



NEIL TURNER READER'S CLUB

Greetings,


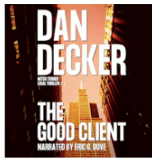



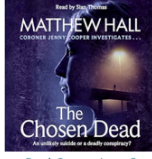

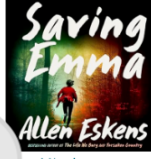


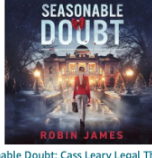




Happy New Year! I hope everyone had a lovely holiday season and that 2024 is off to a good start. I'm hoping this will be my first year in a few that I manage to sneak through without a health challenge or two, which would allow a more productive writing year. Thanks for hanging in with me over the last eighteen months! I'm booked on a few vacations, so I *better* stay healthy. ☐ If so, it's off to the Caribbean next month, a spring trip to Calgary and Southern Alberta this spring to see friends and revisit my high school and young adult stomping grounds, all topped off with a few weeks in Europe over the summer. I'm also planning to make . If you have travel plans for 2024, I hope everything goes smoothly and you have a wonderful time. But that's enough travel talk. We also have book news this month, including an update on the latest Tony Valenti Thriller. As always, you'll have a chance to win a free book. Read on!

The Latest Tony News

Hot off the Press

If you've been following me over the past few months, you're aware of Tony's recent audiobook adventures. As I'm sure you can imagine, holding one of my novels is quite a thrill (and continues to be so, each and every time!), but I hadn't really given any thought to the experience of *listening* to a professional voice actor read a story of mine. Well, it turns out that this is pretty darn cool, too! Thank you Gary Bennett for doing such a superb job of narrating. I was pleased (and surprised!) to discover that *A House on Liberty Street* has clawed its way onto the audiobook bestseller list.



<p>#86</p>  <p>The Burning: Coroner Jenny Cooper, Book 6 Matthew Hall ★★★★☆: 867 Audiobook \$16.73</p> <p>#91</p>	<p>#87</p>  <p>The Good Client: Mitch Turner Legal Thrillers... Dan Decker ★★★★☆: 7,202 Audiobook \$21.88</p> <p>#92</p>	<p>#88</p>  <p>The Narrows: Harry Bosch Series, Book 10 Michael Connelly ★★★★☆: 22,267 Audiobook \$19.78</p> <p>#93</p>	<p>#89</p>  <p>Flashman and the Angel of the Lord: The... George MacDonald Fraser ★★★★☆: 566 Audiobook \$21.52</p> <p>#94</p>	<p>#90</p>  <p>The Woods Harlan Coben ★★★★☆: 21,237 Audiobook \$33.00</p> <p>#95</p>
<p>#91</p>  <p>The Chosen Dead: Coroner Jenny Cooper Investigates... Matthew Hall ★★★★☆: 757 Audiobook \$15.54</p> <p>#96</p>	<p>#92</p>  <p>The Eighth Sister: A Thriller (C... Robert Dugoni ★★★★☆: 34,492 Audiobook \$33.00</p> <p>#97</p>	<p>#93</p>  <p>Saving Emma Allen Eskens ★★★★☆: 295 Audiobook \$35.01</p> <p>#98</p>	<p>#94</p>  <p>A Different Kind of Gone: A Novel Catherine Ryan Hyde ★★★★☆: 2,792 Audiobook \$27.62</p> <p>#99</p>	<p>#95</p>  <p>The Pelican Brief John Grisham ★★★★☆: 9,708 Audiobook \$21.46</p> <p>#100</p>
<p>#96</p>  <p>Seasonable Doubt: Cass Leary Legal Thriller... Robin James ★★★★☆: 1,271 Audiobook</p>	<p>#97</p>  <p>A House on Liberty Street: Tony Valenti... Neil Turner ★★★★☆: 1,710 Audiobook</p>	<p>#98</p>  <p>Lost Proof: Nate Shepherd Legal Thriller Seri... Michael Stagg ★★★★☆: 4,676 Audiobook</p>	<p>#99</p>  <p>To Kill a Lawyer: Atlanta Murder Squad, Book 3 Lance McMillan ★★★★☆: 181 Audiobook</p>	<p>#100</p>  <p>The Client: A Novel John Grisham ★★★★☆: 7,014 Audiobook</p>

Yay!

It just barely squeaked in, admittedly, but there it is! And, of course, the audiobook of *Plane in the Lake* is in final production. It will drop on February 6th! Big thanks to everyone who helped get the word out! You folks are the best!



