

Greetings!

I hope this finds you well. I've been exceptionally busy—probably a little *too* busy—these past few months and am looking forward to slowing down now that *The Secrets She Buried* is out in the world. Thanks for helping make the launch of the sixth Tony Valenti thriller the most successful book launch of the bunch. There's plenty of launch activity still to come; I'll tell you a little more about that in the *Hot Off the Press* feature below. With the spotlight focused on *The Secrets She Buried*, it's easy to forget about the rest of the series, but not everyone has. Amazon has invited me to include *A House on Liberty Street* in its Prime Reading program, which is a nice little feather in Tony's cap.

Did I mention slowing down? Why yes, I did. And yet I've started work on Tony's next adventure, *Nowhere to Hide*, with a tentative publication date of April 2023. Here we go again...

As this is the December Eve edition, I believe it's time to start thinking about gifts, don't you? You'll find a couple of opportunities to win ebooks this month, and I'm thinking about what we can do next month. How would you feel about making next month's edition something of a Reader's Club community project? It might be fun to include a feature in which we share holiday season anecdotes, stories, and traditions. Here's the catch: this only works if you participate (if you prefer to do so anonymously, that's okay). Let me know what you think. Got a different idea or a suggestion? Send it along!

I'd be remiss not wishing our friends in the United States a Happy Thanksgiving. Enjoy!

Read on to see what's happening this month.



Where in the book?

This is the George N. Leighton Criminal Court Building, formerly and popularly known as the Cook County Courthouse at California and 26th Street in Chicago. In which Tony Valenti book does the courthouse first appear? Bonus points if you can tell me who's in the scene! As they say on an improv show I enjoy, the points don't matter—but you never know...

Tony, Tony, Everywhere!

Hot Off the Press

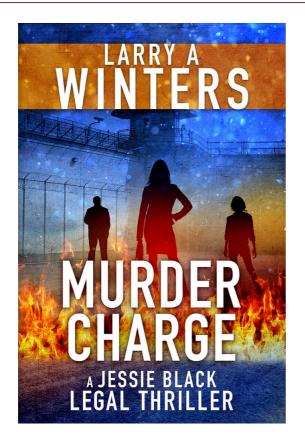
I loved this review: "A gripping tale that feels ripped from today's darkest headlines, *The Secrets She Buried* is a pageturning thriller with a building



number of twists and surprises. Driven by fast-paced dialogue, snap decisions, and a perpetual sense of urgency, this dark, fast-paced thriller is one of the strongest installments in the perennially entertaining *Tony Valenti Thriller* series, offering a timely look at contemporary issues within the novel's expertly crafted plotline." Self-Publishing Review, $\star\star\star\star\star$

As I mentioned earlier, there's a lot of *The Secrets She Buried* activity to watch for this month. The novel is a New-in-Books featured title, and the nice folks at Written Work Media invited me to

write a 'story behind the story' blog post about how I came to write the novel; you can read that **here**. BingeBooks has selected me to be their featured thriller author for a couple of weeks, which is very kind of them. You can check out the BingeBooks thriller page **here**. This is a very cool website for readers.



Larry A. Winters

What's Neil Reading?

Instead of a single book review, I'm going to do something a little different this month. As you know, I'm a big reader and I like to share books and authors I enjoy. Larry A. Winters' Jessie *Black* series fits the bill nicely (and if you like to binge read, it's ten books long and available in Kindle Unlimited). Larry and I believe Jessie's and Tony's audiences will appreciate both series, so we've agreed to do a little cross-promotion. He invites

you to receive his newsletter so you can explore his work and keep up to date with his writing, and he'll invite his newsletter readers to join us. Just as I do, Larry offers a free book when you sign up for his newsletter. Claim your bonus Jessie Black thriller here. You'll also want to check out the series page. Here's my review of one of Larry's Jessie Black thrillers:

Murder Charge is the ninth book in the Jessie Black Legal Thriller series. It's been a fun run to follow this series all the way from Burnout until now. Jessie has grown into a well-rounded character as she's travelled a path from prosecutor to defense attorney, ably supported by a strong supporting cast. One of the nice things about this series is that Jessie is engaged in cases that are relatable and feel as if they could be plucked from the headlines. As in every book of this series, Winters again takes us on a wild ride with twists and turns we don't see coming as Jessie battles long odds on behalf of her client. Murder Charge is a terrific read. Enjoy!

Win an eBook!

Food Fight!



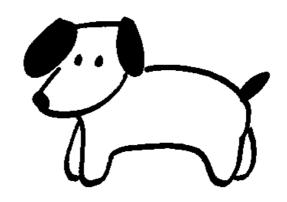
'Tis the season! Share a favorite recipe for a side dish, dessert, or anything edible that is part of your holiday tradition (not necessarily Christmas), including beverages—adult or otherwise. I'll select one entry for inclusion in a holiday scene in a future novel and send a free eBook to

the winner. Please send your entry via the **Contact** page on my website or send an email to <u>info@neilturnerbooks.com</u>. If you send an email, please type *Food Fight* in the subject line. Thank you!

A Canine's Winter Lament

Deano's Corner

That pretentious darned writer - A Canine's Winter Lament! A normal person would've just called this, Being an old doggie in winter. I gotta tell you, this



month's *Deano's Corner* has a lot more to do with that Neil Turner fella than it does me; there's a *lot* of projecting going on here! After all, I'm not the one who starts whining that winter is just around the corner as the days begin to shorten on June 22, am I? I'm not the one who laments the fact that my species doesn't hibernate, am I? And I'm certainly not the one who nudges the blinds aside a fraction of an inch every morning after Labour Day, living in perpetual fear that an ice crystal or—Heaven forbid!—a snowflake may have invaded the neighborhood.

Turner pokes fun at me in this scene from his latest book:

Deano lumbers along in her wake, casting a look around at the snow with an expression that seems to say: *We're going out in this?* Then he hoists his considerable girth and old bones in behind her.

Substitute *Turner* for *Deano* to start this passage and it's a heckuva lot more accurate! There's still plenty of time to cast this travesty aside in the editing process, folks. Send Turner a note if you're as offended as I am by this ageist claptrap. Let's start a write-in campaign!



Reader's Club Q & A

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 by email to info@neilturnerbooks.com or via the Contact page on my website. 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: How much are you paid for the recommendations you make?

A: I'm so happy to see this question asked! After reading it, I realized it's something I should have addressed long ago. Personally, I find affiliate programs distasteful. For those of you who aren't familiar with these schemes, here's the scoop: people are compensated for steering business to a product or service they recommend, often without disclosure. I don't participate in affiliate programs and receive no compensation when I suggest a book or author to you. Any writing recommendation I make is based solely on my personal appreciation of the work.

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

Take care, be well, and happy reading,

Neil









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