



# INKSLINGER

HIGH DESERT BRANCH CWC

SAIL ON

OCTOBER 2012

## New Authors Break Through with Guidance at HDCWC

One day while vacuuming, my inner muse spoke to me. It said, "I have an idea I think you should consider writing about." What can I say, I'm a daydreamer. But after a decade of hopelessly attempting to write a story, I ignored it. After all, I'd had no formal creative writing experience, only what I'd learned from reading How- To books.

For the next three days, my muse continued to harass me. Finally, I listened. With only a basic character in mind, I sat down in front of my computer. Six arduous months later, I had a novel, with many praises from friends and family.

Then I wondered what do I do with it? How do I make it better? What am I missing? And, not to mention, I wanted the opinion of an experienced writer, because let's be honest, who wants to start a Family World War. I realized I needed an unbiased opinion.

By sheer serendipity, my husband knew a customer who was a member of the CWC. They talked about my book. She asked him numerous questions to which he answered, "I don't know." She gave him her card, and said, "Tell your wife to give me a call." I called her the next day and she invited me to a

P. O. V.



HDCWC meeting.

I can honestly say that in the short amount of time I have been a member, my knowledge of writing has significantly improved. With the vast experience of an amazing critique group to provide me opinions and suggestions for improvement, as well as the many informative guest speakers, I now feel confident with my talent to take it to the next level. I have since completed a second novel that has far surpassed the first.

~~ Amanda Smith

## Guest Speaker Chosen for Nov.3 workshop



Meet E. Van Lowe, our keynote speaker to begin a full day of workshops at Howl at the Moon 2012. Seats are limited and filling fast so grab your registration and payment info at the link below. More details can be found on page 6 of *The Inkslinger*.

<http://www.hdcwc.org/Pages/guestspeakers.aspx>

## HOUSE SPIRIT

by *David Siwisa James*

[ note: a descriptive scene excerpt]

**The High Desert Branch of the California Writers Club (HDCWC) will have 15 of their published Authors participating in a local fundraiser Event – details are below and also at [www.hdcwc.org](http://www.hdcwc.org).**

**AAUW Art at the Aspen  
- WITH -  
“Meet the HDCWC Authors”**

**TWO Day Event – October 6 – 7, 2012**

**10:00 AM – 4:00 PM**

**Del Webb Sun City Solera Apple Valley  
Aspen Clubhouse - Sun City Apple Valley  
Association  
10741 Lakeshore Drive  
Apple Valley, CA92308**

**\$10.00 Entrance - Children 12 years of age and under are free  
Ticket Good for Saturday and Sunday**

**Over 40 local artists selling original Works Including Paintings, Sculptures, Art Glass, Photography, Pottery, Jewelry and Books**

The show has a two-fold purpose: one is to fund local scholarships for women and girls and the other is to promote High Desert artists and authors by providing them with a beautiful venue to display and sell their work.

Since 1881, the American Association of University Women (AAUW) has been the nation's leading non-profit organization promoting equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research.



Jean sat in the middle of the floor in the emptied house, staring at the blazing blue Caribbean ocean, her tears dropping purposely on the floor. She sat as still as possible and willed her spirit to occupy the house forever. It was her house. It didn't matter that she was now forced to leave it. Her name not being on the deed was a minor matter. It was her house. That others had lived in it before and that others would live in it after her was also irrelevant. It was her house in spirit.

The tears she now shed would sink into the grout between the tiles and become part of the floor. The next occupants would walk on water that had flowed from her. The passion she had let go of here would linger in the walls, and the walls would talk. The fear she had felt during Hurricane Marilyn would forever hang in the air. During each new hurricane, the wind would take up her fear and the house would shiver as she had. Her cooking smells were part of the kitchen, her son's laughter essential to the joyous fabric of the place, the peace and tranquility she had found here imbedded in the house spirit, the first novel she had written here part of literary history, the mysticism of her lover who had lifted her in the air with the power of his lovemaking and the magic of his eyes would, forever, linger in the spirit of the house. It was her house.

She had been looking for this house all her life. Both on the island and in the before places that were full of concrete and tar and dirty air and frightened shallow people. Before this house, she had lived in many spaces in many places, mostly in cities – New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago. Some of her other houses were lovely. But it was only here that all the pieces had come together. Most importantly, this house was in the Virgin Islands, on St. Thomas. The ocean is bluest, the stars brightest, the moon closest to the earth here. Food tastes better, the men more direct about what they want of a woman. People are unambiguous as to whether they

don't like you and even more clear if they love you. Children laugh more freely.

