



NEIL TURNER READER'S CLUB

Greetings!

Plenty of news this month, including some exciting updates about the new book! Somewhat less exciting was the shocking—*shocking!*—arrival of the dreaded white stuff in Ottawa. Yes, that's right, avert your gaze while I utter the four-letter word ... S.N.O.W. For those of us with a severe frozen rain aversion, I can assure you that the trauma *is* real. ☐ Now, in other news...

I seem to have created a little confusion with last month's gift card draw, but Deborah D. nailed it on her first try (and only try, come to think of it). Congratulations! We'll keep things simple this month. Simply reply to this email and type "gift card" in the body of the new message to enter this month's draw. That's it! Good luck!

In addition to the new book and other updates, this month we'll be taking a look at a book by a favorite author of mine. If you think my books drag on and on and on—wait till you see the new one!—I've got nothing on this writer. Of course, his books remain interesting from the first page to the last, so there's that, but one does what one can.

Anyhow, enough of my rambling introduction. Read on!

The Latest Tony Valenti News

Hot Off the Presses

Let's begin with yet another audiobook anniversary deal. Actually, make that two deals! The audiobook of the sixth Tony Valenti Thriller, *The Secrets She Buried*, is turning one year old! To celebrate, our audiobook publisher is offering a deal for 70% off through December 1st. Get it [here](#). Under the heading of things to be thankful for, the series

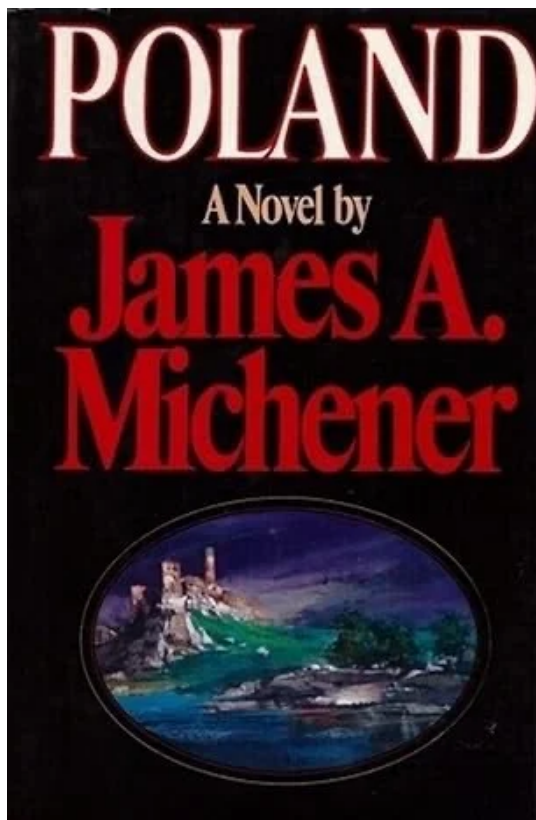


opener, *A House on Liberty Street*, is also on sale in audio through December 1st at 50% off [here](#).

The tenth Tony Valenti Thriller has a name and a cover is in its way! *Swamp Justice* is something of a departure in terms of locale and Tony's lawyering, but I hope all of you'll all come along for the ride. Here's a taste of what's brewing:

Tony Valenti decides to take a closer look after the father of an associate at his law firm is mowed down in the middle of the street in a small Mississippi town—a hit and run the locals quickly pass off as an accident. When Tony discovers what Clay Fish was investigating at the time of his death—not to mention who was most likely behind the wheel—he realizes that Clay's death was no accident. Clay isn't the first person to die to protect a dark secret from the past—nor is he likely to be the last.

Presales for *Swamp Justice* should open within the next week or two, assuming the cover is finalized. I'll post a link where you can reserve your copy on my Facebook author page as soon as it's available, and you should be able to find it in next month's Reader's Update.



Poland by James Michener

What's Neil Reading?

With winter closing in, what better time is there to pull a fifty-pound book (kidding!) off the shelf and curl up with it in front of a fire until spring? I'm a longtime lover of James Michener's sprawling tomes that are a delicious mix of history, geography, and culture—all brought to life by the adventures of sharply-drawn fictional characters. I'm looking forward to continuing my winter tradition of revisiting at least one of Mr. Michener's absorbing

books. What riches I have to choose from: from Iberia to South Africa to the Caribbean to Hawaii and several locations in the continental United States, and even to space—each book a rich, enjoyable experience. Learning has never been such fun!

This season's first "lesson" will be *Poland*, a fascinating venture into a land that I'd always been aware of, yet I lacked even a

rudimentary understanding of its rich history and captivating culture until Michener opened my eyes to it. As always, Mr. Michener details centuries of intrigue and accomplishments, taking us back to times when the borders of Poland extended far beyond their current boundaries. Who knew that Polish history was deeply intertwined with that of Scandinavia? (Lots of people, I imagine, just not moi!) Anything but dry, this adventure back in time is a fun read populated by riveting characters both real and imagined. Highly recommended!

A Peek Behind the Scenes

Behind the Curtain

The Relay Publishing experiment is over. What does that mean? Quite simply, I've elected to roll the clock back to the days when I did each and every little thing myself—at least when it comes to writing and publishing. With Relay out of the picture, the things they were to have helped with in terms of editing and producing *Swamp Justice* are now back on my plate, which means I'm on my own getting the new book to market. It's all good though—we move forward. Mind you, as you learned above, my hopes to deliver the book to you in time for Christmas have been dashed. I'm afraid that I'll also reluctantly have to shelve the idea of a new RCU reader Christmas gift idea until next year...



<— Yeah, that's me ☹️ But it isn't all bad news! You won't have to wait months and months into the new year for a 2026 book release—no siree! *Swamp Justice* will be landing in your Kindles or mailboxes during the last week of January! *AND*, in a bit serendipity after my comments about fifty-pound books, *Swamp Justice* is shaping up to be the longest ever Tony Valenti Thriller. I'll leave it to you nice folks to pass judgment on whether or not that sounds like a good thing or a bad thing! 😊



Win a FREE Book!

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@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 reader reviews really help to sell books? What should I say in a review?

A: For those of us without big marketing budgets and/or publicity departments to get the word out, reader reviews help validate our books for book shoppers who stumble across them, letting them know that others have read a book and enjoyed it (or not).

Part two of the question is about how to write a review. All that's needed is a couple of sentences about why you liked the book: the characters; the plot; suspense and excitement; setting; or something else that kept you turning the pages until late in the night. If you can't decide what to say—there's that dreaded writer block thing you hear about! Horror face—just slap lots and lots of stars in the handy space provided and leave it at that. 😊

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

PS - And for our American readers out there, Happy Thanksgiving!



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