

October 2022

**Happy Halloween and welcome to all of our new readers!**

Are you like me—emotionally still in summer? Every year I cling to the last warm days and pretend like crazy that winter will stay on the western side of the Bay Bridge. But we’ve just returned from a few weeks away to find our crape myrtle has gone gold and the last rose of summer is drooping over the backyard fence. Still, Fall is beautiful here on the Eastern Shore, so that’s what I’m focusing on. That and Halloween!

I love sharing the story of our first Halloween on the Eastern Shore. We were living in historic St. Michaels, just a few houses away from the harbor. Our (then) 4-year-old son was staying up late to trick or treat in his Mighty Mouse costume, so we kept it to one lap around the block. Near the end of our walk, we knocked on a door that was opened by a tiny, elderly woman holding two baskets, one of which was filled with full size candy bars. The second basket had some bruised fruit, a few boxes of raisins, and a couple of packs of gum. She told our wide-eyed child he could trade any treat in his bag for one of her candy bars. My boy quickly swapped an apple for a large Snickers. I don’t know who was happier, our little Mouse, or his father who also got a Snickers in the deal. Forever after, that lovely woman was known as “The Good Candy Lady.” Do you have a favorite Halloween story? Sweet memories of the season make it a little easier to drag out those jackets and head into the cold!

In upcoming news, I just learned Amazon is running two sales specials on Eastern Shore Mysteries this month. *A Commission on Murder* will be discounted to \$2.49 in a Kindle Monthly Deal for November. *Squatter’s Rights* will be discounted to 99¢ in a Kindle Big Deal, which will run November 21 to November 27. Both offers are available in the USA and Canada.



*The Correction Agency*, the first entry into the Ellender York series, got off to a great start this month. If you missed last month’s link to the Advanced Reading Copy, it’s now available on Amazon for just 99¢.

Book Six in the Grace Reagan series, *In the Absence of Truth*, is rocking along and you’ll get a peek at the cover in January. Here’s a hint: the featured house is Mac’s cottage. Based on the drafts, I think the designers did an outstanding job with this one and I can’t wait to hear what you think.

Need something to read while you’re waiting for *AOT*? In the *spirit* of the season (I’ll pause here for your collective groans), for those of you who love ghost stories, I recommend Mindie

Burgoyne's ***Haunted Eastern Shore***. She actually has four collections of ghost stories from the Eastern Shore—all of them in Kindle Unlimited, and all of them good, scary fun.

I'll close and get back to work with zero help from my cowriter (who is currently sound asleep by my feet.) She insists on sending her work telepathically, but all I'm getting is an image of a big bone. Her equally unenthusiastic contribution to this newsletter is displayed below.

Have a wonderfully spooky Halloween and as always, Happy Reading!

Cheril