She stepped onto the balcony, and stared at the expanse of blue water. St. Croix lay directly ahead, and to the west a small chain of Puerto Rican islands...

*[end of excerpt]*

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## Organizing Your Fiction Writing

Marilyn Ramirez aka Marilyn King, author of the recently published historical romance novel, "The Winds of Grace", was the presenter for our HD CWC meeting on September 8, 2012.



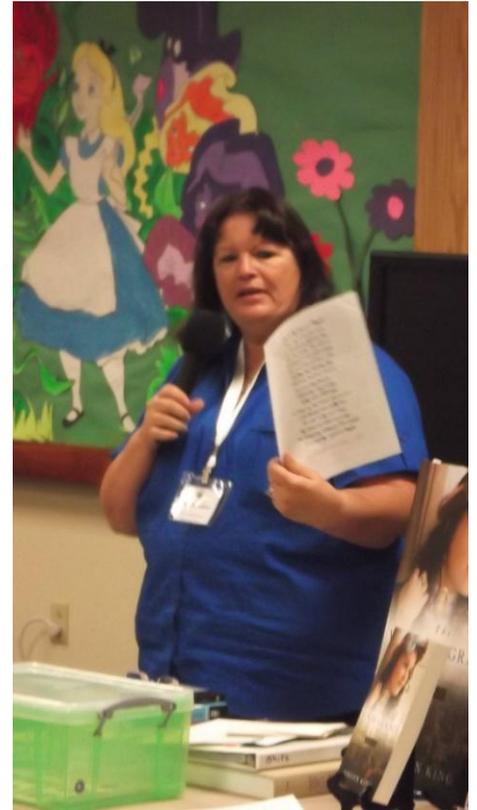
*Roberta Smith shows paper doll album for Marilyn*

She shared her secrets of organization of your writing and how she uses notebooks. "Always, always have your clip board with you!" she said. "Then if you're stuck waiting at the dentist's or the doctor's office, you can make use of that time by writing."



King wondered about all the petticoats and underwear that women wore in the 1700's and then found out about Godfrey's Catalogue of Paper Dolls. This publication tells all about what

things were made of, with photos of dresses, shoes, and underwear, allowing Marilyn to keep authentic by knowing for sure what her costumes of the period contained. Every chapter of your novel that you write will go in your notebook under dividers.



Marilyn did this talk in May of 2009, and we captured it on our PulsePen. If you would like to listen to her talk of 2009 and follow along with the notes, go to 2009 Guest Speaker Page on [www.hdcwc.org](http://www.hdcwc.org). Club members appreciated the thoroughness of her research and congratulated her on her novel's publication.

*( All photos by Anthony J Enriquez) ❖*

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## "Meet the Authors" Day & Gala Event at A. V. Library set for Sat. Oct 13th & Oct. 11th

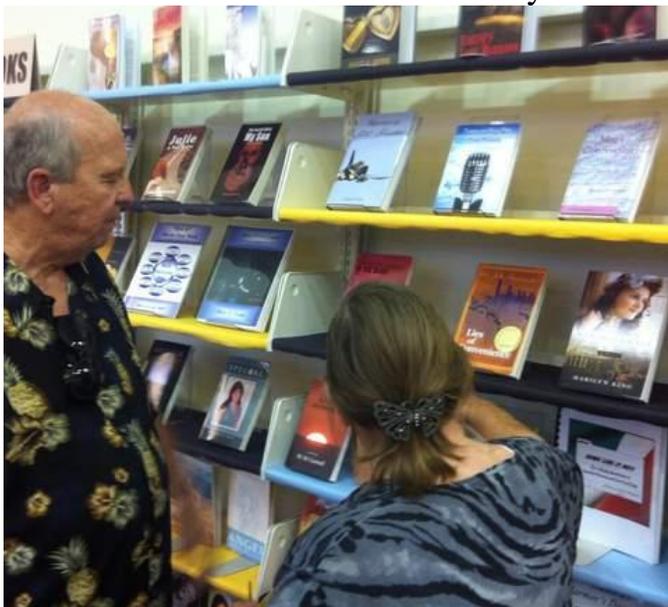
The Apple Valley Library is hosting a "Gala Event" that begins the evening of October 11th, with "black & white" themed attire (not formal) and entertainment, and continues Saturday afternoon, October 13<sup>th</sup>, for "Meet the Authors" Day.

continued --

Our members are encouraged to join in this public activity on Saturday, October 13, right after our HDCWC meeting at Apple Valley Library with our authors displaying and selling their books within the library itself.

