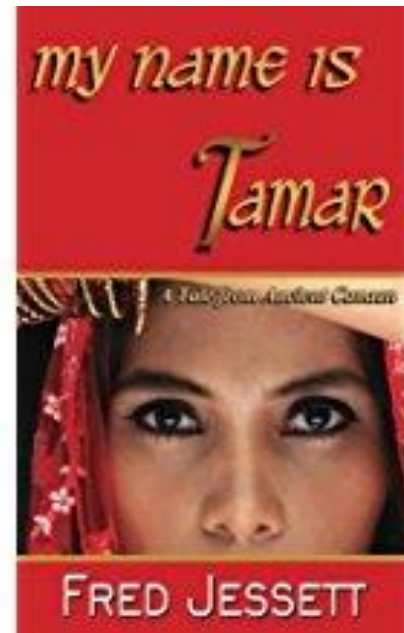
Hap became a tugboat captain and spent most of his adult life on or near Lake CDA living a full and rich life around family and friends. He worked hard and sometime played hard. He tells stories of Harrison and St. Maries when they were bustling, rowdy towns with bar fights and brothels. He tells stories about making and selling home brew and moonshine during Prohibition. He tells of the 1933 flood and how tough it was for some people during the great depression.

He learned to cook on the tugboats or while batching in his boat house, tied up at the CDA beach. Army cooks were famous for being sloppy and bad. Hap was so good at KP duty that he rose to chief cook and was the pride of his unit. He later opened the Boat Drive Inn Cafe in CDA for more than a decade.

My First 90 Years is a good read, and of special interest to those who grew up in the CDA area. Or maybe you just want to remember the men who piloted the tugs and walked the tow lines, to get the logs down the river and across the lake to the sawmills.

Reviewed by Robert Hildahl

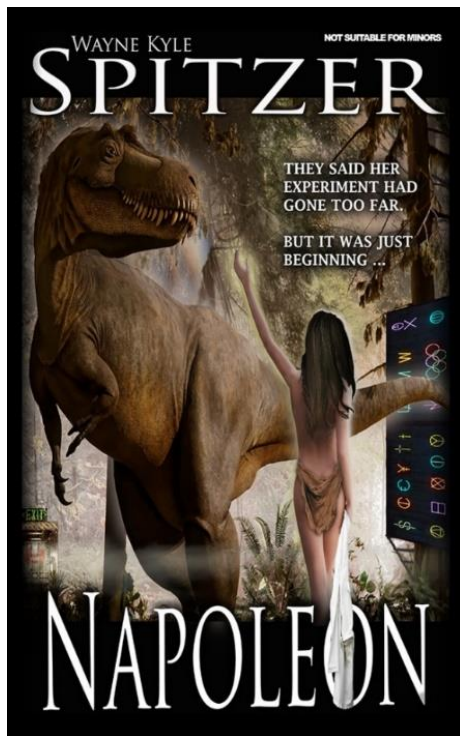
This book is about Hap Murphy who for most of his adult life was a tugboat captain who moved logs up the St. Joe River to Lake Coeur d' Alene and to the sawmills. Being a good storyteller, it's full of many entertaining, interesting, and humorous stories. I really enjoyed reading *My First 90 Years* and I recommend it to anyone who likes a good read.



Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

My Name Is Tamar tells the story of a young Canaanite girl, whose character is taken from the Bible, Chapter 38 in the Book of Genesis. The author tells her story as he imagined it might be. When she is fourteen, she is married to the eldest son of a Hebrew man named Judah. Judah has high hopes that she will produce heirs, especially sons, but instead she experiences rape and much abuse. After her husband dies unexpectedly, she marries Judah's second son who is also cruel and he, too, dies. Judah does not offer his third son because he is afraid that he might die, too. Meanwhile, Tamar is desperate to be married and have children. In disguise, acting as a prostitute, she decides to seduce her widowed father-in-law, who she feels is a good and decent man. This was a very dangerous thing to do, for she could be put to death.

This is a well-written book with well-defined characters. It's a page turner and a good read. I've always enjoyed reading stories taken from the Bible and Jessett did a good job describing what life was probably like back in Biblical times and how poorly and unfairly women were often treated.



