



BOOKSELLERS

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Hours

Monday - Wednesday:

10:30 am - 5:30 pm

Thursday & Friday:

10:30 am - 8 pm

Saturday:

10:30 am - 6 pm

Sundays (through Christmas):

Noon - 4 pm



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Carmel's own Phil Dunlap visits Saturday to talk about and sign his first novel!

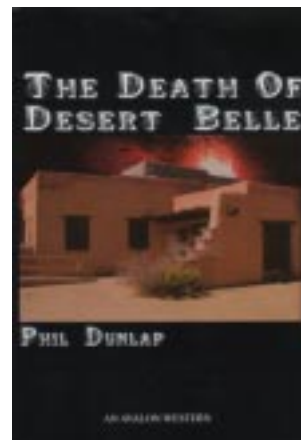
There may be nothing more enjoyable about this business than seeing one of our customers become a published author (in addition to a good friend). Phil Dunlap — a name that you may recognize from his frequent contributions to the Hamilton County section of *The Indianapolis Star* — has just published his first novel, *The Death of Desert Belle* (Avalon Books, \$21.95). It's labeled a "Western" and it's a satisfying western, but it also has a strong police procedural plot that will appeal to mystery readers. Here's Jaci's review:

While I enjoy living in Indiana, I have to admit that there are times that I miss Texas and the dusty dry warmth of it's climate. When I opened *The Death of Desert Belle*, a new western mystery written by Carmel's own Phil Dunlap, and read the first paragraph I was instantly transported to the hot summer days of the west.

The book opens with Desert Belle's Sheriff Rufus Potter trying to figure out just who blew up his jail and who has killed the Bishop brothers, two of the most wanted criminals in the territory. The sheriff seems content since they are dead that there is no need for a trial, but others, including Deputy Ben Satterfield, aren't so sure that what seems like an "open and shut" case, is just that. Satterfield gets word to Marshall Piedmont Kelly, the man responsible for arresting the Bishops in the first place, that it appears that the criminals are dead. Or are they? Kelly returns to Desert Belle to investigate matters for himself. All too soon he realizes that not only has he stumbled onto a mystery and a town that seems to be holding on by a thread, but that the closer he gets to the truth the closer he might be getting to his own death.

While the Marshall tries to learn what really happened in Desert Belle, two teenage boys are continuously crossing paths with a group of gunslingers and a mine owner who have an agenda which does not include the boys or the problems they bring with them.

continued on the back ➔



Calendar

Both discussion groups are on holiday schedules; they'll return to their usual days and times in January.

Saturday, November 13, 2 pm

Carmel resident **Phil Dunlap** visits to talk about and sign copies of his first novel, *The Death of Desert Belle*.

Sunday, November 14, 2 pm

Sharon Short and **Heather Webber** visit to talk about and sign copies of their books; both write amusing cozy series set in small-town Ohio.

Thursday, Nov. 18, noon. Discussion: *Aunt Dimity's Death* by Nancy Atherton

Saturday, November 20, 2-4 pm

Our second annual Indiana Mystery Writers' Holiday Celebration. Once again, we're inviting **all** of our state's mystery writers to join us for a reception and signing.

Tuesday, November 23, 7 pm. Discussion: *Original Sin* by P.D. James

Sunday, December 12, 2 pm

Chris Wright visits to talk about and sign copies of *Trouble in Turn Four*.

Thursday, December 16, noon. Discussion: *Death of a Peer* by Ngaio Marsh

Tuesday, December 21, 7 pm. Discussion: *Death of a Peer* by Ngaio Marsh



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

All paths will cross in a deadly confrontation and only a few will walk away.

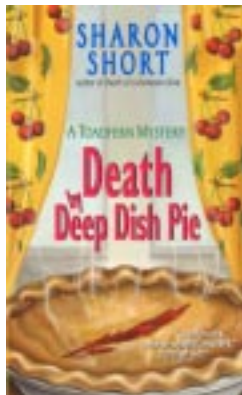
Phil Dunlap mixes several different life backgrounds together into an enjoyable fast paced read. His secondary characters are well rounded and give balance to the storyline. Interesting that it seems levity comes from his female characters, who are more earthy than their male counterparts. Phil's book makes you want to put on your cowboy boots and hat and saddle up a horse to ride with the Sunday bikers on the Monon Trail.

Sunday, November 14, 2 pm
SHARON SHORT & HEATHER WEBBER

Two writers of amusing cozy series set in Ohio, Sharon Short and Heather Webber, visit on Sunday, to talk about and sign copies of their books.

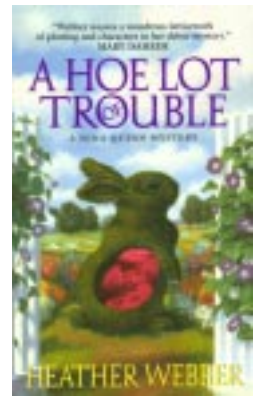
This is a return visit for Sharon Short, whose 2003 novel *Death of a Domestic Diva* (Avon, \$6.50) launched her series featuring Josie Toadfern. *Diva* went on to become one of our top-selling books of 2003. The new book, second in the series, is *Death by Deep-Dish Pie* (Avon, \$6.50). Here's how her publisher describes it:

"Like nearly everyone else in Paradise, Ohio, local laundromat owner and stain-removal expert Josie Toadfern eagerly awaits the July 4th Founders Day celebration with its highlight, the annual Breitenstrater Pie Company pie-eating contest, sponsored by the owners of the town's upper crust enterprise. But things may not be so sweet this year, what with juicy rumors flying that a black sheep Breitenstrater wants to spill the beans about some deep, dark family secret. And when a pie-making bigwig suspiciously drops dead after sampling the company's latest wares, Josie leaps into action. She loves her teeny-weeny community, despite its blemishes — and any stain on its reputation must be eradicated! But if she sticks her thumb — or her nose — into this particular pastry, she's going to pull out more than a plum ... and she may end up getting her own lethal just desserts."



Heather Webber's debut mystery is *A Hoe Lot of Trouble* (Avon, \$6.50), first in a series about Nina Quinn and her landscaping business. Here's how the publisher describes the book:

"Nina Colette Ceceri Quinn's business, Taken by Surprise — a landscaping firm specializing in surprise garden makeovers — is the only thing in her life that seems to be thriving. Her marriage to adulterous police detective Kevin Quinn has wilted. Her antisocial stepson Riley is spreading trouble around like pungent manure. Even her gardening tools are disappearing, including a rather valuable set of hoes. Worst of all, the delightful old man who first introduced her to the joys of horticulture is dead — and not by natural causes. Something evil has taken root in Nina's Ohio small town, and the local police — including dearly unbeloved Kev — are baffled. But it's amazing what a resourceful gardener can dig up when she puts her mind to it — though, by sticking her hands too deeply into this fetid, fertile soil, Nina might well end up planted beneath her own petunias.



At I Love a Mystery, Sally Powers comments: "Heather Webber provides just enough nail biting suspense and a few good laughs to keep the pages of *A Hoe Lot of Trouble* turning to the surprising conclusions."

Webber is also the author of three romance novels, including the just published *Hearts Are Wild* (Avalon, \$21.95). We have all three in stock.

HOLIDAY SHOPPING MADE EASY!

- We're open on Sundays, now through Christmas.
- Free shipping on all orders in the US.
- Holiday Gift Certificate bonus: buy a \$25 gift certificate to give as a gift, get a certificate for yourself worth \$5 on any in-store purchase during the month of January. (This offer good through December 23, 2004.)