



SASP

NEWS

October 2021

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



BOO!

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 first Thursday of each month at **Golden Corral**, 7117 N. Division Street, in Spokane.

Presentations begin at **2:30 pm**. The room opens at **2:00 pm** so members and guests can dine, visit, join, pay dues, browse, and perhaps buy each other’s books. After short break, members and guests relate their accomplishments, mention upcoming activities, and we draw for door prizes. Members and guests must be present to win.

Attendees are requested to buy lunch upon entering the establishment, and to leave an appropriate tip for the waiter/waitress. Currently we are required to wear masks unless seated at a table and eating.

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, including those of many SASP members.)

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. Please take books you provide for display. We provide space for displaying your books, but you must bring them to each meeting.

Submission Deadline: Items to be included in the next edition of SASP NEWS must be received by the editor a week prior to the next scheduled meeting. **October 28th for the November 2021 issue.**

2021 Officers: (Elections coming)

President:

Vice-President: *Sue Eller*
(509) 499-2012 author@emilytracemysteries.com

Secretary: *Linda Sonntag-Noble*

Treasurer:

Newsletter Editor:

Web Master: *Dave McChesney*
(509) 325-2072 (h) daveeva@comcast.net
(509) 768-6178 (c)

Public-Relations:

Marilee Hudon
(509) 325-9465 mjnoduh2@gmail.com

Advisory Board:

Member:

Chuck Lehman
(509) 299-7802 cmlehman4@yahoo.com

Member:

Esther Hildahl
mr.inky@yahoo.com

Member:

“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

OUR NEXT MEETING!

We are scheduled to meet at 2 pm. on Thursday, October 7th at the Golden Corral on N. Division Street. We are planning to have an informal open forum in which members (or guests) may briefly tell us about a key point or influence in their evolution as writer. Was it a particular book you read, a class you took, or perhaps a certain teacher?

FROM OUR ACTING PRESIDENT

Sometimes I come across a marketing idea that excites me.

We all struggle with marketing our books (isn't it enough just to write them?) and if you don't struggle with this particular aspect of writing, please share your ideas with us. Most of the time, the old (rephrased) adage of "if you write it, they will buy it" doesn't apply.



Most of you have your books available for sale on Amazon. Some of you have set up an Amazon author page and linked all your books to that page. I have set up my blog to post to my

Amazon author page automatically, which saves time and puts me in front of even more potential readers and buyers.

Another resource is a Facebook author page (separate from your personal Facebook account), which will also receive a copy of your blog post. You can also solicit followers to your Facebook page to visit and sign up from your web blog.

I use WordPress for my website/blog. I have not been diligent about updating it lately,

which I need to do to take advantage of the features listed above, as well as the many other advantages of having a website.

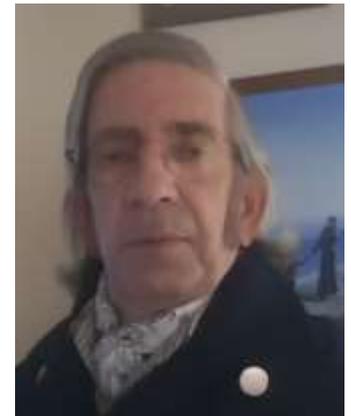
Dave McChesney has done a wonderful job of keeping up with our SASP website. He has created another avenue for promoting your book(s). If you are a member and current with your dues, SASP's website will host an author page for you, and will list all your published works, including thumbnails of the front cover and a link to your book on Amazon.

Finally, and this is the one which really got me excited, I subscribe to *ame* (author marketing experts) by Penny Sansevieri. A link to her newest blog is: [Unique Author Branding and Content Ideas Using October Observances](#). I found it full of ideas and I can't wait to employ some of them.

Sue

FROM YOUR EDITOR, WEB-MASTER, TREASURER

While we sent out a request for volunteers nominations to fill our ballot and enable us to have elections this fall, it seems that we do not have candidates for all positions. Nor do we have any position with more than one individual vying for it. Currently we have individuals who have agreed to run for and serve as president, vice-president, treasurer and one of the advisory board positions. We need someone to run for and serve as secretary and fill the other two advisory board spots. If you currently hold any of these positions and want to continue, let us know so we can add you to the ballot.



