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NEW RELEASES

Blind Leap Diane and Jacob Anderson-Minshall, ISBN: 978-1-933110-91-2

Focus of Desire, Kim Baldwin, ISBN: 978-1-933110-92-9

Winds of Fortune, Radclyffe, ISBN: 978-1-933110-93-6

House of Clouds, KI Thompson, ISBN: 978-1-933110-94-3

See more at

www.BoldStrokesBooks.com

BSB News Bites

Bold Strokes Books welcomes a new author, Gill McKnight, whose Matinee Book romance, *Falling Star*, is scheduled for release in 2008. Please go to her bio page [here](#) to learn more about Gill and her forthcoming novel. This is the first Matinee Book to be released!

The **Bold Strokes Books** author abbreviated schedule during Women's Week in Provincetown is as follows:

Sunday, Oct. 7, 1-3pm, Read & Chat with KI Thompson and Radclyffe, *Vixen* 336 Commercial St.;

Book signing immediately after—*Now Voyager* 357 Commercial St.

Thursday, Oct. 11, 12-2:30pm, Read & Chat at *Vixen*, 12-1:15pm, What's New! Readings from new releases; **1:15-2:30pm** What's Coming! Readings;

Book signing immediately after— *Now Voyager*.

Thursday, Oct. 11, 4:30-6pm, *The Fairbanks Inn* 90 Bradford, Reading and Chat A Potpourri of BSB Authors Read "Favorite Scenes".

Friday, Oct. 12, 9-10:30am, HOW Lesbian Author Panel, *Crown & Anchor* 247 Commer-

cial St., Admission is \$10 per person, Radclyffe (Moderator);

Signings at *Now Voyager*: **11:45pm** Radclyffe (with Karin Kallmaker); **12:45pm** Radclyffe; **1:15pm** Kim Baldwin; **1:45pm** JLee Meyer.

Friday, Oct. 12, 4:30-6pm, BSB Reading and Chat, *The Fairbanks Inn*.

Saturday, Oct. 13, 2:30-4pm, Book Signings, *Now Voyager*,

Sunday, Oct. 14, 9-11 am, Last-Call Book Signings, *Now Voyager*.

Specific information at:

www.BoldStrokesBooks.com/events.html

Forthcoming Bold Strokes Books for November 2007

Mine, Georgia Beers ISBN: 978-1-933110-95-0, Price: \$15.95 (pg 3)

Queens of Tristaine, Cate Culpepper ISBN: 978-1-933110-97-4, Price: \$15.95 (pg 3)

The Crown of Valencia, Catherine Friend ISBN: 978-1-933110-96-7, Price: \$15.95

Another Place and Time...

Once again, Kate Vincent finds herself in a mess, both romantically and time travel-wise. Romance, betrayal, intrigue, disobedient children, and religious fanaticism pack this tense conclusion to the epic adventure begun in *The Spanish Pearl*.

-Excerpt-

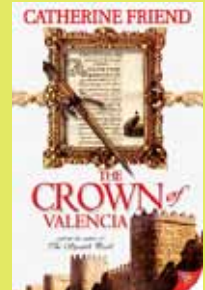
The expanding dough made an awful sucking sound as it overflowed the oven lip, then landed with a wet plop on the growing pile on the ground. What a waste. What a stupid, stupid waste. This village had few resources as it was, and I just wasted half a bag of flour and all that yeast and Marta's eggs, not to mention the generous dollop of honey I'd added, hoping to surprise Elena.

I had no business trying to bake bread. I gripped the stick and began smacking it against the oven's domed clay top.

"Stupid, stupid, stupid," I yelled.

"So, is this how you bake bread in your century?" Elena whispered in my ear. My body quickly responded by flushing warm and going all fluttery in my belly. That Elena could affect me like this irritated me quite a bit, actually. I'd always been a practical woman, not one who went all weak in the knees, and right now I was in no mood to be needed.