There will be two parts to this “Meet the Authors” Day. **Part One:** where our participating authors will “pitch” their books to the membership audience, and have the opportunity to sell their books during the intermission. Copies of valid BOE Sales Permits are required for this function. This part will be coordinated by Mary Scott.

**Part Two:** from noon to 4 pm, all pre-registered authors will sell their books in the library. Books have displayed since Sept. 8th on special HD CWC shelving within the library. These open shelves, with our signage nearby telling the public about contact information on where and how the books can be purchased, has continued through September to October 13, 2012. Already, special professional posters have been placed in the library advertising this October 13 event for the community.



Bob Isbill and Linda Cooper admire the display

For each author, who has on file with the HD CWC Treasurer a copy of their valid Board of Equalization Seller’s Permit, space will be provided at selected tables within the library to display and sell their books to the public. We are very flexible on times, but would like some representation by some authors during those 4 hours on Saturday afternoon. Jenny Margotta will be present for the entire afternoon so please notify her if you decide to leave early so that your table will not be left unattended. This will be coordinated by Bob Isbill.



*Authors gather for publicity photo in preparation for next CWC event. (photo by Anthony J Enriquez)*

A word about the Gala function and Meet The Authors: Felicia Macomber, manager of the Apple Valley Branch, is going all out for these event to bring to the community an artistic event to celebrate the library and the High Desert culture. There will be hors’ d’oeuvres, live music, and refreshments. (RSVP deadline is Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>, 760-247-2022)

This is a first-ever opportunity for such an unusual function at the local library. We would encourage all our members to support Felicia and the staff in their efforts by coming in and enjoying the activities and letting them know we, as the writing community, appreciate this endeavor.

There is one disclaimer:

*The HD CWC and the library staff will do*

*everything they can to secure your book(s). However, they will be on an open display where people may pick them up, browse through them as they would in a bookstore, and so we cannot guarantee their return in pristine condition, nor can we guarantee that they will not be taken. Normal library security will be in place, but since they are not coded to be detected by the security system at the exit, that is the reason for the absence of a guarantee. ❖*

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### **UTILIZING YOUR RESOURCES** by Monica G. Edwards

In college, one of the first things I learned was always utilize your resources. This particular lesson has served me well over the years. Currently, whether it's research for my manuscript or looking for a place to eat, social media has become a wonderful and helpful resource that I use every day. One morning while scrolling through my twitter feed, I came across a link for a writing program, *Write Way Pro* <http://writewaypro.com/>.

I clicked on the link and began to read about the writing software that was designed and developed by *writers*. I was intrigued enough to start researching product reviews. I was greeted by phrases such as "Great Product" and "Best novel writing software available" as I read the reviews, many of which having no affiliation with *Write Way Pro*.

Suffice to say, I was impressed enough to purchase

the software in the beginning of September and so far I love it. I have listed a few pros and cons to give you a brief glimpse of some of the features:

#### **Pros**

- Note cards for Character/Plot/Scene/Conflict Development
- Helps with Organization
- Software is easy to use
- Visual log of daily word count is a great motivator
- Follow @ *WriteWayPro* on Twitter where help is available from a live person in NH, USA
- Formats for *Kindle*, *Nook*, & *Smashwords*

#### **Cons**

- Too many features that I'll have to learn how to use
- Spell check or grammar corrections isn't an automatic function

As you can see, my list of cons is much shorter than my list of pros. Of course, I've only had the software for a few weeks but the price was right (on sale, under \$40) and it's been a great help already. *Write Way Pro* does allow a 30-day free demo for those who would like to test drive it first. Normally, I don't recommend products, however; if *Write Way Pro* can help another writer/screenwriter tell their story then sharing truly is caring.

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## **Hesperia Days Event Recap**

So what is the report from two-days at the Hesperia Days event? The consensus is that it was a good idea to publicize our club and to make new contacts, and it is worth considering doing it next year as well.