The positions of Public Relations, Web-Master, and Editor are not elected but are filled by volunteers. Those individuals have indicated they will continue.

Please let it be known if you wish to stand for a particular office or position no later than Thursday 21 October. That will allow time to get a ballot assembled and sent out no later than Thursday the 28th. It can then be filled out and returned or brought to our meeting on Thursday 4 November. (We'll also have blank ballots there for those who forget or don't get them.)

Because of the Pandemic we haven't been screaming for dues, but as we get back to meeting on a regular basis, we need to have everyone up to date. We want people who are running for office to be current, and we want people who vote to be current. Please check the current and accompanying roster to see if you need to pay. You can bring cash, check, or a money order to a meeting or mail a check or money order for \$15.00 to:

Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers
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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.

If you are ever looking for our mailing address, it's on the front cover of each and every issue of SASP NEWS, as well as at this spot in each newsletter.. It's also on the Welcome Page and the Membership Forms page of our web-site. I hope that helps.



OUR SEPTEMBER 2021 MEETING

No doubt, due to the ongoing Covid-19 Pandemic, our meeting on September 2nd was rather sparsely attended. Members present included Vice-President Sue Eller, Treasurer, Webmaster, and Newsletter Editor Dave McChesney, Caryl Briscoe-Michas, Stan Parks, and Larry Danek. We also had two

guests, Bob Slack and Mikel Reuter, in attendance.

Perhaps the most important thing Sue pointed out was that now we are scheduled for the meeting room from 2 to 4 pm, which means we need to be a bit more expeditious in our meetings.

While we discussed a few other topics, the most important was elections, brought about primarily because our President, Jim Parry, felt he needed to resign. After doing a little research and putting one's memory to work, it turns out we should have held elections at this time last year. However, we delayed them due to the pandemic, and we weren't meeting at the time. To stay on schedule and within the process as much as possible, here's what we plan to do.

If you wish to run for any SASP office or know of someone who would do a great job in one of our positions, please forward your name or the name of someone you wish to nominate to SASP before our October 7th meeting. At that point, we'll approve the ballot and then send it out to all eligible members so they can vote and return it before or at our November 4th meeting. Ballots will then be counted, and the new officers announced. New or reelected officers will begin their terms of service in January 2022.

For votes to count or to serve as an elected official of Spokane Authors and Self-Publishers, you will need to be up to date on your dues. Because we extended dues by a year due to the pandemic, most members are current for 2021, and a number have already paid for 2022. Some, even with the extension of the dues, were last paid in 2020 or even 2019. If you find yourself in that situation and wish to run, vote, or serve, you will need to pay dues for 2022 and the remaining third of 2021, a total of \$20.00. Dues can be mailed to our Post Office Box at:

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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/thumbnaill
 - 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

As you know, I, Tiffani Harvey quit my
advisory board job.

The reason I didn't show up in August is
I joined a Toast Masters group that meets
every Thursday night from 5:45-7:00pm.

The turn-around time between leaving
Golden Corral and showing up at Corbin
Senior Center gives me no time to refresh and
change gears.

I'm a former perfectionist and take pride
in any and everything I do.

So when I'm unable to give something
my best, I chose not to do it at all!

I might surprise you by coming as a
speaker in the near future!

Author Speaker

Tiffani Harvey

<http://www.responsiblyindependent.com>

MEMBER UPDATES

Upcoming Events

M. J. Hudon, Larry Danek, and Sue Eller will
be at:

Mount Spokane High School

6015 E Mt Spokane Park Dr. **Oct. 9 and 10**

High Country Orchard Oct. 16-17

and

University High School

12420 E 32nd **Oct. 23-24.**

Esther Hildahl and Dave McChesney will be
at:

