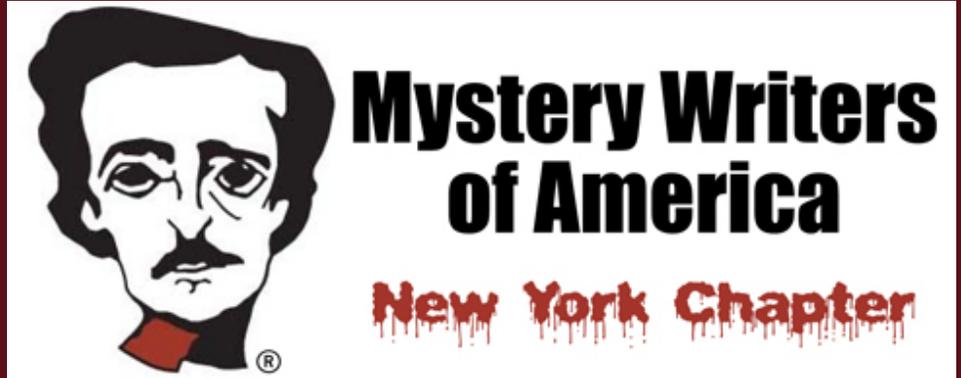


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THE NOOSE

**March/April
Noose 2012**



IN THIS ISSUE

[Chapter President Letter](#)

[From The Editor](#)

[Meet the Member](#)

[All A-Twitter](#)

[Important Dates](#)

[What's Noose?](#)

[Ask The Lawyer](#)

[Dilys Nominations](#)

Check out Upcoming
MWA-NY Events: [HERE](#)



President's Letter

Dear MWA-NY Members,

Have you friended the chapter on [Facebook](#)? Are you following us on [Twitter](#)? Elsewhere in this edition of *The Noose* is an announcement of our new member benefit: we will publicize your good news via social media. Our valiant FB and Twitter gurus have laid out the rules for what sorts of announcements we will broadcast. Read what they have to say and then please be sure to help MWA/NY help you publicize your work by keeping us informed of your good news.

This year we are scheduling two of our monthly programs on weekends, rather than on our traditional first Wednesday dinners. We would love to hear your reactions to all of our events. We aim to inform, educate, and support the careers of our members, and to give us all a chance to meet and spend time with fellow mystery writers. What suggestions do you have for how we can do more? I can't promise that we can fulfill everyone's wishes, but we are open to trying our best.

We are MWA/NY. We help one another succeed. And that means you!

Patricia King
President, MWA-NY

You can write to me at: annamaria@annamariaalfieri.com.

[Top](#)



FROM THE EDITOR

Hi all,

As someone who no longer lives in NYC, I'm delighted to see that the [March Chapter](#) meeting is being held on a Saturday, giving more members the opportunity of attending. We are lucky to be part of such a vibrant, caring community of writers and the more opportunities we have to meet up and appreciate that, the better!

Speaking of vibrant – our *Meet the Member* section has proven very popular with our readers, and I extend the invitation to those of you who haven't done so to please send us a short blurb telling us who you are with a picture (not required, but nice to have.) Remember – a member's a member's, a member – you don't have to be published to tell us about yourself. **Send comments, suggestions, complaints or requests to me at:** mhannanmandel@yahoo.com.

Marie Hannan-Mandel
Editor

MEET THE MEMBER

ELIZABETH (LIZ) ZELVIN

Elizabeth (Liz) Zelvin is the author of a mystery series featuring recovering alcoholic Bruce Kohler, who has appeared in the novels *Death Will Get You Sober*, *Death Will Help You Leave Him*, and the forthcoming *Death Will Extend Your Vacation* (April 2012) and four short stories. Three of Liz's stories have been nominated for the Agatha Award for Best Short Story. Several stories have appeared in *Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine*, including "The Green Cross" and "Navidad," whose protagonist, Diego, is a young *marrano* sailor on Columbus's first voyage. A YA novel about the second voyage is in progress. Her author website is www.elizabethzelvin.com. Liz blogs on Poe's Deadly Daughters at <http://poesdeadlydaughters.blogspot.com>.



Liz is a psychotherapist who has directed alcohol treatment programs in New York City and written and lectured extensively about alcoholism, addictions, codependency, relationships, and women's issues. For the past ten years, she has worked as an online therapist, treating clients from all over the world on her website at www.LZcybershrink.com. A woman of many hats, Liz is a poet with two books to her credit and is recording and co-producing an album of original songs, titled *Outrageous Older Woman*. She is happily married and kvells constantly about her two gorgeous granddaughters.

Send contributions to Meet the Member to mhannanmandel@yahoo.com

[Top](#)



All A-Twitter

Members of MWA are encouraged to contact us for promotion on our new [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) feeds! We are interested in hearing about the following:

- events and signings including library panels, bookstore talks, and radio, web, or TV interviews
- fresh book deals from MWA-approved publishing houses
- book or short story launch dates
- awards and nominations

Please do not include reviews of your material--these can range from comments on a *Goodreads* page to *Library Journal* suggestions, and their wide range sadly prevents us from being able to sort through such recommendations. If your book has been selected for a best-of-the-year list, however, by all

means let us know! Contact either hcdavidson@yahoo.com or lyndsayfaye@hotmail.com with all relevant information, including links.

