



Greetings!

I hope this finds everyone well. As for me, I'm on the mend from back surgery, which has slowed things down on the writing front. The operation was successful and I'm fine, but recovery is a bit of a grind and I'm not as productive as usual. I was able to visit Chicago for a few days and had a chance to catch up with friends and family I haven't seen for a few years—maybe not my best health decision of late, but it was good to see everyone. I also rounded up some pictures of places I used for settings in the books. I'll share a few of them in the coming months, beginning today.

The Usual Suspects book fair featuring *A House on Liberty Street* is winding down, so if you're interested in the \$300 gift card draw and/or scoping out some good books, you'd best hop to it in the next week or so. You'll find my review of one of the books below, with a link to the gift card drawing and the book fair.

The Deano picture challenge is entering its originally scheduled final month. A quick refresher: I'm looking for a new graphic to use on the Deano's Corner feature. The prize pool is now up to three paperback novels, two of which will be signed—one from me and a second from Jamie Mason. You may recall Jamie from my ThrillerFest posts last month. Many thanks to her for gifting us a novel. The third book is Lisa Gardner's *Before She Disappeared*. If you haven't yet discovered Lisa and her consistently best-selling novels, here's a great chance to do so. Get those entries in!

I'm introducing a new feature this month to let you know how the next book is coming along. More on that below. And, as always, someone will win a free copy of a Tony Valenti eBook.

Read on!



Any guesses as to which street this might be in the Tony Valenti books?

The latest on Book #6

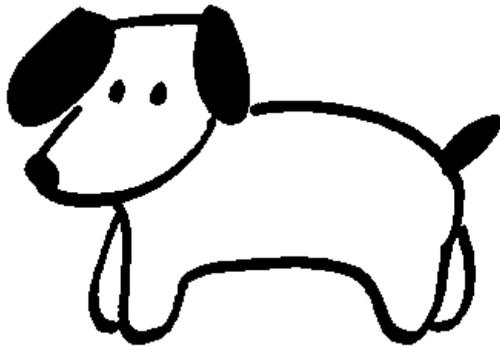
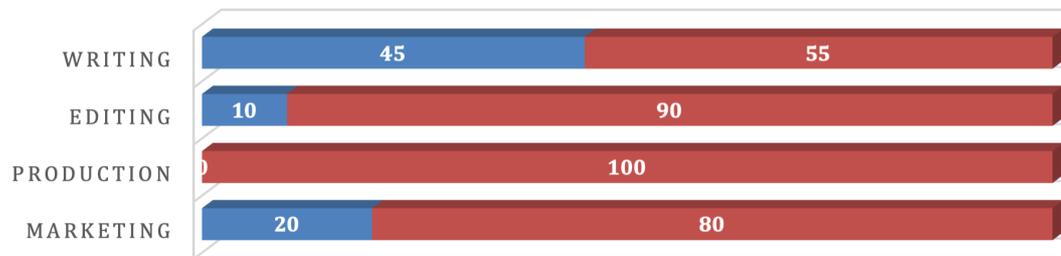
Where's The Next Book?

This story is turning into a bit of a slog due to my back issues. I'm not allowed to sit up for my usual lengthy writing sessions, which has slowed me down, but I *am* making progress. I still hope to release the novel in October. I'm a little over 20,000 words into it, which is about twenty percent of a typical Tony Valenti thriller. The good news is that the first several chapters are always the toughest ones for me to get down. I haven't been totally idle, however, as I've completed most of the research, sequencing, and character development. I've even done some editing and started the marketing plan, so the progress bar reads:



BOOK 6 PROGRESS

■ Complete ■ To do



Rescue Me!

Deano's Corner

I'm growing somewhat concerned about the effort to update the Deano's Corner graphic. Can it be true that some of you *like* the rendering of me here? How can that be? For the