I whirled and stomped my foot so hard a glob of dough splattered against her dusty boot. She stepped back, all legs and leather and wide smile. "Very funny," I snapped. "You know very well it's not." I pushed back a lock of my hair and felt wet dough streak across my cheek. Damn it. I slid into English. "No, in my century we have ovens and electricity. And microwaves! I used to live a civilized life." I waved the



ISBN 1-3-978-193311096-7

stick around, flinging bits of dough everywhere. Elena took another step back, her crystal blue eyes narrowed with mirth, which only fed my frenzy. I flung the stick to the ground and switched back to Spanish. "Damn it, if you want bread so badly, you can just bake it yourself." Why did I have to love this blasted woman so?



Behind the Editing: Cindy Cresap

“...THE AUTHOR-EDITOR RELATIONSHIP IS ONE OF THE THINGS I LOVE MOST ABOUT WORKING FOR BOLD STROKES ...”

JOIN US IN PROVINCETOWN—LOTS OF WOMEN AND GREAT BOOKS, YOU CAN'T GO WRONG!

(AUTHOR VK POWELL WILL NOW BE ATTENDING TOO!)

Cindy Cresap's editing career began when she was an undergraduate at Yale University, where she was a writer, writing instructor, and managing editor for a national college guide published by St. Martin's Press. She now has over ten years' experience in both fiction and non-fiction editing. She has served as substantive editor for over a dozen novels and numerous short stories.

What is your background as a fiction editor?

I've been editing fiction for about six years now. Like most editors I know, I sort of fell into the role of fiction editor. It's not like you can major in Content Editing in college, and I've never seen an ad in the classifieds saying: Fiction Editor Wanted—No Experience Necessary <g>

I had done some fiction editing here and there, but most of my early experience was with non-fiction. I then had an opportunity to volunteer on a small literary magazine, where I got to work with a wonderful editing mentor who taught me that the hardest

thing about editing isn't figuring out what's wrong with a story; it's figuring out how to help an author to fix it. She was right.

Describe an ideal manuscript?

An ideal manuscript has an interesting, well-developed plot that draws you in from the very first page. It has real, complex characters who capture your attention the moment they appear in the story. An ideal manuscript has evocative writing, great style, and strong technique. But most of all, an ideal manuscript is one where I don't have to do anything to it!

Describe how the author-editor relationship at BSB works for you?

The author-editor relationship is one of the things I love most about working for Bold Strokes. Bold Strokes authors are more willing to work with their editors and place a higher value on the importance of the editing process to the success of their novel than any other group of authors I've worked with.

How do you try to insure that you respect the unique

voice of the author whose work you are editing?

In college I was a writer and later a managing editor for a best-selling college guide with a distinctive style of humor. As an editor, I had to remove the author's unique voice so that each article conformed to the specific artistic style of the guide. That experience helped me recognize the elements that mark an author's unique voice.

You often hear writers talk about being afraid of the editing process because they fear that their "voice" will be lost in the process. But often, an author confuses voice or style with having bad habits that actually mask the author's style. The editing process isn't about removing an author's voice; it's about clearing away the literary static so the author's true voice can be heard.

To see the rest of Cindy's interview, go to her bio at the following link:

www.BoldStrokesBooks.com/about.html

Editor's Eye by Cindy Cresap

Clichés—you should avoid them like the plague.

We're all familiar with clichés such as that one. But authors should also be aware of genre clichés in their writing.

Genre clichés aren't the same thing as genre requirements, such as the need for a girl-meets-girl, girl-gets-girl scenario in a romance. They are descriptions, ideas, or themes that are over-used within that literary genre.

Perhaps the most common offender in the romance realm is this one: she released the breath she didn't realize she'd been

holding. (I keep waiting for the day when a character actually passes out from this behavior, or at least turns blue and has to gasp for air to recover.)

Other romance clichés include the single tear trickling down a cheek, a spark or shock or electric jolt resulting from a single touch of fingers between our lovers (that's not love, that's static electricity caused from dragging your feet on the carpet), and the ever-popular sense of feeling the other half of one's soul has come sliding home. (I always envision the bottom half of the ninth inning in a tied baseball game when I see this one.

"And in a close play at the plate, Soul comes sliding home—SAFE! And the Giants win the pennant! The Giants win the pennant!").

