

# Jumble News

Writer's Markets, New Authors, Pet Tips, Recipes and More!

## Now What?

As I finish the rewrites to my *Frankie Chandler, Pet Psychic* series, I'm faced with a dilemma--how or if to market my books to publishers.

I personally prefer paper except for non-fiction, but Kindle has exploded, and Amazon has Create Space for paperbacks.

I've read so many articles about people who have traditionally published. They do the marketing themselves, and sometimes the publisher's still aren't

able to get their books into stores. The wait for a published book can be years after acceptance. Is it worth the wait?

There have been many self-publishing successes, but is a traditional publisher the best way to go?

I have to ask what my goal is. Do I want to wear the acceptance button, or do I want readers? Writing is still a business, after all.

I haven't yet decided

which route I'm taking. I'll let you know. But if I decide to self-publish, I have found a very cool cover artist!

*Jacqueline Vick*



Available at Wicked Ink Press.

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## This Month's Market

This month is about where to find markets.

*Duotrope* is a great place to search by genre and word count.

*Writing for Dollars* is a paid newsletter that provides many markets, including article markets.

*Funds for Writers* is another newsletter

that offers articles as well as market information.

Sometimes, just doing a search by your genre plus markets will give you some great sites. Just be sure to read the guidelines!

## An Author You Should Check Out!

Hannah Dennison's Vicky Hill series gives me something I value--a good laugh.

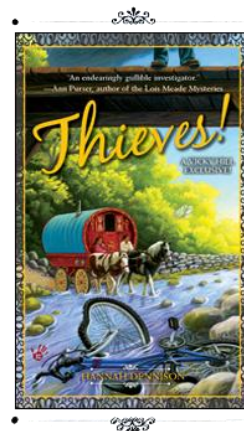
Vicky is an obituary writer for the Gipping Gazette, but she's always on the lookout for a big scoop. Her Walter Mitty-like outlook often has her seeing stories that aren't there, but once in a while she strikes pay dirt.

Her personal life is the stuff of bad dreams. As the daughter of

the infamous criminal, The Fog, she's hiding in plain sight, as she refuses to change her name. Her nemesis, Annabelle Lake, is determined to expose her, and Vicky--a virgin--is beginning to have feelings for a copper. Bad news.

The characters are a riot, and each book surrounds one of England's eccentric traditions--hedge jumping and snail racing to name two.

There are four books in the series, and the latest is *Thieves*. You'll fall in love with the residents of Gipping-on-Plym.



## Marketing Ideas

I noticed that quite a few authors I like are available in Kindle, but they aren't listed on the Kindle Boards Book Bazaar. The Book Bazaar is the one place on Kindle Boards where you are allowed to Blatantly Self Promote.

First sign up for Kindle Boards,

then start a thread for your book in Book Bazaar. The instructions offered are detailed and easy to follow.

**"Many successful authors do at least one marketing step per day."**

Authors who have the most success on Kindle Boards are authors who participate in the other groups--recommending books (not your own) to The Book Corner or Kindle specific advice to the Kindle Accessories page.

It's a great way to meet readers!

## February Events

### February 19<sup>th</sup>

If you live near Valencia, join me at the Valencia Barnes & Noble from 2-4 for the author's panel "You've Got to Have Friends".

Mystery authors Bruce Cook, Sheila Lowe, Gwen Freeman,

and Robert Fate are a hoot, and their books are excellent.

They will talk about how their writing critique group helped all

**Do you have a positive or negative experience with self-publishing? Email me! I'd like to hear about it.**

four of them to become published authors. I've read all four authors and their books range from fast-paced action to goofy fun.

Hope to see you there!

## Pet Corner - Are DNA Tests Worth It?



PLUS



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We got a DNA test for Buster. The results said Akita and Daschund. I'm not sure how that would even work, if you know what I mean. Some pet owners worry that their dog may inherit diseases specific to a breed, but once the DNA is watered down in a mutt, the chances become less likely. Just love em', I say.

## Inspiration

Forget the religious application for a moment. If you want inspiration as a writer, read the Bible.

The narrative stories of the Bible contain all the elements of a really good tale. There's foreshadowing in Geneses and Exodus, drama and conflict in

Kings I and II, love stories such as between Jacob and Rachel, and life and death struggles

taken to a new level.

Every clue laid down is paid off by the end of the New Testament.

And talk about a big finish!

Email me with any thoughts or opinions!

[jvickwriter@gmail.com](mailto:jvickwriter@gmail.com) .

## Recipe Corner

I went back to an old favorite this month. I'm not sure what to call it, except YUM!

### *Potato Sausage Casserole*

1 rope sausage. I used Jenny O.  
Four large potatoes, or more if you want to stretch the meal.  
1 15 oz jar of Cheese Wiz  
1 14 oz container of sour cream

Boil the potatoes until nearly done.

Steam sausage in about an inch of water and then slice.

Mix Cheese Wiz and about half of the sour cream together until blended. Taste and add more sour cream to suit you.

Mix it all together in a casserole dish. Add pepper if you like.

Back for half an hour at 350 degrees until bubbly and brown on top and heated through.

Serve with a salad.

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**Jacqueline Vick**

Web: [www.jacquelinevick.com](http://www.jacquelinevick.com)

E-mail: [jvickwriter@gmail.com](mailto:jvickwriter@gmail.com)

Blog:

[www.jacquelinevickauthor.blogspot.com](http://www.jacquelinevickauthor.blogspot.com)

**Links from this Newsletter:**

[www.hannahdennison.com](http://www.hannahdennison.com)

[www.duotrope.com](http://www.duotrope.com)

[www.fundsforwriters.com](http://www.fundsforwriters.com)

[www.writingfordollars.com](http://www.writingfordollars.com)

[www.kindleboards.com](http://www.kindleboards.com)

Please share this with your friends!

Email me to unsubscribe.

*Making you laugh, one  
page at a time.*

Just a  
Thought

## Mini Book Review

*Evil Under the Sun* by Agatha Christie

Some books are too good not to read again, and most of Christie's fall under that category.

In one of Christie's more brilliant plots, Poirot is vacationing at the Jolly Roger hotel. When flirtatious actress Arlena Stewart is found strangled on a lonely beach, everyone has an alibi--and a reason for wanting her dead.

Arlena's husband doesn't believe in divorce, but she's fooling around on him with a young man, Patrick Redfern. How jealous is Christina Redfern? Jealous enough to kill? Or was Arlena killed by completely unrelated drug smugglers that she just happened upon?

I also highly recommend the movie starring Sir Peter Ustinov as Poirot, Maggie Smith and Diana Rigg. The plot is sacrificed for drama (and humor) but it's highly entertaining.

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## Back to My Future

It occurred to me that a large source of my stress is...the computer. Emails fly in and demand responses; I can't keep up with the overload of info and don't want to keep up with the plethora of negative news. Half of it's made up anyway. I've decided to take a step back in time.

I'm hand writing my books and rewrites and then typing them up. It's actually proving to be faster!

No more all-day email and Face Book. A quick check twice a day is my limit. I'm also going back to writing letters.

When I was a child, we ate what was in season. I'm back to that with an organic farmer co-op.

And I'm cooking from scratch. Even Foster's sandwich bread is homemade. I'm making gifts--crochet, beads, sewn. (Thanks Mom!)

They say you should never look back, but I think the simplicity of yesterday was a healthy thing.

Sometime advancement means moving backwards!