Mount Spokane High School

6015 E Mt Spokane Park Dr. **Oct. 9 and 10**

and

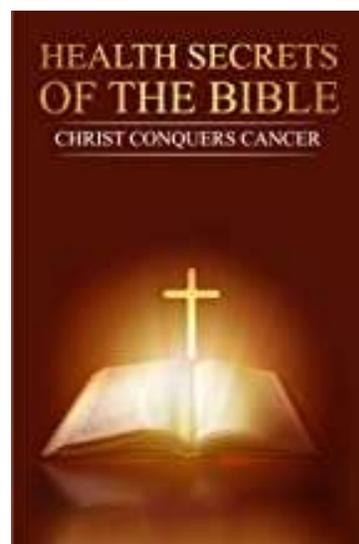
Shadle Park High School

4327 N. Ash St. **Nov 6 – 7**

A Member's Note

Hi SASP friends,

New Books!

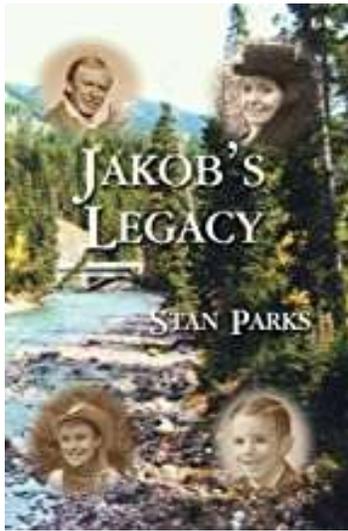


By Sidney Hemmingmoore

A desperate and dying woman cries out to God
and receives a miracle.

www.amzn.com/dp/B09HJJ1K57 (Kindle)

www.amzn.com/dp/B09HG4KHDZ (paperback)



By Stan Parks

Jakob's Legacy is the continuing story of Jakob Miller, a frontier dentist in Sheridan, Wyoming. His family and friends are a part of his legacy, as are his actions, compassion, and service to others.

www.amzn.com/dp/B09HLCNNG21 (Kindle)

www.amzn.com/dp/1685242235 (Paperback)

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

(Recently it seems Amazon is assigning its own unique ASINs to the paperback editions of books, rather than using the ten-digit ISBN as they previously did. In the future we will attempt to point this out in individual listings.)

Sue Eller:

Return from Armageddon

B005JVAJKQ 1477655727

Meadowlark Madness **B0097D599I 1479181714**

Send in the Drones **B07TFDFVS9 1726834662**

The Gluten Free Gourmand

B00TRBKT9U 150853134X

Taming of the T-Bird **B00S2ZDIQTQ 1505963982**

Short Trips to Alternate Universes

B08P342L5V B08P3QTJQL (pb)

Beth Camp:

The Mermaid Quilt and Other Tales

B0090VHKBC 1479180971

Standing Stones **B00I3RYFW6 1494772434**

B01ATPTL5U (audio)

Years of Stone

B00LF3FY4S 1500129585

Rivers of Stone

B077M1TFLP 1545217491

The Seventh Tapestry

B08GJ8VRGL B097SKDWRF (pb)

Poetry in a Time of Pandemic

B0889TDKR2 B088LKFB6G

Kate Poitevin:

Saving Tir Gaeltacht (part One)

1986153959

Saving Tir Gaeltacht (part Two)

1986179486

Saving Tir Gaeltacht (part Three)

1986179923

Joyce Caudel:

The Hat Pin Murders

1936178397

The Hat Box Mystery

1481959107

A Hat to Die For

1530028612

Chuck Lehman:

Angels Three Six

B00KMJXQR8

The Big Woods

B007SQ4CTE

Asher

B00HNZ6TTG

Lazarus Arise

B007R0NPW6

The Shepherd

B00HJBN4P6

Rogue 6

B01H7N8G2G

Exposure: A Story of Survival and Intrigue

B01H5W4V64

Double Exposure

The Apostle's Wife

B07NJ4DFCW 179039239X

B. J. Campbell:

Close Calls: True Tales of Cougar Bob

1936178044

Bob Manion:

<i>Santa's Heroes</i>	1936178095
<i>The Tree House</i>	B004IZLHLE
<i>The Tree House (new edition)</i>	1946882003
<i>Springer's Heart</i>	0978850742
<i>Summer Rain</i>	B00ZM3S2IM
<i>Vampire and the Cop</i>	B00ZM4BBOS
Retitled <i>Vampire Justice</i>	0996864415
<i>Sabrina's Promise</i>	0996864407 097885070X