From those reporting feedback, it was not a great venue for selling books, but overall the participants reported many potential contacts both for visiting our club and for attending the 2012 Howl at the Moon Conference.

Members who volunteered to take part in this experiment and experience were: Carol Warren, Anne Fowler, Roberta Smith, Jim Elstad, Norma Garcia, Linda Cooper, Mary Langer Thompson, Bob Isbill, Monica Edwards, Angie

Horn, and Fran Savage represented our Branch of the CWC in a week-end display, Sept. 15-16, of the HD CWC authors and informational material.

And a special thanks to Michael Raff for his many efforts in putting up the EZ-Up tent, the tables, and chairs, and for being such a great volunteer.



The following poem won Mary the title of "Senior Poet Laureate of California" for one year as of September 2012 in the Angels Without Wings Foundation's 20<sup>th</sup> Annual National Senior Poets Laureate Poetry Competition for American Poets age 50 and older.

There is a Senior Poet Laureate in each state.  
Congratulations! Mary.

## *Wishbone in Moonglow*

by Mary Langer Thompson

I leave you to the doctors  
and nurses,  
come home to our dark kitchen  
that dry, brittle wishbone  
still on the counter,  
illuminated by a moonbeam.

We were going to split it together,  
but not now.  
And anyway, it seems silly  
to pull in opposite directions  
as though rivals.

I step closer.  
The bone's shape is an open heart,  
and I know  
that I want for you  
what you need for me  
what we hope for each other  
until the clouds cover the moon forever--  
that the light not leave us  
tonight.



## Howl at the Moon Keynote Speaker – Taking Your Book to a TV Series or Hollywood Movie

As a novelist, Ehrich Van Lowe has written two classic 80s horror novels under the Pseudonym, Sal Conte: "**Child's Play**" and "**The Power.**" As E. Van Lowe, he has launched a new career writing novels for teens, employing a unique style of combining horror with humor. He now is our guest for the "Howl at the Moon Writers' Conference 2012.

His first teen novel, "**Never Slow Dance With A Zombie**" was published by TOR/Teen, September 2009. The hit novel was chosen as a selection of the Scholastic Book Club. His Young Adult paranormal novel, "**Boyfriend From Hell,**" (White Whisker Books) and the sequel, "**Earth Angel,**" also topped the list, ranking as high as #8 in Children's and YA Ebook Bestsellers.

"E", as fans call him online, holds an MFA in Professional Writing from the University of Southern California. In 1997 he became a proud member of the faculty where he taught various forms of writing for eleven years.

E began his television writing career with a bang, writing for the successful television series "**Charles in Charge**" and "**227,** and immediately segueing to staff positions with "**He's the Mayor,**" "**Knight Rider,**" and "**The Robert Guillaume Show.**" While in the midst of an accomplished career in television, E also made a successful leap into the feature film world, writing the short film "**Cadillac Dreams,**" the first ever 'hood' movie, which garnered him an Academy Award nomination.

He's crafted deals, ventures, and executive produced numerous TV and pilot packages for companies like: "**The Cosby Show**", "**Even Stevens**" for the Disney Channel, LoGo Entertainment, Universal and paramount. Behind the scenes, E was instrumental in sealing strategic deals with Magic Johnson, United Talent Agency, and Silicon Valley Ventures.

In the unique world of standup comedy E. Van Lowe and his *Sweet Lorraine Productions* have financed, produced and own three comedy concerts currently in DVD distribution with Jamie Foxx's HBO specials, and Craig Shoemaker. ❖

## Howl At the Moon 2012: "Back to Basics"

No "tired seat syndrome" in this year's conference. All attendees will be on the move during this full-day program. After our keynote speaker kicks off the Back to Basics theme, it's pack up and move to four "Round Robin" sessions with four different presenters... and four different colors to help you navigate.

Another change for this year is that our workshop presenters will be our own HD CWC members. We should be proud of the extensive knowledge base our branch enjoys. Tapping into our membership helps to keep the costs down for you, too.

This year our silent auction will display many household items and writer's supplies. Remember all proceeds help fund our next event.

