



NEIL TURNER READER'S CLUB

Greetings and Happy New Year!

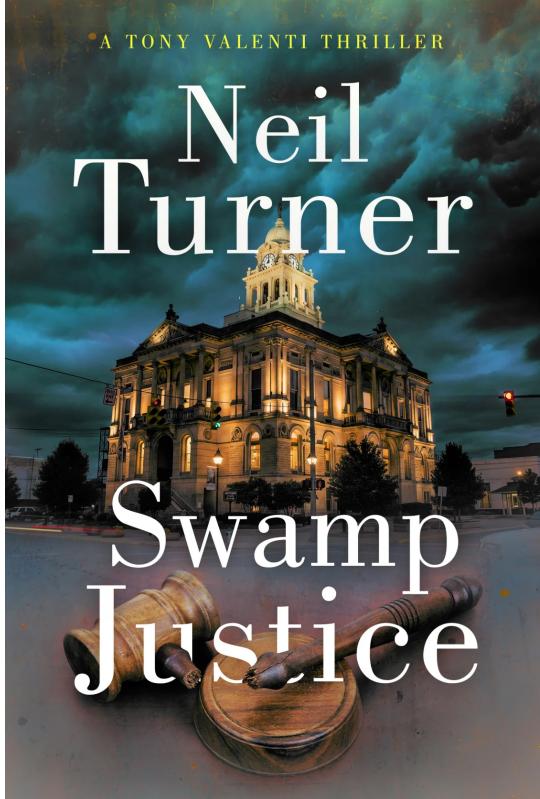
I hope everyone enjoyed the holiday season, whether you celebrate anything in particular or not. We had a relatively quiet, very pleasant Christmas with friends and family, and Santa was pretty good to me! We usually start our monthly updates by telling you about deals on Tony's books, and I see no reason to change that in 2026. I mentioned that we've been running 99¢ Kindle Countdown Deals leading up to the launch of *Swamp Justice* at the end of this month. Countdown Deals still to come are *A Law Unto Itself* from January 14 -18 and *The Usual Suspect* between January 19 - 23. We're also running a Good Reads giveaway for *Swamp Justice*. Enter [here](#) if you're interested. Congratulations to Jan H., winner of last month's Holiday Basket draw. To celebrate the number of novels in the Tony Valenti Thrillers series reaching double digits, we're going to give away *two* Amazon gift cards this month. Simply hit reply and type TEN! to enter. We're debuting a new feature this month, which we're calling "Turner History." We'll also take a peek at what Neil's been reading and, as always, we'll wrap up with our monthly Q & A. Read on

The Latest Tony Valenti News

Hot Off the Presses

What else could it be? The tenth Tony Valenti Thriller, *Swamp Justice*, will literally be hot off the presses two weeks from today! For those of you with fewer than fourteen fingers to count that out on, that's January 29th. This novel has been a

strange and challenging journey. I ended up taking an editing machete to the first draft, which is unusual for me. The novel is still a little longer than my average book, but less so than I suggested in last month's Reader's Club Update. For those of you who might have been planning to add it to your weight-lifting regimen, my apologies. For you impatient sorts out there, yes, I *do* already know what Book 11 is going to be about. Following the January 29th release of *Swamp Justice*, I intend to laze around for the rest of January before hitting the "books" again. I'll keep you posted on my progress. I have a favor to ask of anyone who reads the book. Please leave a review if you possibly can. We're still ramping back up after last autumn's misadventure, and positive word of mouth is extremely helpful. Thank you, thank you, thank you. And if you haven't yet ordered your copy of *Swamp Justice*, you can do so [here](#).



my very first home, army housing at Griesbach Barracks in Edmonton, Alberta, which is the city of my birth (or hatching, as some claim—something to do with being a birdbrain or some such). I spent the first 8½ years of my life living there. Funny how happy a

Is Neil Really an Alien Life Form?

