

DIANE A.S. STUCKART

- New York Times Bestselling Author of the Black Cat Bookshop Mystery Series from Berkley Prime Crime (written as Ali Brandon)
- Author of the critically acclaimed Tarot Cat Mystery series from Midnight Ink and the Georgia B&B Mystery series from Crooked Lane Books (written as Anna Gerard)
- Award-winning Author of the Leonardo da Vinci Mystery Series from Berkley Prime Crime
- Critically Acclaimed and Award-winning Author of Historical Romance and Short Fiction

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Diane A.S. Stuckart is available to speak virtually (via Zoom) or in-person to book clubs, library groups, civic organizations, and writers' conferences on a variety of topics. She also has some standard workshop presentations geared toward new writers. (*Duration 45 min. to 1.5 hr., includes handouts...may include lecture, PowerPoint, and hands-on*)

WORKSHOP PRESENTATION TOPICS

FOR GENERAL AUDIENCES...

You Had Me at Meow: The Cozy Mystery

A fun and informative overview of the Cozy Mystery subgenre, why writing “cozy” isn’t a bad thing, and why cozy mysteries really matter.

Write Like a Cat

The above program with more emphasis on how one writes from the animal point of view, with fun Cat Trivia and prizes (suitable for kids!)

FOR GENERAL AUDIENCES, continued...

Cozy V. Crazy (with award-winning thriller author Patrick Kendrick)

In this fun and informative point/counterpoint presentation, Diane and Patrick will present the differences between writing suspense and thrillers versus penning cozy mysteries. With top ten lists debating which is better, the cozy mystery or the crazy one. Recommended for mature audiences only!

FOR WRITING AUDIENCES...

Writing Short Fiction...Tips from the Pros

There's more than length to think about when writing short fiction. Learn from the experts the tricks, tips, and techniques for crafting saleable short stories no matter your genre. Includes examples from Diane's own critically reviewed work.

The Protagonist's Journey

Do your plots go nowhere fast? Get your story back on track by getting back to age-old storytelling basics. Learn how to tap into traditional myths that resonate with your readers on both a conscious and a subconscious level. Examples from Joseph Campbell, the Tarot, fairy tales, and more will help you build your narrative structure.

Me, You, and He: Unraveling Point of View

Been accused of being a head-hopper and don't know what that means...or how to fix it? Unsure of the difference between 3rd person limited and 3rd person multiple? This workshop will explain the difference between 1st person, 2nd person, and 3rd person view point styles, give you tips for writing in each, and show you how to choose the most effective point of view for your novel.

The (Almost) Real Deal: Turning Historical Figures into Fictional Characters

You'd like your romance heroine to have a run-in with Henry VIII...or maybe you think that Benjamin Franklin would make a great sleuth for a mystery series. Learn how to bring historical figures to life and believably incorporate them into your novel.

Getting Your Characters to Talk: Dialogue V. Narrative

Having trouble getting your characters yakking...or maybe they just won't stay quiet? Does your narrative slog and bog all over the page? Learn some easy-to-apply tricks for balancing dialogue with narrative and learn how to write both effectively.

FOR WRITING AUDIENCES, continued...**Revise and Shine**

Wondering if your future bestseller is ready to hit an editor's desk? This hands-on workshop will look at line editing and copy-editing techniques, as well as style and thematic structure. You'll learn how to put your book through a similar editing process that it would receive if it were being published by one of the "BIG FIVE".



If you would like Diane to speak to your group, please contact her at diane@dianestuckart.com with the date(s) and time(s) and locale. Weekends and evenings are best, but other times will be considered. Virtual presentations (Zoom) are always an option.

Worried about an honorarium? Her compensation is negotiable and may be waived depending upon the nature of the group and distance traveled. She requests that all in-person appearances allow for a book signing to take place afterward.