



LIAG Monthly Newsletter (July 2026)

For the love of books



As we embark on the vibrant season of summer reading, we are excited to present our monthly newsletter, which shines a well-deserved spotlight on the remarkable talents and achievements of our **Long Island Author Group members**. As a nonprofit organization, we are dedicated to promoting the intrinsic value of literature, encapsulated in our heartfelt tagline, "**For the Love of Books.**"

This summer, we encourage you to immerse yourself in the diverse narratives and creative voices of our local authors, fostering not only a deeper love for reading but also a stronger sense of community through shared stories. We extend our heartfelt gratitude for your continued interest and unwavering support as we work together to enrich the literary culture of Long Island.

Here's to a fabulous 4th of July.

The Highlights

Beyond the Exit



By Joseph L. Licari

Pass the magazine, please.

Joseph L Licari's latest fictional short story, "**Beyond the Exit**," was published by **Faith Hope and Fiction** this month. A quiet moment of surrender becomes a turning point for a man named Alan. Grappling with midlife responsibilities and long-lost dreams, he discovers that letting go can pave the way for a fresh beginning filled with surprising, gentle grace.

[Read it here](#)



Recognized poetry!

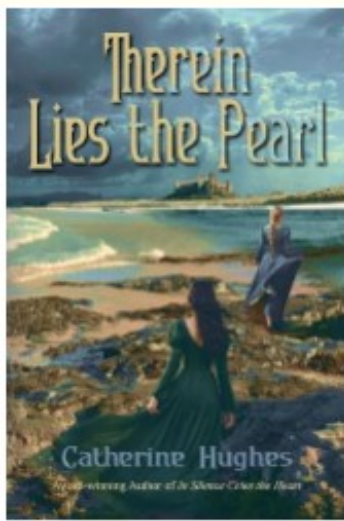
Pramila Venkateswaran has several poems that have just been published. Pramila's poem "**The Splitting**" has been published in the anthology, **Voices the Valley**, edited by Patti Tana. Her poem, "**Ode to Palestine**," won Honorable Mention in the Nassau County Poet Laureate Society Poetry Contest. Pramila's review of Sonnet Mondal's "**Clamour for a Handful of Rice**" appears in the current issue of **World Literature Today**.

[Read the article](#)



Now featuring...

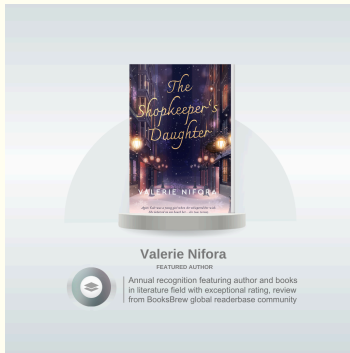
Diane Calabrese appeared on the **Riverside Podcast with host Michael Sanchez** as well as the podcast: **THE AWAKEN HOPE SHOW: CONVERSATIONS ON HEALING**, host **Kandee Campbel** where she discussed of "Mind, Body, Spirit & Discovering the Purpose of Life" book as well as "Meditations for the Mind-Body-Spirit".



Featured Interview

Catherine Hughes was interviewed by the **Historica Novel Society** regarding my novel set during the time of the Norman Conquest, ***Therein Lies the Pearl***.

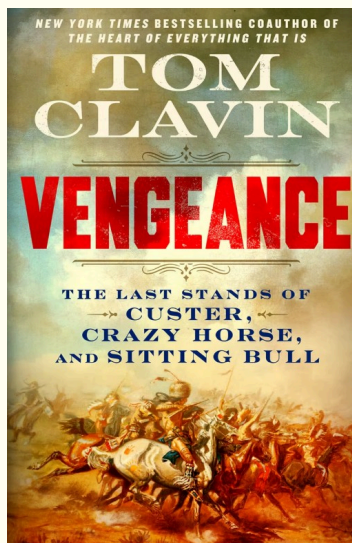
[Read the review](#)



Book of the month honoree

Celebrating the remarkable achievement of Valerie Nifora's new release, ***The Shopkeeper's Daughter***, which been honored as the featured book of the month by **BooksBrew**. This prestigious accolade, acknowledges her book trending across diverse genres and ranking as the **#1 featured book at the BooksBrew Fest 2026**.