Reviewed by Sue Eller

Jan Vasquez, a specialist in animal behavior, finds herself face to face with a dinosaur. A living, breathing, and hungry dinosaur. Her top-secret government job is to find a way to communicate with it. As she draws nearer her goal, strange events lead her to believe someone is trying to sabotage her work.

Wayne Kyle Spitzer shows his mastery of the novella with his succinct character development and plot line. His use of a nine-minute countdown near the end drives the story to its conclusion while it keeps the reader on the edge of his seat.



Reviewed by Betty Deuber

Kari Barr's novel, *Once Again: Tales of Destiny* is for anyone who believes in magic, as well as those who do not. The plot takes many turns as it winds through the lives of humans, *Fair Ones*, and ogres, mixing the worlds of fantasy and realism. The point of view changes in this novel from character to character. The many characters featured in this novel originate in *Faire Realms* (fairy kingdoms). Kari refers to them as *Fair Ones*.

MARA, the main female protagonist, is first introduced as a human. She's a college student studying photography in Seattle, Washington, who has felt different from her classmates since she was a small child. She does and sees weird things no one else experiences. After attempting to tell others about them, she is rebuffed, and learns to keep quiet about her whimsical encounters.

AERRVIN AP ROSEWIN, the main male protagonist, is a *Fairy Prince*. His mother is about to give up her throne, then his sister will be Queen, so he is asked to go to America and create his own kingdom. He's reluctant, until the Wind Sprite, Mirri Sihee, his constant companion and he, all six inches of him, rest on a star fish beached by the tide pool. There she advises him. "My Lord, I do agree 'tis time for you to put aside your childhood... Go make a legend of your search, worthy of the bards of olden time." At 124 years old, he thinks, —

yes, it is time enough I make my own realm. After making his decision known, other *Fair Ones* tell Aerrvin, he needs a wife to do that. Paying no heed to the advice, he transposes to America, as a human, and unmarried. He settles in Seattle, Washington, and buys an old laundromat.

MORVAYNE AP STEWART, the villain is an evil elf. Since elves good or bad rank higher in the domain than all the Wee people, he can do anything he wants. For centuries and centuries, he has been bound and determined to marry Mara.

* * *

In this novel, unbeknownst to mortals, many *Fair Ones*— good elves, goblins, brownies, and sprites, as well as evil elves, ogres, and trolls, inhabit the human world.

At twenty, Mara studies photography at the university. On weekday mornings, she waits at the bus-stop at the corner, near the Victorian home she inherited, for the ride to the university. One day, in 2009, she notices the old laundromat across the street is getting a new face; unfamiliar young people are renovating it. It's starting to look like a quaint gift and antique shop, and she thinks it will spice up the neighborhood. A slight wind ruffles the long blonde hair of one of the young male workers. A glow encircles him, and she names him Mr. Sunshine, a golden boy. A split second before she boards the bus her stare meets his, and a strange force sweeps through her body.

That morning, while working on the building, Aerrvin rests a moment, wipes his brow, and looks across the street. He sees a girl, a girl with an aura about her, when suddenly the bus pulls up. For a second, before she boards it, the *Fairy Prince* feels the girl's emotions brush against his soul, and he's able to flash his "Purple and Gold Brilliance." He stands in awe. *Did she feel it? Would he see her again?*

Later in the day, Aerrvin and his workers meet other humans. Jill, a human, a baker and Mara's roommate, immediately plans a block party for the new neighbors.

Still, in 2009, Morvayne lurks and waits for his chance to marry Mara.