And don't forget to join the MWA-NY group on Yahoo. To join, go to Groups on the Yahoo email page and request membership in the [MWA-NY group](http://groups.yahoo.com/) (<http://groups.yahoo.com/>).

[Top](#)

IMPORTANT DATES



- MAR. 6 —** **Library Lecture: *East Side, West Side, Dark Side: New York Mysteries.***
New York, New York. So nice they named it twice. Or is it? Come join a panel of award-winning writers to learn, not who done it, but how and why they did it. Right here in New York. Mid-Manhattan Library, 40th Street and 5th Avenue, 6th Floor. 6:30 p.m.
- MAR. 10 —** **Chapter Meeting: *Novel Opportunities to Nosh with MWA-NY! Special Date/Time - Saturday, Noon – 3PM***
For March's Chapter meeting, we're having a special WEEKEND BRUNCH where you can mingle with your fellow authors and Board members at the [Salmagundi Club](#), 47 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY.
- MAY 1 —** **Library Lecture: *The Politics of Crime***
Politics and crime is an ancient tradition that never dies. Our panel has written about bad behavior from small towns to the global stage to the long ago and faraway. And it all looks familiar. Mid-Manhattan Library, 40th Street and 5th Avenue, 6th Floor. 6:30 p.m.

[Top](#)

WHAT'S NOOSE?



Non-Fiction

Joseph Goodrich, *Blood Relations: The Selected Letters of Ellery Queen, 1947-1950*, Perfect Crime Books, February 2012.

Plays

David Landau, "Bullets for Broadway," Samuel French Publishing, January 2012

David Landau, "Noir Point Blank," Samuel French Publishing, January 2012

Novels

Lois Winston, *Death By Killer Mop Doll*, Midnight Ink, January 2012

Lucy Burdette (aka Roberta Isleib), *An Appetite for Murder*, NAL/Obsidian, January 2012

Send items for "What's Noose?" to to the *Noose* Editor at mhannanmandel@yahoo.com. Please use the format you see in the entries above. *Italicize* book and magazine titles and put "quotes" around the titles of short stories and articles.

[Top](#)



ASK THE LAWYER

Dear Bob Stein,

I am very disturbed by all the news surrounding the death of Stieg Larsson and control over his literary works. Do I have to mention by writings specifically in a will to make sure that the correct person will be in charge of my work after I die?

Disturbed in Darien

Dear Disturbed:

The short answer is, "Yes!"

If you do not name a literary executor in your will, and, even more importantly, if you do not include specific bequests in your will for your copyrights, your book contracts, and your royalties, then those assets will be lumped into your residual estate, administered by your regular executor until the estate is closed, and then divided among your heirs.

Your heirs (assuming there is more than one) may disagree about how to handle your literary estate, and may give conflicting instructions to your agent and/or your publishers. It could get very messy.

It gets even worse if you do not have a will. Then your heirs may have difficulty establishing their rights to your literary assets, and to the right to deal with your publishers and your agent.

So, yes, I strongly recommend that you include specific bequests in your will for your contracts, your copyrights, and your royalties. I also recommend that, if at all possible, you appoint as a literary executor someone who is familiar with publishing, and who cares about you and your children. I suggest that in your will, where you appoint the literary executor, you express your wish that that person familiar him- or herself with Sections 203 and 304 of the Copyright Act (www.copyright.gov/title_17), which govern the rights to renew pre-1978 copyrights and to terminate publisher contracts at statutorily determined times. You may also wish to state the powers you are granting to your literary executor. (For instance, if you have minor children, you may want the literary executor to handle your copyrights

and contracts, acting as a kind of trustee for the kids, even after the rest of the estate has been divided up and distributed.)

Bob Stein

Bob Stein counsels and represents people at all levels of the entertainment industry from writers to film producers. He has represented David Baldacci and Janet Evanovich and spent 13 years in-house at Random House, Simon and Schuster and Warner Books before entering private practice.

Advice given in this column is general, and is not based upon a thorough review of facts and considerations in any given instance. You should consult an attorney in depth if you need legal advice.

[Top](#)

DILYS NOMINATIONS

DILYS nominees by the Independent Mystery Booksellers Association have been announced. The winner and award presentation will be this March at the upcoming Left Coast Crime convention. The DILYS award is presented annually by the IMBA to honor the book that mystery bookshop indies most enjoyed handselling the past year. Further background on the award can be found at the IMBA website: www.mysterybooks.com.

A Trick of Light, Louise Penny/Minotaur

Ghost Hero, S.J. Rozan/Minotaur

Tag Man, Archer Mayor/Minotaur

Wicked Autumn, G.M. Malliet/Minotaur

When Elves Attack, Tim Dorsey/Morrow

Thanks to Aline for sending along the list – **Editor**

Aline Lenaz

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[Top](#)