

Hello everyone

I know I promised an update about my writing once a month, and my last missive was at the end of October... I must apologise but over the past November, December and January I've been in a kind of "holding pattern", waiting for things to happen and working on other things...but I thought I'd better send out an update now, lest you worry that I've fallen off the pier and into the Fraser River :-)

I've been happily getting used to being a full-time writer. I love it. My biggest problem has been reassuring myself that I have all the time in the world to work on projects. I don't need to squeeze my writing-time into weekends and evenings anymore, and I don't have to think "I must go back to work on Monday". It's been a bit of a learning curve but I'm finally settling down into a semblance of a writing schedule.

I had a wonderful time on November 6 reading from my novel, **Notes on a Missing G-String**, at **Noir at the Bar**, along with fellow mystery writers Eileen Cook, Owen Laukkanen, Robin Spano, Dietrich Kalteis, Grant McKenzie, Derrick Carew, Don English and Aaron Chapman. The readings were at the Shebeen Whiskey House in Gastown. The only downer was that I got a ticket from an overly-enthusiastic parking enforcement officer who showed up one minute before my husband got to the meter to renew the time. Next time I'm definitely going on Skytrain.

You can see pictures from the event on my website here:

<http://www.winonakent.com/news.html>

I've just finished the first round of edits on a short story called **Salty Dog Blues** - about an annoying service dog which shows up on a cruise ship. It's a story that features Jason Davey, the hero of my mystery novels. It takes place aboard the *Star Sapphire* in 2012 -- this is the ship that I wrote **Cold Play** about, and chronologically actually happens just before **Cold Play's** timeline. The story will be published this fall, but until there's an official announcement, I'm not allowed to share any more details. So...stay tuned!

And I'm well into writing the second novel in my Jason Davey mystery series, tentatively titled **Lost Time**. Jason's in the coastal village of Stoneford, rehearsing to go on a 52nd anniversary tour with his mum's old band Figgis Green, when he's approached by a super-keen fan who gives him a photo which opens up questions about a mysterious disappearance from 1974. I'm hoping for an October 2020 publication date.

A reminder that the first novel in that series, **Notes on a Missing G-String**, is available in ebook and paperback from Amazon in all marketplaces.

<https://www.amazon.ca/Notes-Missing-G-String-Winona-Kent/dp/0988082659>

<https://www.amazon.com/Notes-Missing-G-String-Winona-Kent/dp/0988082659/>

<https://www.amazon.co.uk/Notes-Missing-G-String-Winona-Kent/dp/0988082659/>

For other markets please check Amazon!

The first time we met G-String's hero, Jason Davey, he was entertaining passengers aboard the Alaska cruise ship *Star Sapphire*, Eight 'til Late in the TopDeck Lounge. Then he came ashore, got a gig playing lead guitar at London's Blue Devil jazz club, and gained a certain amount of notoriety tracking down missing musician Ben Quigley in the Canadian north. Now Jason's back again, this time investigating the theft of £10,000 from a dancer's locker at a Soho gentlemen's club. You can read more about Jason's latest adventure here:

<http://www.winonakent.com/gstring.html>

Notes on a Missing G-String is published by Blue Devil Books.

<http://www.bluedevilbooks.com>

Also, something to put in your calendars... I'll be doing a reading at the **Writers Showcase** at the Central Branch of Vancouver Public Library, on **April 19, 2020**. The event is from 2.00pm-3:30pm and will be likely in the Montalbano Family Theatre on Level 8. Four or five writers will be featured and we'll each have 10 minutes to read. After each reading there will be five minutes for questions, and at the end of the event there's time to mingle and visit the table where our books and swag will be available. (This was originally scheduled for February but was moved to April).

I've been very busy in my capacity as one of the two regional reps for the Crime Writers of Canada. My colleague Liz Bass and I have been planning the **Shortlist Announcement event for The Arthur Ellis Awards for Excellence in Canadian Crime Writing**. This will take place on the evening of April 15, 2020 at the Kits branch of Vancouver Public Library. I'll have more info about this in my next update. The Arthur Ellis Awards are a group of Canadian literary awards, presented annually by the Crime Writers of Canada for the best Canadian crime and mystery writing published in the previous year.

You can read more about them here:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arthur_Ellis_Awards

and here:

<https://www.crimewriterscanada.com/awards/arthur-ellis-awards/about>

There will be a panel with west coast CWC members and some "elevator pitches" from writers as we announce the various shortlists (I'll be doing one of the pitches and announcements).

It promises to be quite an exciting event so please do put it in your calendars to pop by if you like mysteries and crime stories!

I'm also starting to plan CWC's involvement at **Write on Vancouver**, VPL's day-long celebration of writing, authors and publishers on May 23, 2020. There will be workshops, author panels and readings at the Central Branch of Vancouver Public Library.

And I've been attending book launches by CWC members and posting photos on social media - Twitter, FB and Instagram. I'm enjoying it immensely - and learning a lot about writers and book launches in the process.

That's it for now! I'll try and send updates more regularly!

If I've added you to my mailing list using your UBC address and you'd rather I use a personal email address, please do let me know! And if you know of anyone else who might enjoy receiving my updates, please do forward this newsletter to them and let them know I'd love to add them to the list

Cheers

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Winona Kent

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