There are other larger, more thematic clichés that should also be avoided like that nasty plague, but it's easier to spot—and avoid—the smaller ones like those I've listed. And avoiding clichés is an easy way to strengthen your writing by removing the things that weaken it.



Another Lifetime...

Three years after Courtney McAllister loses her partner in a car accident, she's finally trying to move forward. She's even dated half-heartedly over the past year, but no one is able to penetrate her emotional barricades until she meets aggressive real estate broker Rachel Hart. Despite Rachel's cool façade, Courtney is drawn to her—when she isn't furious with her. Still, despite an undeniable attraction, Courtney has given her heart once and doesn't have room for that kind of love in her life again. Rachel isn't looking for love, especially not with a woman who belongs to someone else, and taking second place has never been her long suit.

-Excerpt-

"Okay, here's what I've got." Rachel looked up from her notes to be sure Courtney was paying attention. The expression on her face was hard to read, but Rachel pushed forward, launching into her usual introductory real estate spiel. "You've got a

beautiful place here. I don't think we'll have any trouble at all selling it. A couple suggestions: do whatever you can to get rid of the clutter. Clutter makes things look smaller, and you want everything to appear as large and roomy as possible." She gestured to the entertainment center with her chin. "Get rid of some of the pictures. I always suggest that my clients de-personalize as much as possible. People want to walk through the place and be able to picture themselves in here. With all your stuff lying around, they'll end up picturing themselves in your house instead of theirs, and I've found that doesn't guarantee a sale as well."

Courtney blinked at her, the look on her face clouding over with...something Rachel couldn't put her finger on. Anger? Pain? Rachel studied her. "Ms. McAllister? Are you okay?"

Courtney stood abruptly and Rachel followed suit. "You know

what? I think I've changed my mind."

Rachel felt her head spin from the unexpected change in direction. "I beg your pardon?" She barely registered Courtney's hand on her elbow, almost pulling her through the living room and steering her toward the door.

"I've changed my mind," Courtney said again, almost breathless as she opened the front door. "I don't think I'm ready to sell. I'm really sorry to have wasted your time, Ms. Hart. Please forgive me."

Before Rachel knew what was happening, the front door closed and she was left standing on the front stoop of number thirty-seven, blinking in confusion. She stood there for several long minutes, trying in vain to figure out exactly where things had gone so terribly wrong and wondering how on earth she'd misread Courtney McAllister so badly.



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...Death Stalks a Sanctuary.

Tristaine's hard-won peace is shattered when a deadly plague threatens to devastate the Amazon clan. Their only hope for a cure lies in the sinister laboratories of the City Clinic. To save the sisters they love, Jess and Brenna must leave their mountain village and return to the place of their nightmares—the malevolent facility that almost cost them their lives. The danger they face is harrowing, the stakes enormous...and they have precious little time. Book 4 in the Tristaine series.

-Excerpt-

There were fifty or more ravens milling in the clearing, staggering, flapping frayed wings without gaining flight. Several were already dead, on their backs in the grass, their stick-like legs stiffened, their black eyes milky and vacant.

"Brenna?" Jess frowned and

took her wife's arm. Brenna's posture was rigid, and she stared at the ravens intently. The color was draining from her face.

Brenna heard the sharpness in Jess's tone, but she couldn't respond. Even if she hadn't been gripped by the paralysis of sudden trance, she was too filled with horror to summon any sound.

Dying Amazons, dropping in drifts at her feet. Young women, older ones, children, clothed in tattered gray shrouds, staggering, falling to their knees. Their faces were ghostly white, and contorted with the futile agony of trying to draw breath in vain. Other Amazons knelt at their sides, and the harsh cawing of the ravens sounded in Brenna's ears like the grief-filled shrieks of the bereaved. Then those who comforted the afflicted fell ill too, their hands clawing at their throats in terror.

"Kyla, back away!" Brenna's

tone rang with command, and Jess started and reached for the dagger in her vest.

Kyla obeyed at once, stepping around the stumbling ravens until she reached clear grass.

Brenna went to Dana in three fast strides and snatched the black feather out of her hair. "Keep your hands away from your faces, all of you. Let's get out of here."

"Brenna, what the—" Dana began.