Turner History

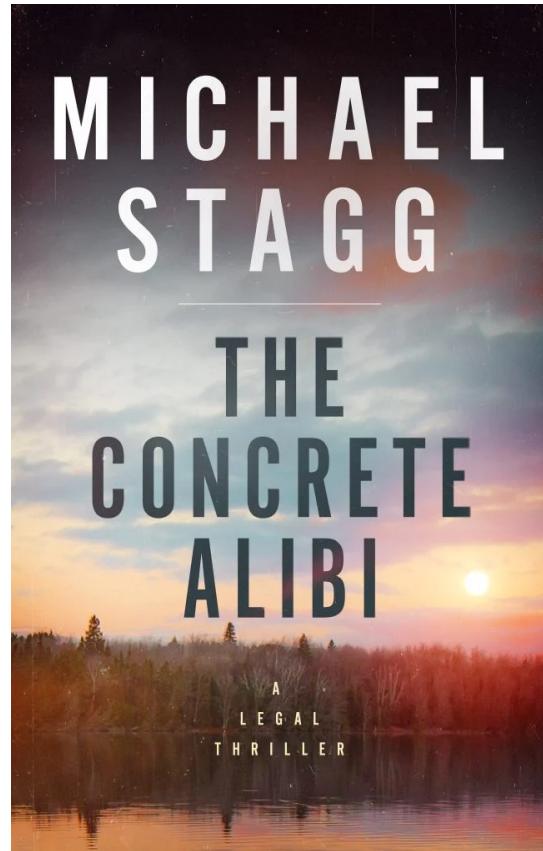
That's just one of the questions we'll explore in this new Reader's Club Update feature. Yep, that's me over there, celebrating my very first birthday—many, many moons ago today, as a matter of fact. Invitees, to the best of my recollection, were the Flintstone and Rubble families, amongst others whose names are lost to history. This photo was taken in

kid can be in a family with next to nothing in terms of material goods or cash for candy. Griesbach Barracks have long since closed, but the house is still there (or was as of a year or two ago). Before anyone mentions it, the big round mound in front of Baby Neil in the picture is a *birthday cake*—not the early stages of my current Santa tummy like a bowl full of jelly! As for why someone worked up that little curlicue of hair on top of my head, I have no explanation. Perhaps there were plans to stuff me into an ice cream cone at the end of the festivities.

The Concrete Alibi

What's Neil Reading

The Concrete Alibi is the first book in a new series by legal thriller author Michael Stagg, whose writing you may know from his excellent Nate Shephard series. The new book introduces Mason Pierce, an interesting protagonist who is light years removed from the polished attorneys we often encounter in fiction. Pierce comes from a blue-collar background and is practicing in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, which Mike does an excellent job of bringing to life. Among the the things I most enjoy in Mike's novels are his strong characters and the effort he puts into getting them out of the courtroom and into the real world. *The Concrete Alibi* centers on the collapse of an outdoor restaurant patio that results in seven deaths and many injuries. Mason Pierce is caught up in the intrigue surrounding the ensuing lawsuits, both criminal and civil. A number of surprising twists and turns lead us to an old crime that played an unexpected role in the current day collapse and its suspicious aftermath. Mason remains steadfast, yet deeply human, as he navigates moral ambiguity, personal loss, and the temptation to take vengeance on the people who are ultimately responsible for both the patio collapse and the murder of a close friend. *The Concrete Alibi* is an exciting start to a new series from an author who reliably delivers one solid legal thriller after another.





Reader's Club 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 one of my novels! Please send your

questions via the *Contact* page on my [website](#) or send an email to info@neiltturnerbooks.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. Our question is from Sharron H, who wins a free eBook. Thanks for asking!

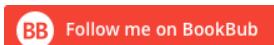
Q: What was your favorite book to write and why?

A: Oh my goodness, Sharron, that's like asking a parent if they have a favorite child! Which reminds me of a joke about having to choose one of your own kids, but-oh, never mind. This is a tough one. There's always the notion of being partial to your first book. After all, it was the initial payoff for the years of toil a writer puts into his or her "first" novel, which is actually the first one that didn't end up in the trash, the bottom of the closet, or perhaps in the back of the sock drawer. In the case of a series, it's also where a writer creates the major characters and the milieu of the novels, which is a lot of fun. So I'm going to say *A House on Liberty Street*, for all of the afore mentioned reasons. (Although there's that whole recency bias thing, right? Which favors *Swamp Justice*. Read 'em both and weigh in with your choice.)

And that's it for this month, folks. Thanks for being a member of our Reader's Club!

Take care, be well, and happy reading (or listening!).

Neil



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