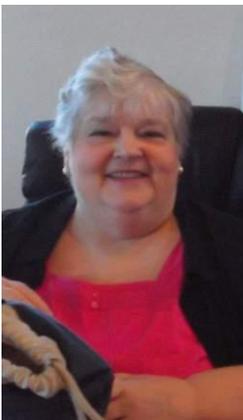
### ~~ Presenters ~~



Cliff Walker



Rusty LaGrange



Jenny Margotta



Holly LaPatt

Our rotating workshops are:

- *"Talk is Cheap, but Great Dialogue is a 10 Carat Diamond for Writers!"*
- *"Character Counts, but Developing Great Characters Multiplies Your Chances for Fiction Sales!"*
- *"No Tears Grammar and Wicked Rules!"*
- *"Must Have Elements for Every Book -- Fiction and Non-Fiction"*

Registration is open and seats will fill fast. The Lewis Center for Academic Excellence is at 17500 Mana Road, Apple Valley.

You'll have lunch on your own in the nearby Apple Valley Restaurants or bring a "brown bag" and eat on the campus while meeting new friends. We will also offer a pre-ordered Maxwell's freshly made deli sandwich, chips and drink delivered for only \$6.50.

Check out other conference workshops and you'll be surprised at the high costs around the state. Our costs are as low as we can go:

**\$30 for CWC Members**  
**\$25 for Students**  
**\$35 for Non-members**  
**(at the door prices will be higher)**

Alternate methods to pre-pay are mail-in, PayPal, or bring your payment to the meeting. Seating is limited; we grow each year. So plan your calendar for Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> and secure a seat soon. More info at: <http://www.hdcwc.org/Pages/2012WritersConference.aspx>

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## NEWS YOU CAN USE

Free Downloadable Software: **SmartEdit** (compatible with XP, Vista, and Windows 7) is an automated tool that scans your finished novel or your work in progress and highlights areas that might need closer attention. It runs six individual checks, such as highlighting words or phrases marked by you for monitoring, counting the different dialog tags you have used, counting and highlighting adverbs, and searching out over-used phrases, words, and clichés. Find it at: [www.smartedit.com](http://www.smartedit.com).

## HDCWC Defines Sales Permit Compliance

by Rusty LaGrange

“Proof of Sales Permit” is now an action item for those members who are actively marketing their

printed works and displaying them in a “sales” atmosphere with HDCWC. Final wording from the Board will be defined soon.

This new ruling provides the convenience of sellers to keep their Sales Permit on file with the club. It also fulfills the State’s requirement that authors hold a permit to sell no matter where they sell with HDCWC.

It’s up to the seller to make contact with the Board of Equalization to obtain a free Seller’s Permit and keep it with them. Under the rules of the IRS and non-profit organizations like CWC and its branches, author’s must show proof of a sales permit or jeopardize the status of our branch.

However, it is up to the individual author to secure a permit if they actively sell in public in other places not affiliated with HDCWC or at any other venues they wish to sell. Many book fairs and open spaces will ask you to comply as well. To obtain a Sale Permit go to : [www.boe.ca.gov](http://www.boe.ca.gov) . The permit is free.

This new change will also be printed on new Membership Applications and author’s will be reminded to store a copy in our files for their convenience and the branch’s satisfaction.

## BOOK FESTIVAL ~~

### CALL FOR ENTRIES

SAN DIEGO \_ The **2012 Southern California Book Festival** has issued a call for entries to its competition honoring the best books of the fall.

The **Southern California Book Festival** considers published and unpublished works in fiction, non-fiction, how-to, children’s, biography/autobiography, spiritual, poetry, compilations/anthologies, photography/art, cookbooks, business/technology, young adult, unpublished manuscripts, wild card (anything goes!), nature/animals, and regional literature. There is no date of publication restriction, but all entries must be in English or Spanish.

Deadline for submission is October 25, 2012. Their grand prize for the 2012 Southern California Book Festival winner is \$1500 cash and a flight to their awards ceremony in November, 2012 in San Diego. ❖

## HAZEL EYES -- WORD SEARCH

Here are the answers from last month’s *Inkslinger*.