Sandra L. Mason:

<i>N is for Nativity</i>	1517614880
(Illustrated by Natalie J. Apodaca)	
<i>Into the Fire</i>	B08Z2GX2TC

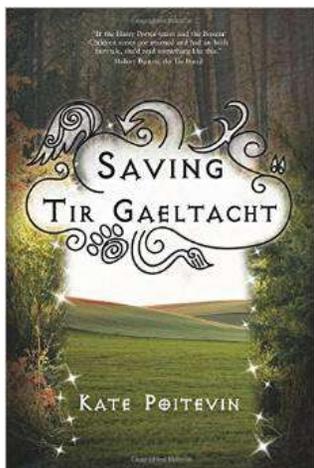
Stan Parks:

<i>Jakob's Ladies</i>	1532910762
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Tiffani Harvey:

<i>A Journey to Independence</i>	1533499438
Revised and retitled <i>Freedom Seeker</i>	
<i>Growing Independent</i>	1533499926
Revised and retitled <i>Freedom Seeking</i>	

FEATURED BOOK REVIEWS



Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

Saving Tir Gaeltacht (Tcheer GAUL toc) is the story of four siblings and their cousin who step through a portal into a strange new world; a world of discovery and adventure. With their bond-mates--a Dragon, a Gryffin, a

Winged Horse, a White Stag, and a Giant Wolfe--they soon discover they are here to save this magical world from the evil queen who rules it, and eventually they go to war to help restore the kingdom to its rightful ruler.

Poitevin has written a wonderful, exciting story with well-defined characters and a great ending, which does not disappoint. I liked that she listed the cast of characters, with a little information on each one, and had a pronunciation guide at the end of her book. I would recommend this book for sixth-graders to adults or younger if read aloud. There is so much to this story that you will want to read it over and over again.

Available at Auntie's, Hastings on Wellesley and East Sprague, Amazon, and Kindle.

Reviewed by Sue Eller

Kate Poitevin weaves an adventure for children of all ages and skillfully entwines the modern world and a timeless one. She paints a vivid picture of life in an old Celtic realm and makes her readers feel as if they could step into the book and be transported there themselves. Rich with descriptions of the places, the people, and the other inhabitants of Tir Gaeltacht, the story itself moves her characters through situations common to us all, and gives them – and us – a chance to learn and grow.

Available at Hastings Books in Spokane and Coeur d'Alene, Auntie's Book Store in Spokane, amazon.com, and the trunk of Kate's car.

Reviewed by James Parry

An epic fantasy destined to become a classic. Ms. Poitevin immediately pulls the reader in. She fully develops each character, so much so that I felt as if I knew each personally. And the same with the setting: It was as if I had actually alighted in this Celtic land with the child warriors - and their bond-mates.

Beautiful, descriptive writing with a great ending. Reminded me of *The Chronicles of*

Narnia. Would make a wonderful movie. Reviewer Mallory Battista said it best: “If the Harry Potter series and the Boxcar Children series got married and had an Irish fairytale, she’d read something like this.”

Reviewed by D. Andrew McChesney

On a summer camping trip, four children go on a dragon hunt with their grandmother. When a portal opens, they step through and immediately meet... a dragon. Thus begins the adventures of Taylor, Jordan, Zach and Zayne in the magical world of Tir Gaeltacht. That Celtic based world is in great danger and Taylor is expected to save it. Later joined by their cousin Gabe, they pair up with the dragon, a Gryffin, a flying horse, a giant Wolfe, and a white stag. With the help of people they meet, they set about rescuing the land from the evil queen’s clutches.

I remember, as an elementary student, teachers reading stories to the class, a little every day, usually as class resumed after lunch. This is the ideal story to read in such fashion. It is long and complex enough to last for an entire semester, if not the entire school year. Third graders and beyond would find it exciting to visit the world Ms. Poitevin creates each and every day. Because I read on my lunch break, I digested this tale took in much the same way, a little bit each day. As I progressed through the story, I found myself not wanting to put it down and anxiously awaiting my next reading session. Although I was anxious for the plot to be resolved, I did not want the story to end.