"Move," Brenna ordered, and they moved.

Jess ushered Kyla quickly out of the circle. She took Brenna's arm as they weaved through the trees and felt her trembling. "You're thinking plague, Bren?"

"Maybe I'm wrong. I pray I am." Brenna closed her eyes. "I have a sister with a sore throat."



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Bold Strokes Books

...WRITING OUTSIDE THE BOX



Bold Strokes Books offers LGBT fiction and non-fiction that is entertaining, informative, provocative, at times transgressive, and always positive and affirming. We publish a full-spectrum of **BSB category genre**

fiction including romance, action, adventure, mystery, speculative fiction, and erotica. Our goal is to bring the best of yesterday into the future—preserving the traditional elements of genre fiction while infusing our stories with a modern sensibility and focus. Our general fiction line, **Bold Strokes Victory Editions**, presents works that explore the gay, lesbian, and queer experience in its many forms, while telling strong, human stories with universal themes. At the heart of these works are empowering, meaningful stories that offer the reader both entertainment and affirmation of our queer identity. Our newest line, **Matinee Books**, are sharp, satisfying, quality reads for busy women who want to take some time out for pure entertainment. The focus is on excitement, sexual attraction, drama, and fun in a tightly written, engaging package.

We welcome first-time as well as previously published authors. Our focus at **Bold Strokes Books** is to provide authors with the professional expertise, individualized editorial attention, and wide-scale marketing and distribution necessary to showcase their work.

OCTOBER 2007 BOLD STROKES EVENTS CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
BSBAuthorconnect Featured Authors:		Click on www.BoldStrokesBooks.com/events.html for more info.				
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7 <i>WW Reading—Vixen & Signing—Now Voyager: KI Thompson & Radclyffe, P-Town, 1-4pm</i>	8 <i>Women's Week in Provincetown, MA</i> Book Releases: <i>Blind Leap, Diane and Jacob Anderson-Minshall</i> <i>Focus of Desire, Kim Baldwin</i> <i>Winds of Fortune, Radclyffe</i> <i>House of Clouds, KI Thompson</i>	9 <i>WW</i>	10 <i>WW</i>	11 <i>WW-BSB Authors -New & Upcoming Release readings, 12-2:30 pm, Vixen;</i> <i>Fairbanks Inn Readings, 4:30-6pm</i>	12 <i>WW—HOW Benefit, 9-10:30 am Crown & Anchor;</i> <i>Now Voyager signings, 11:45-2:15pm;</i> <i>Fairbanks Inn Readings, 4:30-6pm</i>	13 <i>WW—BSB Book Signings, 2:30-4pm, Now Voyager</i>
14 <i>Gun Brooke</i>	15	16	17	18	19	20 <i>KI Thompson reading/ signing, Lambda Rising-MD, 2-3:30pm, Baltimore, MD</i>
21 <i>Andrews & Austin</i>	22	23	24	25 <i>Diane & Jacob Anderson-Minshall reading/ signing 7:30 pm, Books, Inc, SF, CA</i>	26 <i>Ronica Black & Julie Cannon signings, 7pm, Antigone Books, Tucson, AZ</i>	27 <i>YLAf—Book Festival, 9:45-5:45 pm, York, England</i>

NOVEMBER 2007 BOLD STROKES EVENTS CALENDAR

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
BSBAuthorconnect Featured Authors:		For more info click on www.BoldStrokesBooks.com/events.html .				
				1 <i>JD Glass—radio interview 5-6pm, WGDR 91.1 fm (Plainfield, VT)</i>	2	3
4 <i>Gabrielle Goldsby</i>	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 <i>KI Thompson</i>	12 Book Releases: <i>Mine, Georgia Beers</i> <i>The Crown of Valencia, Catherine Friend</i> <i>Queens of Tristaine, Cate Culpepper</i>	13	14 <i>KI Thompson reading/ signing, 12-1pm, Washington DC</i>	15	16 <i>Reading / signing Catherine Friend, 7pm, Minneapolis, MN</i>	17
18 <i>Kim Baldwin</i>	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 <i>Radclyffe</i>	26	27	28	29	30	

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