P L E O N A S M U O K U J B U T  
 F N O V E L A U T H O R P R D Y  
 N R H S Y N O P S I S G R E R U  
 M E M O I R B E T S W X H A D H  
 R W R I T E R Q G M X S N Y L S  
 Q F L A S H B A C K I O R N Q N  
 D R A F T J L H B L I R O N O T  
 D I O L O G C G B T E I O I N X  
 U F D I I R O U C U T I T E Z R  
 F R D S A L P I Q C T U G T A B  
 L N E E B U D D I A B A S P Q J  
 A R S W H M C F M I B O O K H J  
 J E P W R M Y A R G E C U U F X  
 R E D I T I L T C R I T I Q U E  
 D P P U N C T U A T I O N S A Z  
 E B R J X A H E M A R K E T Q U  
 Q W X E T I T A L I C S S O W E  
 D C B C T H E S A U R U S I A M  
 A P O V C H A R A C T E R S Y H

## WRITERS' WORD SEARCH

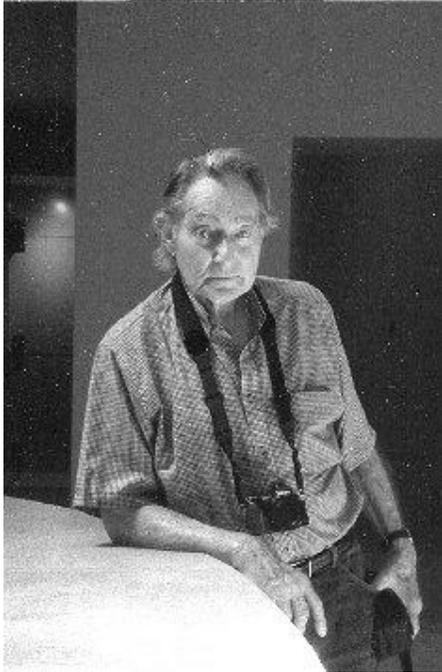
AGENT ITALICS  
 AND MARKET  
 ATTRIBUTION MEMOIR  
 AUTHOR NOVEL  
 BLOG PLEONASM  
 BOOK POV  
 BUT PUBLISHED  
 CHARACTERS PUNCTUATION  
 CRITIQUE QUERRY\*  
 DICTIONARY RESEARCH  
 DIALOG REWRITE  
 DRAFT SYNOPSIS  
 EDIT TAB  
 EXCLAMATION THESAURUS  
 FICTION WRITER  
 FLASHBACK  
 \*QUERY IS SPELLED WRONG

# JOHN MARGOTTA REMEMBERED

*By Bob Isbill*

We were saddened to learn of the passing of member John Margotta on August 2, 2012. He was 87.

John had many strings to his bow. He described himself as a self-styled collector of experiences. He was an artist, photographer, writer, and also, during his varied lifetime, a bartender, truck driver, cook,



entrepreneur, teacher, and World War II veteran. As a proud member of the Seabees (U.S. Navy Construction Battalion), he participated in the battle of Okinawa and subsequently helped in the staging of supplies for the military occupation of post-war Japan. During his enlistment he was also a deep sea diver. He made at least two 90' dives with the required 100 pounds of equipment until they found out he couldn't swim, and please excuse the pun, he was washed out of the diving program. He loved to tell that story.

John held a photography exhibit from January 14th through the 29th of this year at the Eclipse Gallery on Bear Valley Road in Hesperia, which was attended by many of our members. We were given a glimpse of how truly talented the man was. His favorite quote about his art work was "Edgar Allan Poe meets Salvador Dali."

A native of The Bronx in New York City, John owned a photography studio there for nine years before moving to the west coast. In the 1950's, he photographed such celebrities as Sammy Davis Jr., Diana Ross, and Victor Borge. Margotta was also a male model, even making the cover of a men's adventure magazine.

One of the things he was most proud of was teaching Italian cooking at Orange Coast College. He was co-author (with his wife, Jenny) of a cookbook, "*Some Like it Hot: Culinary Adventures of One Hot Mama and One Cool Dude*," and author of a fantasy adventure novel, "*Locke: Retribution*," numerous articles, short stories and poetry. His technical writings were published in a variety of photography magazines.

Though legally blind as a result of macro degeneration, John Margotta was extremely interested in life, which made him an interesting person to know. He had a quick sense of humor and was a wonderful conversationalist. Aware of the age difference at the time they married, Jenny told her critics that she would rather have five years with John than a lifetime with any of the other men she had known.

