



# NEIL TURNER READER'S CLUB

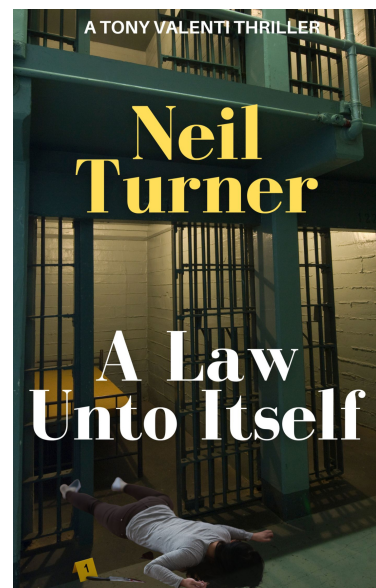
Greetings!

Wow! We're already into August! Given the insanity of the weather this summer, I hope none of our readers have been severely impacted, and that this summer is a bit of an anomaly and a warning, rather than our new normal. I have a little writing news, a little book sale tease, and Deano is waiting in the wings to hold forth on his favorite subjects ... himself and food. Let's get right to it!

## The latest Tony Valenti news

### Hot off the press

The next Tony Valenti novel, *A Law Unto Itself*, is now available for presale, with an April 16, 2024 release date. Check out the lame cover ... this is what happens when I'm left to my own devices! Actually, to put the book into pre-sale, I needed a cover of some sort, so I threw this together. There will be a do over in a few months—once I'm sure exactly how I want it to look. Here's the setup for the novel:



*Newly appointed sheriff Lisa Murphy's official investigation into the murder of an inmate at a private prison has been stymied at every turn, and she suspects that members of her own force and the county prosecutor helped torpedo the effort. The prison is owned and operated by Buck Stevens, the kingpin of business and politics in LaSalle County—a man the sheriff has learned to distrust and fear. Sheriff Murphy steers the victim's parents to Tony Valenti and his partners, hoping to leverage the machinery of a wrongful death lawsuit to get to the bottom of what really happened.*

*Tony's team soon discovers a deep vein of corruption that pervades the county, poisoning everything and everyone it touches.*

*Determined to expose the rot and bring the killers to justice, Tony and Sheriff Murphy soon find themselves battling a ruthless cabal engaged in a conspiracy sinister enough to kill for.*

*It's a deadly cat and mouse game in which Tony doesn't know who—if anyone—he can trust. Either justice will prevail or the body count will grow. Will Tony or one of his associates be the next victim?*



## Win an eBook

### Food fight!

With a new book underway, it's time for one of my favorite Reader's Club contests! *A Law Unto Itself* opens during a hot Chicago summer, which is picnic time, right? Tell us what dishes constitute a perfect summer family picnic, plus any activities or traditions that are part of a picnic day for you. I'll select one of your entries to use in a scene I'll be writing in the next few weeks. If it's your entry, I'll send you a free eBook copy of *A Law Unto Itself*. Who knows, you might even receive it a week or two *before* its official release date! Please send your entry via the *Contact* page on my [website](#) or send an email to [info@neilturnerbooks.com](mailto:info@neilturnerbooks.com). If you send an email, please type *Food Fight* in the subject line. Thank you!

## Canine humor

### Deano's Corner

My human mentioned the dog days of summer a few issues ago. Allow me to provide an update. When people go on vacation, hiking, lounging at the beach, and whatnot, we canines don't just hang around the front door, moping until they return. When the humans are away, dogs play! Here we are keeping (and being!) cool on a hot August afternoon. Fun stuff! I, of course, own Boardwalk, and have acquired the biggest pile of doggy treats in almost every game this summer! Yes, I did say doggy treats; you'll never catch canines spending hours battling over piles of fake money. Sheesh! You people...





## ... and a little advice

As part of my ongoing series, “How to train your humans”, here’s a free illustrated guide to help you interpret your dog’s body language and behavior. For humans who like to see their dogs excited and living their best lives—and that should be all of you!—I believe it is somewhat self-explanatory, so I will say no more.

## A peek behind the scenes

### Behind the curtain

Thanks to all of you who took a moment to complete the social media survey from last month’s Reader’s Club Update. It confirmed my suspicions about the usefulness of maintaining accounts on three platforms. Most of the interaction I receive on Instagram and Twitter (X if you prefer) is from people with agendas and products to peddle, so I’ve long suspected these platforms haven’t been useful for me. I’m going to stop posting to both. Quite a number of you follow me on Facebook, so I’ll continue there and put some thought into being more creative with it as we go. As time permits, I hope to do a few live events, such as Q & A sessions with other authors. My primary means of keeping in touch will continue to be our Reader’s Club. I’ve been thinking about ways to spice things up; perhaps bonus material such as deleted scenes, character interviews, or a short story featuring a meaningful incident in the life of a character. What do you think of these ideas? Anything else you’d like to see? Please hit reply and let me know.



## Win an eBook!

### Monthly Q & A

What’s on *your* mind? Ask away! I’ll answer one reader question in every Reader’s Club Update. If I choose yours, I’ll send you a





free eBook copy of my next novel! Please send your questions via the *Contact* page on my [website](#) or send an email to [info@neilturnerbooks.com](mailto:info@neilturnerbooks.com). If you send an email, please type *Reader's Club Q & A* in the subject line. Thank you!

Here's this month's question and answer:

Q: Do you listen to audiobooks?

A: What a great and timely question! I mentioned last month that I was working on a deal to have the first eight Tony novels produced as audiobooks, and I'm happy to report the deal has been finalized. To answer the question, the truth is that I can't read fiction that way. I enjoy listening to comedy and have gotten through some non-fiction audiobooks. The problem for me is that I'm easily distracted while reading, often pausing to think about what I've just read—perhaps a particularly clever turn of phrase or description, or simply a bit of information that gets me thinking—and suddenly I'm lost with no idea at what point I stopped listening. Some say my problem is that I'm flaky and have a miniscule attention span. I prefer my explanation. 😊

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That's it for this month. Thanks for being a member of our Reader's Club!

Take care, be well, and happy reading,

Neil



### Neil Turner Books

<https://www.neilturnerbooks.com>

332 - 900 Greenbank Road, Ottawa

Ontario K2J 4P6 Canada



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