

# BOOKMARK



## *Fiction and Nonfiction News from Janet Litherland*

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### REVIEWS

#### Potpourri

**Bookmark** is now 10 years old! I had decided last year that 10 years would be enough. However, so many of you continue to send encouraging comments, that I'm re-thinking that decision. Actually, I enjoy compiling all of this "stuff." And I'm glad you enjoy it too. Let's continue!

Someone recently asked if travel has influenced my novels. Yes, definitely! Ireland inspired *Chain of Deception* and *The Long Road Home*. *Song of the Heart* grew out of visits to Wales and England. And I wrote *Forever Is a Long, Long Time* after a wonderful trip to Scotland with my son and daughter-in-law. Closer to home, I visited the ruby mines of Tennessee for *Sweet Justice*. Accurate settings are important, and I like to "feel" the places I write about.

Here's a writing exercise for you. Yes, for YOU: Write about the most beautiful place you've ever seen. Describe it in detail. Now explain *why* you like it: How does it make you feel? Does it evoke memories? Speaking of memories, have you begun writing your *memoirs* yet? Remember, no one else will, or can, do that little job for you. It's *your* life, *your* story, and it will be important to your children and grandchildren. Begin writing that story. Now! ☺

**Janet Litherland's books  
are available at:**

Amazon.com  
and other online stores.

***Here We Go!*** (Garnett C. Brown, Jr., 2014). This wonderful memoir is subtitled, ***Recollections from the Golden Age of Airlift***. The author, called "Charlie" Brown by his Air Force buddies, writes about huge transport planes (C-124s) and their crews, using a light touch that makes the reading not only understandable but extremely enjoyable! Brown speaks from the pilot's seat, relaying flying adventures and journeys to France, Iceland, Greenland—yes, across the Arctic Circle—and other places during the 1960s. Pictures throughout add much interest to the stories. Later serving with the Joint Chiefs of Staff and with the U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, Garnett Brown is now a retired Air Force Colonel. He has been one of my long-distance friends for many years, and I highly recommend his book! Only after reading his memoir did I realize that I had been "transported" on a C-124 (not Charlie's) back in 1960, when I was part of a musical troupe performing at Air Force Bases around the Arctic Circle. Memories for me, too!

***Accused*** (Lisa Scottoline, 2013). This is a five-star legal thriller! From the author's Rosato & Associates series, comes a unique case, brought to the firm by a 13-year-old genius who can legally afford to pay from her own trust fund, even though her parents don't approve. She, Allegra Gardner, believes the young man in prison for killing her sister is innocent, and she wants to re-open the case. The whole situation—child client, convicted killer—is risky, but Rosato & Associates thrive on risk. Following Mary, the lawyer, through this one will keep you up all night! The author is a former litigation lawyer. Her style is punchy, often funny, and always exciting.

***Power Play*** (Catherine Coulter, 2014). Natalie Black, the U.S. Ambassador to the United Kingdom, claims that someone is trying to kill her, but no one believes her—except FBI Special Agent Davis Sullivan. The author's recurring characters, Savich and Sherlock (a married FBI couple), get on board with Sullivan to save not only the ambassador's life but also her job. A nail-biter!

***It Only Took A Look*** (Daniel Gaultney, 2015). I don't often read science-fiction/occult novels, but the premise of this one intrigued me, especially since I'm acquainted with the author. What in the world (or *out* of the world) was he up to? Joanna is a *good* witch who lives in the real world with her husband, Aaron, her true love. Aaron knows nothing of her witchery talents, but he benefits when she removes obstacles from his career path. Unfortunately, Joanna's ancestor, Jolina, who dwells in the spirit world, disapproves of Aaron and has the power to destroy him. Are Joanna's powers strong enough to fight Jolina and save her husband? "Dreamscapes" (alternate realities), embracing days gone by, are fascinating and right on target. Characters are well-developed; however, since the writing style is chatty and detailed, don't expect a quick resolution to this story—just sit back and enjoy the "telling"!

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

FICTION AND NONFICTION NEWS  
FROM JANET LITHERLAND



*I love to hear from my  
readers!*

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**BOOKMARK ON THE WEB!**  
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Hope you enjoy these interesting phrases from Shakespeare, via BBC America:

*“I do desire we may be better strangers”* (From *As You Like It*)  
Translation: Consider yourself unfriended.

*“I’ll tickle your catastrophe”* (From *Henry IV, Part 2*)  
Translation: I’ll not only bring about your downfall, I’ll enjoy it too.

*“You are not for all markets”* (From *As You Like It*)  
Translation: In love matters, you’d be well advised to take whatever you can get.

*“Candle-waster”* (From *Much Ado About Nothing*)  
Translation: Someone who works or reads late into the night.  
Are any of you folks out there candle-wasters? Bet you are!

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*The Crime of Our Lives* (Lawrence Block, 2015). This is a book about authors of crime fiction, including Raymond Chandler, Dashiell Hammett, Evan Hunter, Mary Higgins Clark, Edgar Allan Poe, and 14 others. Block discusses each author with his signature light-hearted, engaging style. A diversion chapter is devoted to his working for the Scott Meredith Agency back in the 1950s. It’s an eye-opener that includes having to write “true” magazine stories that weren’t true at all. Hmm... Interesting book.

## Language

I’ve recently noticed a new trend, both in “real life” and on TV: Beginning comments with “So...” as in, “So... What do you think about it?” Or, “So... Let’s go to the coffee shop.” So... Do we really need the “So”?

“Bugs” from a Thomasville friend: Using the second choice preventative rather than the preferred preventive, as in preventive medicine. And, “I’m going to see if I can’t (do something),” instead of “I’m going to see if I CAN (do it).”

One of my own “bugs”: Someone who owns or manages a restaurant is often called a restauranteur. Not true. He/she is a restaurateur!

From Patty in Calhoun, via [mentalfloss.com](http://mentalfloss.com): Words/phrases that are their own opposites. Garnish = Add, as a food decoration; or take away, as wages. Wind up = To start something; or, to end something.

New word: poetaster. No, it’s not PO-taster. It’s po-it-AS-ter. Definition: “An inferior poet.” Yep, true. Look it up!

Read back issues of *Bookmark* online at: [www.janetlitherland.com/newsletter.htm](http://www.janetlitherland.com/newsletter.htm)



**Bookmark**  
Janet’s Book News

**Janet’s Ratings:** Scaled 1 - 5 ★=OK, ★★★★★=Fantastic!

*The Angel Court Affair* (Anne Perry, 2015) ★  
*Cash Landing* (James Grippando, 2015) ★★★★★  
*Deep Pockets* (Linda Barnes, 2004) ★★

Janet Litherland, author of 10 nonfiction books and eight novels, also is editor emeritus and former owner of Write Choice Services, Inc., a book-development company that aspiring authors can find at: [www.writechoiceservices.com](http://www.writechoiceservices.com).