



NEIL TURNER READER'S CLUB

Greetings!

My goodness, but it's been a wild summer in terms of extreme weather events. I hope this finds everyone well and hopefully untouched by it all. If not, positive thoughts and well wishes from me to you. Ottawa experienced a *drecho* on May 21st. Don't know what a *drecho* is? We didn't, either. It's a severe windstorm we hope will prove to be a one-off for Ontario. The carnage to trees and infrastructure was stunning, but loss of life wasn't as widespread as it might have been, thank goodness. Our little corner of the neighborhood escaped damage and didn't lose power (some areas did for weeks!) The other side of our street wasn't as lucky. Whew! On to lighter topics.

Last week, I went for my first professional haircut since February 2020. I'd been cutting it myself and decided it was high time to have a professional clean up the mess. Here are the before and after pictures:



Perhaps my DIY job wasn't so bad after all?

This month, we'll introduce you to a fabulous novel by a terrific author and share some exciting book news as well as a major upcoming change in my distribution network. We'll also whisk you away to another location from Tony's world and challenge you to answer a question about it. Finally, as always, someone will win a free copy of a Tony Valenti eBook in our monthly Q & A.



Last month I included a picture of a street scene and asked you to guess what street it represented in the books. Reader Chuck nailed it as Liberty Street. Bravo, Chuck! Here's a new challenge for August: The skyscraper pictured above is the Lake Point Tower condominium building in Chicago. Can you name the character who lived here?

It Isn't Only Kids Going Back to School!

Hot Off the Press!

Along with writing the sixth Tony Valenti thriller, I'm in the process of trying a few new things, such as creating large print editions of all five Tony Valenti thrillers, and a "box set" of books 1 - 3 (a misnomer if ever there was one—it will be a single ginormous eBook containing all three novels). Doing the same in paperback would be prohibitively expensive, so I'm exploring the creation of a package deal at a discount. It's proving to be quite an unexpectedly thorny challenge, so book production class is definitely back in session.



Who Loves to Binge Read?

Behind the Scenes



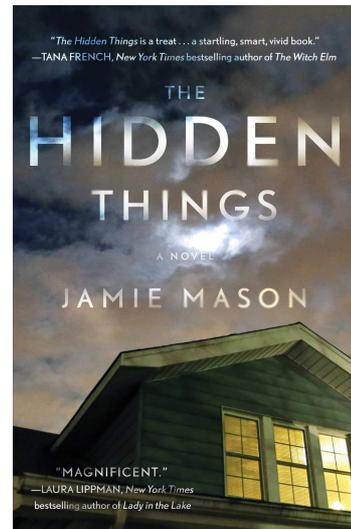
I was invited to add my novels to a reader-oriented website that is attracting a lot of very good authors. It's called BingeBooks. You get the idea, right? There are lots and lots and lots of good stories to be found on this site, including more than a few

bingeable series. It's packed with cool features for readers and authors alike. I'm finding it to be a fun way to discover new books and writers and to learn a little more about them. I'm really enjoying this interface. My profile is now up. Check it out [here](#).

The Hidden Things by Jamie Mason

What's Neil Reading?

You may recall Jamie Mason as one of my self-described "sherpas" at Thriller Fest a few months ago. I'm delighted to tell you that a signed hardcover copy of her novel, *The Hidden Things*, is one of the prizes available in the Deano picture challenge.* Jamie is an exceptional writer; if you haven't read one of her books yet, here's a chance to do so! Click [here](#) to read my BookBub review.



* see [contest details](#)



Win a Free Book!

Monthly Reader's Club Q & A

What's on *your* mind? Submit a question. I'll answer one reader query 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. If you send an email, please type *Reader's Club Q & A* in the subject line. Thank you!

Here are the question and answer from July:

Q: You mentioned that you may be publishing books that are not part of the Tony Valenti thriller series. When can we expect to see those?

A: Good question. My immediate goal is to get book six of the Tony Valenti series into publication, hopefully in October. The other series I mentioned is a political thriller trilogy, of which two manuscripts are substantially complete. As these were written a couple of years ago, I'll circle back to do a little revising to acknowledge the passage of time, but that shouldn't take long. Of course, in book publishing parlance, "not long" can mean months, if not years! If the stars align, I hope to usher these novels into the world sometime this coming winter. Stay tuned!

I mentioned earlier that big changes are afoot with my book distribution. For many, many reasons, I cannot continue to afford the time, effort, and expense of distributing my novels through multiple retailers. I will therefore be publishing exclusively through Amazon's KDP publishing unit, which means my books will only be available for sale in the Amazon storefront and through the Kindle Store. The vast majority of my book sales already take place on these platforms, despite my best efforts to gain traction with Kobo, Apple Books, Google Play, and Barnes and Noble. Sadly, aside from Kobo, these retailers offer independent publishers only nominal visibility on their platforms, and even Kobo's efforts pale in comparison to the resources Amazon makes available. For those of you who purchase eBooks only through one of more of these stores, I assure you that I wish this weren't a necessary step for me to take and sincerely hope our paths will cross again. This process will be complete in a matter of weeks, which provides a short period of time during which my books will remain available outside Amazon.

To be perfectly frank, although I'm somewhat leery about putting all my eggs into a single bucket, Amazon has earned this. It is the only publishing platform that provides me with the tools I need to make my publishing journey viable. A definite upside of this is that my books will soon become available in Amazon's Kindle Unlimited subscription service. Streamlining my publishing business will free up significant time and resources I can devote to writing books, which is what this journey is all about.

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

Take care, be well, and happy reading,

Neil



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