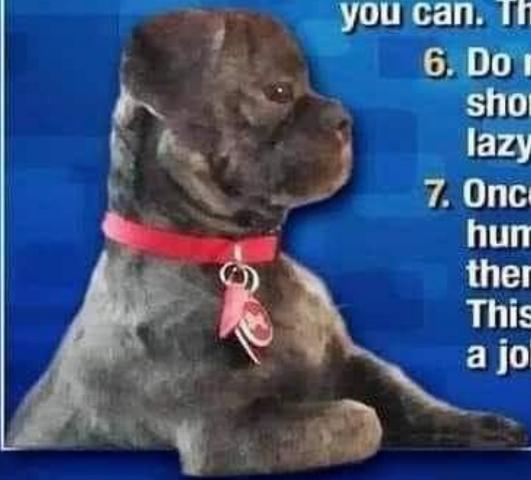
love of all that is good in the four-legged world, *please* get those entries in. Not to cast aspersions, but the meager current crop of entries fail to capture me in all my canine glory. Come on folks, step it up! Here's the deal. We're looking for a photo or drawing of a majestic, gorgeous beast that does justice to our beloved Deano. If you're into oil painting, that works, too. Sculpture? Why not??? Imagine your masterpiece gracing these pages or, perhaps, wowing patrons in an art gallery.

Tips for my canine pals:

HOW TO WALK A HUMAN A Dogs Guide

Humans need exercise. If they don't get it they become "chubby". It's up to you to save them.

1. Allow your human to tether themselves to you. This keeps them from wondering off or running away.
2. Your human will probably need breaks. Be considerate and stop and sniff often.
3. Bark frequently. Humans have short attention spans.
4. When you go to the bathroom, walk away. If you have trained your human correctly, they will pick it up. Good aerobics.
5. Periodically drag your human as fast as you can. This is called interval training.
6. Do not allow your human to shorten the walk. They are being lazy. Sit in protest if you must.
7. Once you return home, allow your human to remove their tether, then lick their face many times. This is positive reinforcement for a job well done.




by George

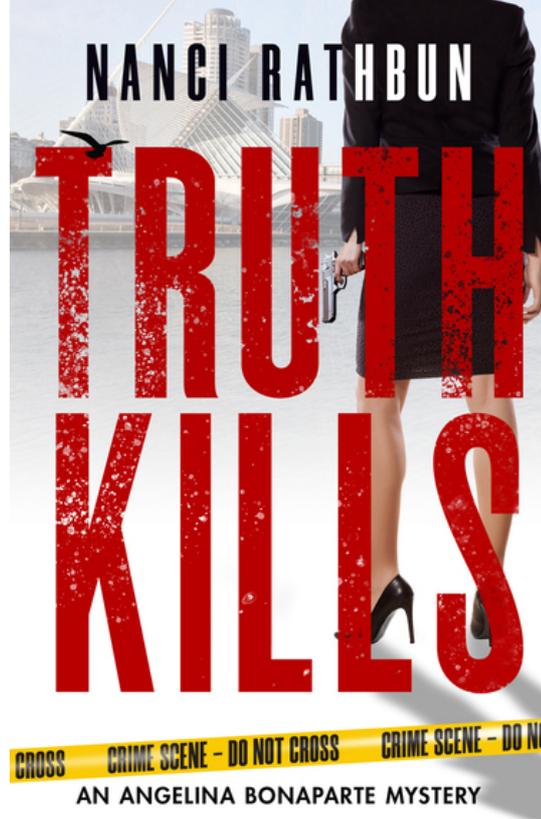
Truth Kills by Nanci Rathbun

What's Neil Reading?

Truth Kills is an entertaining mystery featuring a fun protagonist in PI Angelina Bonaparte, who is hired to find evidence that a mobster did *not* murder his mistress. There is something here for fans of crime mystery, romance, and numerous genres in between. Bonaparte is a winning character with a delightfully dry wit that left me smiling and chuckling throughout the story. The PI is

also fiercely intelligent, resourceful, and abundantly human—winning qualities she demonstrates through thought and deed every step of the way. Nanci Rathbun’s engaging, breezy writing keeps the story moving along briskly. *Truth Kills* is the first book of the PI Angelina Bonaparte Crime Thriller series. I’m looking forward to reading more of these novels.

You can pick up a copy of *Truth Kills* at the book fair [here](#).



Monthly Reader's Club Q & A

Win a Free Book!

What's on *your* mind? Submit a question. 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. If

you send an email, please type *Reader's Club Q & A* in the subject line. Thank you!

Here's the question and answer from June:

Q: Should we be afraid of you?

A: Some context here. I recently had dinner with friends who were curious about my ability to dream up the evil characters and mayhem that appear on the pages of my novels—hence the question above. I replied, hopefully convincingly, that none of it is autobiographical. Maybe they believed me? I guess we'll find out the next time they plan a get together. As for the question: *Am I dangerous?* Well, I didn't answer that directly, did I?



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

Take care, be well, and happy reading,

Neil



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