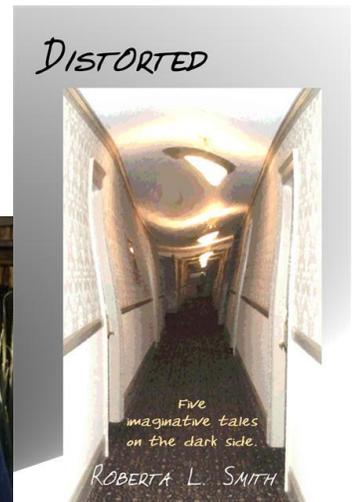
As it happened, they had over ten years of marriage. As anyone could plainly see, they both lived simply for each other.

We will miss you, John.

## New CWC Author's Title

Excerpt from *Bed of Thorns*  
from a collection of short stories titled: *Distorted - five imaginative tales from the dark side*. This book is available from Amazon. Check Roberta's website for more details. <http://www.bertabooks.com/short-stories.html>

### **Bed of Thorns** by Roberta Smith



A shadow passed before the window and an attack of fright traveled her spine. She jerked her head up and drew a loud breath.

“What is it?” Ted turned toward the window.

“Nothing. Someone passed by. I’m just jumpy.”

“We’re safe. I really think we are.” He hugged her. “I won’t let anything happen to you.”

He was such a liar. She pulled back and gazed into his eyes—those long-lashed, deep brown eyes that had the ability to turn her brain to mush and her knees to jelly. They were grave, troubled, and lost now. That twinkle was gone. The zest for life—vanished. He looked scared and nervous, afraid of his own shadow.

She’d never seen this side of him. He’d always been glib, playful, and fun to be around. Truthfully, she hadn’t dated him for depth of character or vows of “I love you.” Not valid vows anyway. He said it, but not in any meaningful way. It was an “I love you” that meant she made him feel good about himself. Maybe that was all “I love you” ever meant.

She stroked his face. The rogue had disappeared and been replaced by a frightened little boy. How did she feel about that? Surprisingly, pangs of an intense protective nature rose. Was this her never-been-used maternal instinct coming to the surface? Seriously?

She didn’t know what sort of expression was on her face, but the old Ted reappeared. His eyes once again glinted with impertinence and his lips curled into an impish grin.

She grinned back. All motherly instincts evaporated.



## A SHORT STORY

### **KEEP UP THE FRONT**

By Linda Bowden

To pretend that everything was right as rain, that’s what she wanted from her. She said, “Smile and don’t let anyone know the truth”. Well, that’s a job in itself, holding all that stress in for one more minute, one more hour and one more day. Susan decided that she couldn’t do that, that she couldn’t pretend that everything was right as rain. Susan decided that the truth would have to come out, whether or not it was ugly or sunshiny. At least, the smile wouldn’t be fake, but a genuine smile, one that could be remembered.

Looking back, she remembered a day when everything was right as rain. There were lots of those days, her childhood, her adolescence, and her early-married years. Those were the thoughts she loved to dwell on, not the ones she dwelt on now. She looked in the mirror; her eyes were tired, not sleepy, but tired. Her body was failing; her mind was still sharp.

She thought about what fun it was to ride her bike along the meadow lane. She thought about how convenient it was to have your bike ready after school and how some of her friends envied the red color. She thought about the wind blowing through her hair and the crispness of the morning as she rode with vigor to her destination. Susan preferred to live in those years passed because lately, the ones approaching, seemed anything but bright. Her mother always said that when you got wealthy enough to travel your body wouldn't let you do it. She was right. Susan snickered; she was right about so many things.

The hospital room seemed dim and she supposed that the lights had been turned down. She didn't like the lights turned down and she had said so many times, but those nurses didn't seem to listen. They wanted her to rest all the time, the way you shush babies when they are crying but Susan doesn't want to rest. Susan wants to recapture all the vigor and strength she once felt because now she is feeling as if she is slipping away. Somewhere, where there are no lights, no talking, and no riding bikes.

Just then, as she began to doze, her thoughts were interrupted with the clang of the medicine cart. Free drugs for everyone came to mind. She looked back into her repertoire of memory and remembered another time when that phrase was one of significance. Everywhere you looked there was a sign that captured the sentiment, free drugs, free love. What is free, anyway? There always seemed to be a catch to that one, something to ponder, something to resolve within your own mind. Is there anything that's free? Susan could hear her mother's voice saying it over and over, 'There's nothing free in this world, Susan, only in the world to come. The only thing we can count on is the love of Jesus.' 'You want free, Susan; ask God for it, His love is the only thing that's free.' She could hear her mother's words, as if she was standing next to her.

