



BOOKMARK



Fiction and Nonfiction News from Janet Litherland

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REVIEWS

Potpourri

In the last issue of *Bookmark* I told you that my granddaughter, Carrie Litherland, was running for Mayor of Tallahassee, Florida. Well she didn't win; however, she ran a great race, and I am very proud of her!

Now that I'm signing off, here is what I have been doing, and will continue to do, for fun! In addition to church activities and volunteering at the library, here are my favorite pastimes:

Three times a week I attend the AIM (Adults In Motion) class at the YMCA for an hour of great exercise. Last month I began my 16th year with that class!

For the past two years I've belonged to a bowling team, meeting once a week. I'm not a great bowler, but I enjoy trying, and I especially enjoy being with my team members!

And, for the past seven years I have ... yes ... played BINGO every Thursday night! For me, winning is not important—the fun comes from being with my “Bingo Buddies,” laughing and having a good time in a nice place!

I also enjoy being with my family and “doing lunch” often with friends.

You see, I'll have plenty to keep me busy in my “Sunset Years.”

Be happy for me!

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

Amazon.com
and other online stores.

“Whether you think you can or you think you can't—you're right.”
—Henry Ford

The President Is Missing (Bill Clinton and James Patterson, 2018). I was looking forward to reading this one because of the two things mentioned on the fly leaf: “Details only a president could know, and the kind of suspense only James Patterson can deliver.” Makes sense. Except it didn't. For me, anyway. I waded through it but was disappointed in the rambling plot. Try it. See what *you* think.

Killer Chef (James Patterson, 2016). Here's another—very different from the above—Patterson novel. In addition to his full-length novels, Patterson writes “Book Shots,” which are short, easy to read, and fun to figure out. In this one, just 125 pages, a homicide cop (who is also a chef) is trying to catch a killer who is poisoning people in restaurants. I enjoyed it. (Actually, I was drawn to the title because I like to watch The Food Network on TV!)

A Painted House (John Grisham, 2012). This is unlike any Grisham novel I have ever read, and I've read plenty of them. It's a mystery, sort of. Mostly, it's a literary novel about a family who owns a cotton farm, their migrant workers, and their 7-year-old son, Luke. It is 1952, and Luke sees things he probably shouldn't see. The story includes murder, passion, a fatherless baby, and—oddly—someone has begun painting the old and worn boards of the farmhouse white. Who is doing it? Why? Should Luke tell what he knows? I enjoyed reading it, but (for me) it isn't the can't-put-it-down kind of Grisham I'm used to reading.

Finding Martha Lost (Caroline Wallace, 2016). Martha is 16 years old, lost since she was a baby, abandoned in a suitcase on a train. Since then, she's been in the “lost property” office at the train station—eventually working there—waiting for someone to claim her. There are other mysteries for her to solve—a suitcase that may have belonged to one of the Beatles, and a stuffed monkey that keeps reappearing. But not until anonymous letters begin to arrive does she find clues to her identity. This was an enjoyable, easy read.

Liar, Liar (Lisa Jackson, 2018). Didi Storm, an ex-beauty queen and celebrity impersonator, has been missing for twenty years. At that time, her daughter, Remmi, saw Didi give one of her newborn twins to a stranger before she disappeared. Remmi has been searching for her mother and her half-sibling ever since. Plot twists keep this “search” book interesting, but I had one problem reading it—the author's “potty mouth.” I just don't care for trash talk.

FAVORITE AUTHORS

FICTION AND NONFICTION NEWS
FROM JANET LITHERLAND



*I love to hear from my
readers!*

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For this last issue, I thought it might be good to look at some of the authors we've explored together over the years. Since I choose mysteries for "escape" reading, that's what most of the following authors write.

Jeffrey Archer	David Baldacci	S.J. Bolton
Lawrence Block	Sandra Brown	Stephen J. Cannell
Lee Child	Mary Higgins Clark	Harlen Coben
Michael Connelly	Robin Cook	Patricia Cornwell
Catherine Coulter	Deborah Crombie	Jeffery Deaver
Nelson DeMille	Linda Fairstein	Joy Fielding
Ken Follett	Stephen Frey	Lisa Gardner
Tess Gerritsen	Sue Grafton	James Grippando
John Grisham	John Hart	Jack Higgins
J.A. Jance	Jonathan Kellerman	John Lescroart
Peter Lovesey	Michael Palmer	James Patterson
Ian Rankin	John Sandford	Lisa Scottoline
Donald E. Westlake	Stuart Woods	

If you like mysteries with a touch (or sometimes more than a "touch") of comedy, I recommend Lawrence Block's Bernie Rhodenbarr series. For example, *The Burglar Who Thought He Was Bogart*, and *The Burglar Who Traded Ted Williams*. Also try Donald E. Westlake's John Dortmunder series, such as *What's So Funny?* And *Get Real*.

ENJOY!!

Language

Heard on TV:

Crazy pronunciations:

Shtrawberries (strawberries) — a chef
Shtrong shtorms (strong storms) — a meteorologist
Wronguh (wrong, with a "hard" g) — a quiz show contestant
Supposebly. No; supposedly is correct.

Also:

"She made a very excellent point." Really?
A person being interviewed on the news began answers to two different questions with, "I mean..." which meant absolutely nothing!

Worth repeating: Myriad is not a noun, as in "a myriad of problems." It's an adjective, as in "myriad problems."

Do you know what a slugabed is? One who is inclined to stay in bed! Anyone I know??

Tempus fugit: Time flies. Yes, it certainly does! Goodbye everyone. It's been fun!



Bookmark
Janet's Book News

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

London (Edward Rutherfurd, 1997) ★★★★★

Liar (K.L. Slater, 2017) ★★★

Twisted Prey (John Sandford, 2017) ★ (Very Disappointing)

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.