New in Books

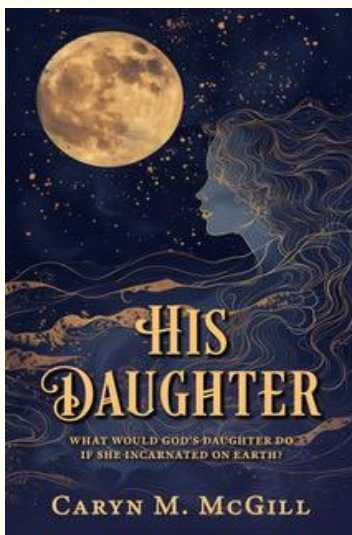


New from Tom Clavin

A dramatic new look at Custer's Last Stand in time for the 150th anniversary of the Battle of the Little Bighorn, by the #1 New York Times bestselling coauthor of ***The Heart of Everything That Is***.

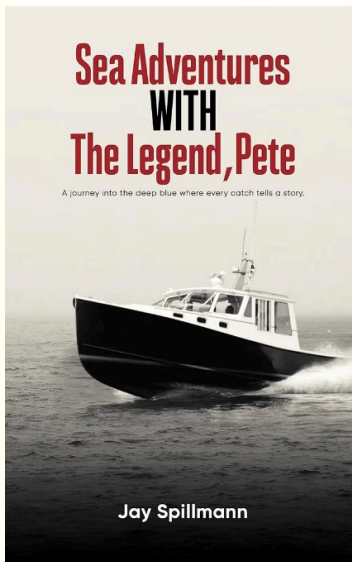
Vengeance is a thrilling read, filled with action, legendary characters, and poignance for the impact this had on Native Americans and the shape of the American West.

[Order here.](#)



Cover reveal

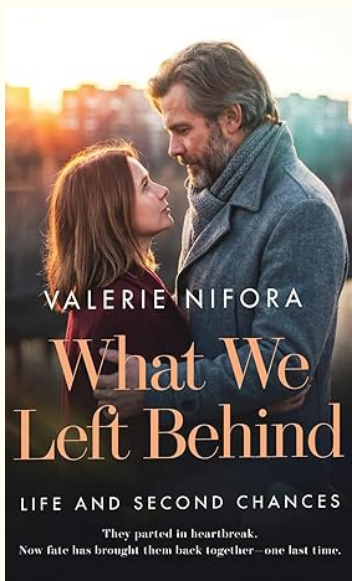
Cover reveal of Caryn McGill's upcoming novel, ***His Daughter***. a YA Fantasy Novel. in an eternal struggle between redemption and divine judgement, a weary sister grapples with her father's chaotic attempts to instill fear in humanity while her brother's ineffectuality weights heavy on her. Determined to navigate the physical realm with purpose and strategy, she contemplates whether to heal the fractured world or allow it to succumb to destruction, questioning the very essence of her family's legacy.



New release!

Jay Spillman's new release, ***Sea Adventures with The Legend, Pete***. about his teenage years in the late 1960s-1970s working summers on a lobster fishing boat out of Port Jefferson harbor. His boss, Pete Breitung opened up a floating restaurant.

[Learn more](#)



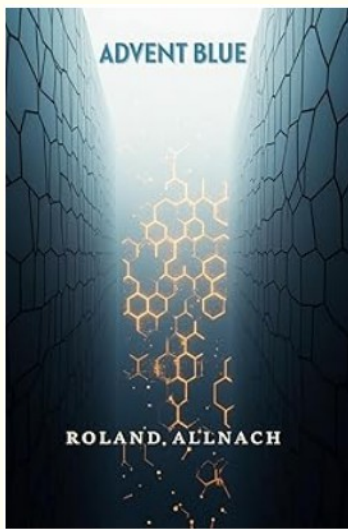
Gift with Preorder!

When the man who broke her heart returns decades later seeking forgiveness before he dies, a widow must decide whether to protect what's left of her peace—or open her heart one last time to the love she never truly forgot.

Preorder ***What We Left Behind*** to unlock exclusive digital content

Book will release, Tuesday, September 22.

[Click here.](#)



New Sci-fi

Roland Allnach's eighth publication ***Advent Blue*** is a near-term sci-fi novel, exploring the manipulation of reality and exploitation of trust.