Here comes that woman again, the one who says 'Smile, keep everything right as rain.' In a few minutes, her wish would come true. Susan smiled, closed her eyes, and everything was right as rain.



## Notes From the Editor ---

Have you noticed that no matter how we try to plan our lives, the events we want to attend all happen to land on the same days? October and November are two of the busiest months. So plan your calendar accordingly. And don't forget to register for Howl at the Moon 2012 Writers Conference and workshop. It's the best deal going. Give it to yourself as an early Christmas gift. Egad! Did I utter Christmas already??

Do you like what you see in *The Inkslinger*? I welcome all different genres of short fiction, non-fiction newsworthy items, poetry, and new age. Remember: Arial Font, 11 point type, no need to double-space, and attach photos and /or submissions to your email. Place *Inkslinger* in the subject line of your emails. Now taking short book excerpts to entice new readers.

Call for info: 760-646-2661 if you have any questions. Email : [Rusty@aFlairForWords.com](mailto:Rusty@aFlairForWords.com) or [RustyL@hughes.net](mailto:RustyL@hughes.net). Deadline for each month is the 15<sup>th</sup>. It won't change. That's what deadlines are for. To offer a suggestion, please contact me and we'll discuss it. I love new ideas.

-- Rusty LaGrange



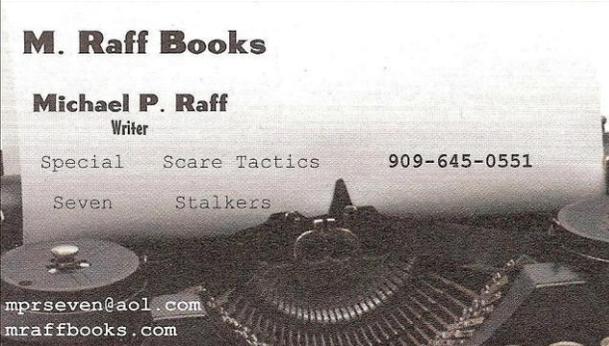
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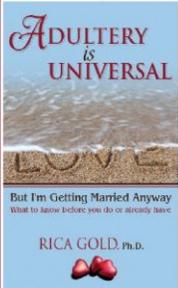
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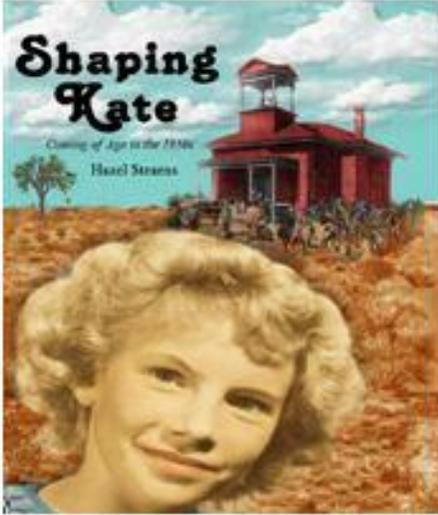
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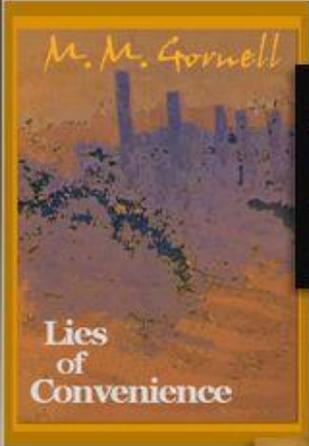
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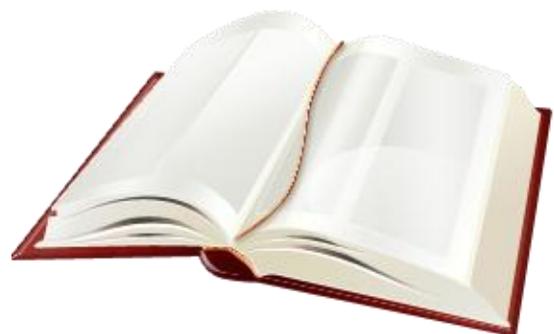
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