SASP NEWS

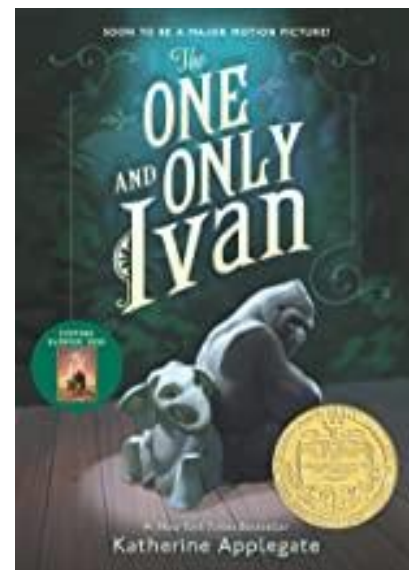
* **

Only some characters in Kari's story have the power or magic to change from *Fair Ones* to humans and back again. When Mara discovers she has that power, she accepts she is one of few who inherits the genes of magic. Suddenly, she understands why she feels fulfilled in the morning, after waking from the dreams she has had of dancing in the magic kingdom with fairies, brownies, sprites, and all *Fair Ones*, and why those night fantasies were not dreams at all. Mara unknowingly penetrated the void into the land of fairies and had actually danced all night. Whilst falling in love with Golden Boy in both spheres, Mara seems to have little concern with destiny. The evil elf, Morvayne, seems to dwell on it.

* * *

Throughout the book, Kari's prose often sounds like poetry. She understands the Wee people's life style so well; she makes the unbelievable, believable. Who knows, she may be a *Fair One*.

Once Again: Tales of Destiny deserves five jingles from Tinker Bell.



By Katherine Applegate

Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

The One and Only Ivan is a wonderful story. It won the Newberry Medal in 2013 and will soon be a movie. It's a work of fiction but was inspired by the true story of a gorilla who

lived for 27 years at the B&I Shopping Center in Tacoma, Washington. During that time, he never saw another of his own kind. Finally, he was moved to the Zoo Atlanta in Atlanta, Georgia, where he lived for 23 more years until his death in 2012 at age 50. He liked to paint and was known for his paintings. In 2016, a 600 lb. statue of him was placed outside Point Defiance Zoo in Tacoma, Washington. An interesting point of information for me was that my husband saw him when he lived in Tacoma in the 60s.

The author tells the story of her main character in his own voice. It begins with him saying, "Hello, I am Ivan. I am a gorilla. It's not as easy as it looks." Thus, he tells his story of how he has lived in a shopping mall in a glass enclosed cage for 27 years. He tells how he spends his time looking back at mall customers as they curiously watch him through the thick glass, how he likes to draw and paint, and watch TV. He makes friends with a small, stray dog named Bob, Stella an elephant, Ruby a baby elephant, and Julia, the janitor's daughter, who comes many nights to sit outside his cage to do her homework and draw pictures. After Stella dies, he becomes obsessed with a plan to have him and Ruby moved to a zoo.

This story is very well written and is a page turner. Ms. Applegate has created wonderful characters that make you care about them, while at the same time taking the reader into the cruel world of exploiting animals without any thought to their well-being. I recommend this book for children or adults who like to read about animals. It would also be an excellent read-aloud book to children at home or in the classroom.

(Available on Amazon or Kindle at:
www.amzn.com/dp/0061992275 or
www.amzn.com/dp/B005DIB5GG)

Out of Hitler's Shadow

(Sorry, no cover image currently available)

By Roderick Stackelberg

This book is subtitled: *Childhood and Youth in Germany and the United States, 1935 – 1967*. It is the first volume of Stackelberg's autobiography and covers the earlier portions of his life.

Those first years are unique. One of four children born to an American mother and German father, the book first details his parents' family histories and briefly describes how they met. As the Second World War begins, his mother elects to keep the family in Germany with her husband. Celebrating his tenth birthday on VE Day, young Stackelberg, his siblings, and his mother eventually return to the United States. His father, now separated from his mother, remains in Germany.

Based largely on journals the writer kept from an early age, the major portion of this book deals with life after having permanently returned to America. He describes life as a high school and college student in the 1950s. There is also a stint as a US Army draftee, in which Stackelberg is assigned to forces based in Germany. As the book nears the end, one finds the author searching for a meaningful career and becoming more and more curious about past events that have shaped his life.

The writer is a very well-educated individual, and the quality of writing reflects this. It is very much in the academic style and at times proves to be dry and unexciting. Still, it is filled with facts, reflections, and admissions. It tells a very unique and personal story. If for any other reason, Stackelberg should be commended for baring his soul and making public his imperfections.

A professor emeritus of history at Spokane, Washington's Gonzaga University, Stackelberg has written several books on Germany and the history of National Socialism. This first part of his autobiography was self-published through *iUniverse*. The book has an ISBN of 978-1-4502-6033-6 and retails for \$16.95