Besides being an exciting story, Ms. Poitevin weaves in a great deal of Celtic/Gaelic culture, customs, and legend. *Saving Tir Gaeltacht* is available from amazon.com in hardcopy and on Kindle™. It is also available in select Spokane area book stores and from the author herself.

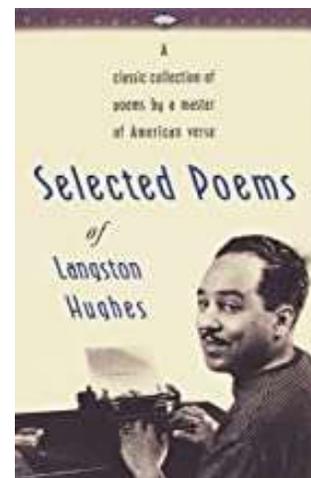
Reviewed by Robert Hildahl

I have read all three books of *Saving Tir Gaeltacht*. They tell the story of four young

siblings who go on a hike and follow their younger brother, Zayne, through a portal into another world. While there they find out they were expected all along and are needed to help save the country from an evil ruler. So with the help of their cousin, Gabe, and their bond-mates: a Dragon, a Gryffin, a Winged Horse, a White Stag, and a Giant Wolfe, they are off to help save the country from an evil Queen. They travel everywhere and have lots of adventures.

This is an excellent series that tells an exciting story. Kate Poitevin is a very good writer and has created interesting characters all throughout her books. I highly recommend these three books for school-age kids to adults.

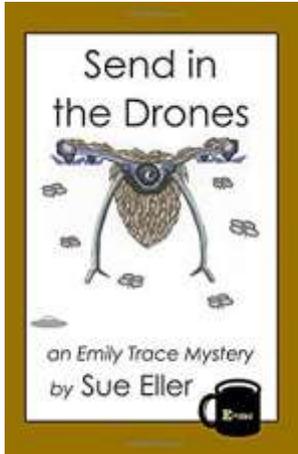
(Editor’s Note: This story was originally published as a single volume. Later it was republished as a three volume set.)



Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

When I was in college many, many years ago, I took a Black History class and was introduced to various Black writers. One of my favorites was Langston Hughes. I loved his poetry and short stories. He wrote over thirty books during his lifetime. First published in 1926, he died in 1967. Recently, I was in Barnes and Noble and purchased two of his books. This particular book, *Selected Poems of Langston Hughes* tells of the experiences of Black men and women in America. He expresses through his poetry the soul of

slaves, of musicians, of the poor. He writes about religion, humor, love, hopelessness, despair, dreams, freedom, and much more. It's a wonderful collection of poems written by a very talented poet. Although depressing at times, I enjoyed reading it and highly recommend it.



Reviewed by Joyce Caudel

E.T. Investigations, some think the E.T. stands for Extra Terrestrial, therefore Emily Trace's client list consist of some strange creatures from outer space and some strange creatures from right here on earth.

Emily, high on caffeine, is told she has two days to vacate her office. The new owner wants to make the building into condos. That alone is enough to keep her whole staff and all her friends busy.

Control freak bully, Charley Russell, wants Emily to close her agency and marry him. Emily's house erupts in flames while she is sleeping, she escapes with her life. Later her car is totaled by a runaway driverless semi-truck. Detective Burton decides Emily needs protecting. Of course, there are all those drones!

Emily finds the key to unlock the mystery of who killed her husband. I hope she can relax for a while, but I'm sure Sue is busy writing the next book in the Emily Trace Mystery series. I thoroughly enjoyed this story as I did the first two in the series. Sue's characters are very believable, in an out of this world sort of way. If you enjoy a good mystery

with a Sci-Fi edge to it, you will enjoy *Send in the Drones* by Sue Eller.