[Order here.](#)



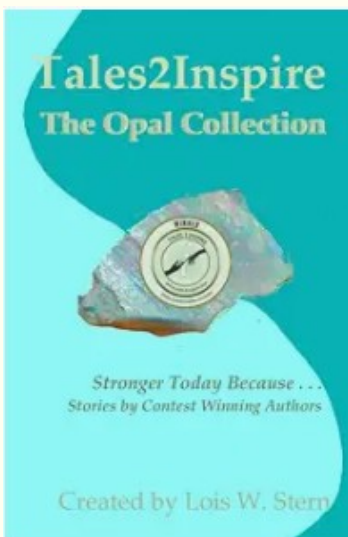
For the love of fairy tales

On a quiet village street stands Cole's Sundry Shop, a place of porcelain teapots, whispered legends and unspoken longing.

Agnes Cole has lived her life bound by duty...until a winter storm, a strange tin of tea, and a mysterious young man named Malcolm alter everything.

The Shopkeeper's Daughter is a tender evocative novel about memory, devotion, and the fragile line between what is real and what we choose to believe.

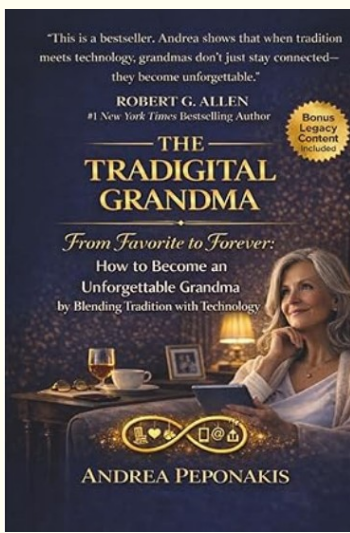
[Order here.](#)



For the gems in your life!

Beautiful collection of inspiring stories based on gem stones. The collection developed on Lois W. Stern is available on Amazon. There are seventeen books in this collection.

[Learn more](#)



Call all Grandparents!

Every grandparent wants to be remembered, this book will make you unforgettable for generations. In *The Tradigital Grandma: From Favorite to Forever*, Andrea Peponakis shares a heartfelt and practical path to preserving what matters most: your love, your voice, your stories, and the moments your family will cherish forever.

[Learn more](#)



Coming soon!

S.T. Young's 4th book about personification where he brings voice to the inanimate with humor. Look for *More Unique and Clever stories as told by Inanimate Objects*.



In partnership with the Islip Arts Council, select books are available for purchase at the Islip Arts Council Gallery in the South Shore Mall, Bay Shore.

Upcoming Author Events

Event are free and open to the public. Mark your calendar!

Meet the Authors!

Michael Thomas Perone will be signing discounted copies of his books *Danger Peak*, *Déjà View*, and *The Electric God and Other Shorts* at **Muni's Coffee Joint in Lindenhurst on Saturday, July 18**, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Bring the kids!

Featured poets

Pramila Venkateswaran is the featured reader at All Soul's Church on **Saturday, July 11, at 11 am**. Zoom link to be published on LIAG website soon.

LIAG's Jeff Rimland will recite a poet at the **Hardscrabble Theatre Talent Show Fundraiser Sunday, July 19, 3pm**. [Tickets and more info click here.](#)

Jean Desrespina will be at the **Children's Book Author Expo and More Than Play** in Seaford on **Monday, July 20**. Meet Jean and discover her fun-loving boating dog stories, featuring the Famous Phoebe of Long Island.



Our Mission

The Long Island Authors Group is dedicated to encouraging, supporting, and promoting authorship within the vibrant Long Island community. Our collective of local authors engages in dynamic activities and events that not only enhance the visibility of our published works but also celebrate the rich tapestry of the Long Island writing scene. By collaborating with retail bookstores, we facilitate book talks and signings, creating accessible opportunities for the public to connect with our authors. Additionally, we empower writers through educational seminars covering a range of essential topics, from writing craft to innovative marketing strategies, ensuring our members are equipped to thrive in an ever-evolving literary landscape. The Long Island Authors Group is an IRS-approved 501(c)3 public charitable organization supported primarily by annual membership dues.

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PLEASE FORWARD TO A FRIEND.**

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