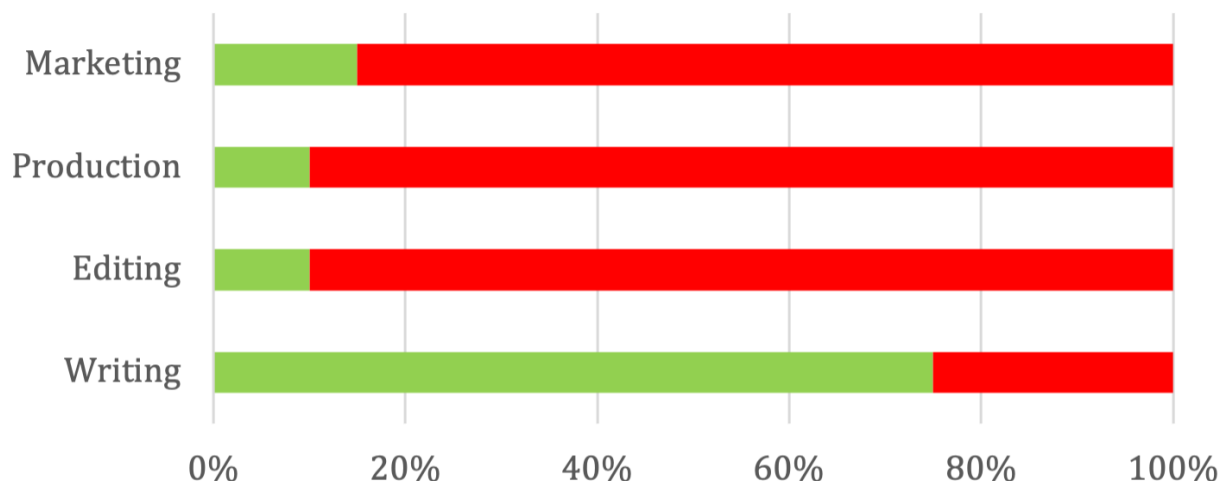
A Peek into the Writing Business

Behind the Curtain

Largely due to the aforementioned health issues, getting through the new story has been a bit of a grind, with some serious fits and starts. That said, we're getting there, and I'm confident we'll have the novel ready to go for its April release date. I better, as *A Law Unto Itself* has already gathered more presales than any of its predecessor, which is very gratifying three months before release!

Here's where things stand with the story as of today:

A Law Unto Itself Progress Chart



What's the book all about? Tony returns to the scene of the crime from a previous book. Will he find himself in peril there yet again? Will he never learn? Let me know what you think after reading this snippet from the novel:

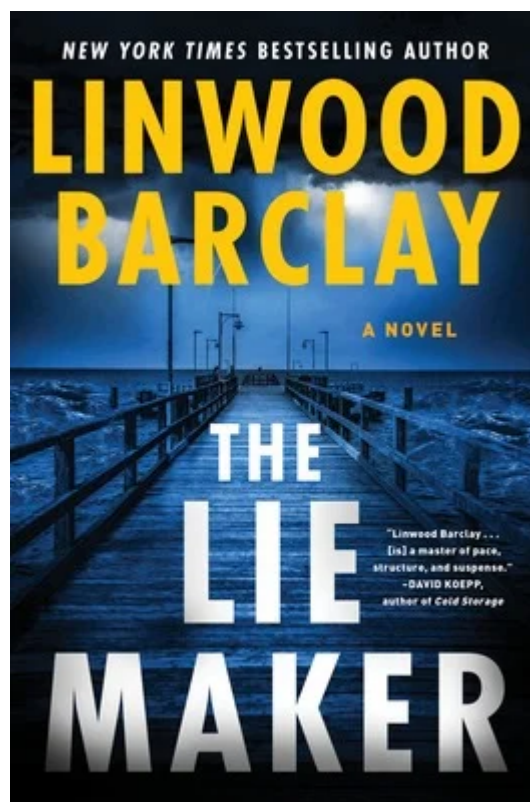
Someone in LaSalle County may be powerful enough to reach inside Stevens Correctional Center to kill and cover their tracks. If so, digging into the county's secrets might endanger an overly inquisitive investigator. I was lucky to escape my last adventure in LaSalle County unscathed—personally if not professionally. Tempting fate there twice might be tempting it one time too many.

The Lie Maker by Linwood Barclay

What's Neil Reading?

I'm a big fan of author Linwood Barclay, who is a fellow Canadian. Linwood has written a string of hugely successful novels over the years, and like a fine wine or whiskey, he just keeps getting better and better. If you haven't yet read one of his books, it's time to do so! Below, you'll find my review of *The Lie Maker*.

Ever wondered how a book character who is a fiction writer might factor into the inner workings of the witness protection program? I certainly hadn't, but Linwood Barclay has. In his most recent novel, *The Lie Maker*, Barclay uses the witness protection



program as a plot device, but takes the premise and adds a unique twist to spin the story off in a totally unexpected direction. Struggling author Jack Givens, whose father was whisked away into witness protection when Jack was a child, is approached by the US Marshalls Service to do some lucrative work for the program. As is often the case in a Barclay thriller, Jack is an unassuming man suddenly caught up in intrigue and danger far beyond his life experience, and we're off on a rollicking, well-rounded, intelligent thriller. The story is peopled by intriguing characters, the writing is crisp, and the peril to Jack and the people in his life unfolds with an urgency that keeps us on the edge of our seat. *The Lie Maker* is Linwood Barclay at the top of his game, and his game is in the upper echelon of today's thriller writers.



Win a FREE eBook!

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 my novels! 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 this month's question and answer:

Question: As a writer, what would you choose as your mascot/avatar/spirit animal?

Answer. What an interesting question. I suppose we'd all like to imagine ourselves as an adorable animal or a majestic beast, or even just a cute little puppy or some such. I'm none of those things, so claiming one of them to represent me seems out of bounds. Besides, the question specifies that I'm choosing an avatar to represent me as a writer, so I'm selecting a beaver. Why a beaver? Well, it's the national animal of Canada and I'm Canadian. It's also a truly industrious little rascal and a writer must be industrious. Finally, you don't have to look far to find people who think beavers are pests. *Voila*, it's me (albeit without the impressive tail and chompers!). So here I am! ☐

That's a wrap. It's been a mild winter so far, but I hope you've kept those blankets handy and plenty of firewood at hand. Winter has arrived in Ottawa, right outside my window. Bundle up, keep warm, and take heart—the days are growing longer already!

Take care, be well, and happy reading!

Neil



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