Reviewed by Esther J. Hildahl

Send in the Drones is the third book in Eller's Emily Trace Mysteries series. Like her other books this story is about Emily Trace's detective agency called E. T. Investigations and the current case they are trying to solve. This time it's about tiny drones that attack and then disappear in thin air.

Emily and her employees and friends, three of whom are from outer space, are interesting and well-defined characters. One character is Jake, her former beloved teacher; another is Darla, her trusty secretary; and Detective Burton, who becomes her very good friend. And then there's her wannabe fiancé, Charlie Russell, who turns out to be a control freak and not a very nice person.

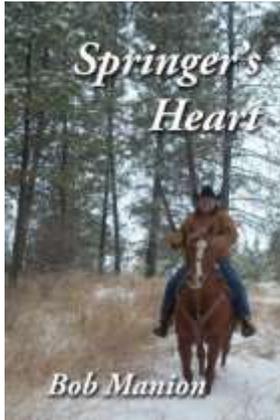
Plus, there are a few things stressing Emily out like having to move her agency in just a few days, her house catching on fire while she is sleeping, and her car being totaled by a driverless semi-truck. Who wouldn't be stressed? And I loved the descriptive way she described her beloved car, Silver Bullet, after it was hit, writing that it sat like a giant silver turtle, resting on its roof with its tires up in the air.

This book is a good read with a surprise ending that calls for another Emily Trace Mystery. I enjoyed reading this book and if you like a mystery with quirky characters, you will too.

Reviewed by Fred Jessett

Send in the Drones is a worthy successor to *Meadowlark Madness* and *Taming of the T-Bird*, the first two books about Emily Trace and her unwittingly named detective agency, E.T. Investigations. As with the first two books, her goal is to find who killed her late husband but she is constantly called on to look into unearthly matters. In doing so she has gained some important allies from another world. Now her friends help her close in on the murderer, while trying to protect her.

No spoiler here, but Emily does have a serious coffee addiction. Read the book, her characters are real and the story is a most enjoyable read.



Reviewed by Joyce Caudel

All I ever needed to learn about the Marine Corp I learned in Springer's Heart.

Marine Sargent Hank Springer loves his life as a Marine but when the love of his life, Lori dies, Hank retires and moves his family to a ranch in Montana. There Hank fills his life with his growing family, orphaned children, ranch hands and the vast land of the beautiful Montana country side. Hanks heart is full of love for all of this but there is still something missing, a hole in his heart until the lovely Bess Clemons comes on the scene.

Springer's Heart is a story full of adventure and romance. Anyone interested in cowboys, cowgirls, rodeos and all the excitement of a good western romance will love this story.

Reviewed by Jim Harris

I met the author, BOB MANION, three years ago at a writer's conference. This summer, I finally bought a copy of SPRINGER'S HEART (ISBN 978-0978850746, trade paperback, \$14.95). From my personal experiences of talking with the author, I knew he was a great storyteller. The book did not let me down. Before I go any further, I have to tell you that based on what the book says its category is "Romance/Western", I would not

have purchased the book. I am not a fan of either "romances" or "westerns". SPRINGER'S HEART is mainstream fiction with romantic situations in a western setting (Montana primarily). There are some rodeo scenes thrown in for background that I found to be informative but not boring in the least.

The story begins with a horrific, fatal car crash. Then Hank Springer's life story unfolds with the one great romance of his life. That produces three great kids - two boys and a girl - who turn out to be wonderful adults. Hank serves in the U.S. Marine Corps for over twenty years. When Hank's wife dies of a serious disease, he moves his family to the ranch in Montana owned by his foster parents. The kids grow up and two move away while one son stays behind. Eventually Hank ends up being the foster parent for the three kids orphaned by the fatal car crash in the opening chapter. Total strangers meld into a happy family.

This happy circumstance begins to show cracks when Hank and his son fall in love. And it is a Mother/Daughter combination! Hank adopts another orphan girl who is being stalked by her mother's killers and who raped and nearly killed her. How it all ends makes a wonderful tale. These are characters you will fall in love with. You will find yourself cheering for them in good times and crying with them in bad times. I highly recommend this story for ALL readers. I am happy I did not let the "Romance/Western" keep me away from an inspiring tale.