

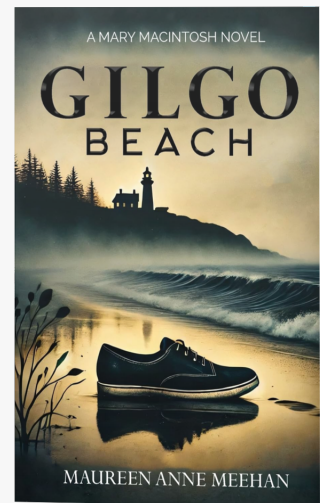
The Maple Staple Spotlight Shelf Illuminates the Power of Personal Narratives Through Five Books

From chilling true-crime explorations to immersive fantasy quests, a collection of novels delivers emotionally charged storytelling across timelines and worlds.

TORONTO, ONTARIO, CANADA, April 30, 2025 /EINPresswire.com/ -- From true-crime fiction rooted in real investigations to imaginative tales of gods, dragons, and dream-world battles, a new wave of recently released titles showcases how authors are pushing narrative boundaries. These stories, drawn from personal experience, mythology, and historic events, reflect a shared literary impulse: to confront what is hidden, reimagine what is possible, and tell stories that challenge, illuminate, and inspire.

In "Gilgo Beach", Maureen Anne Meehan offers a chilling fictionalization of one of America's most disturbing unsolved cases.

When FBI profiler John Douglas reaches out to Mary MacIntosh in 2025 to uncover more victims of the Gilgo Beach serial killings, what unfolds is a harrowing investigation that blurs the line between the personal and professional. Set against the real-life



Gilgo Beach



Fox Hollow Farm

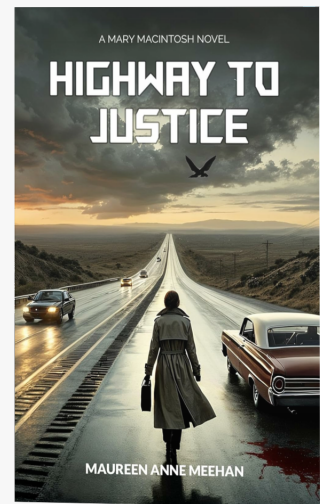
crimes attributed to Rex Heuermann, the novel follows Mary as she splits time between motherhood and her relentless pursuit of justice. The narrative pays tribute to the known and unknown victims of the killings, presenting a stark, respectful reckoning with violence that haunted a community for over a decade.

Meehan is the creator of the long-running Mary MacIntosh series and an accomplished writer whose background in law and life as a former judge lends authenticity to her legal thrillers. A Sheridan, Wyoming native now living in Southern California, Meehan's work spans fiction and non-fiction. Her stories have been recognized by The New York Times Magazine and translated into true-crime podcasts under the banner Only the Truth. Beyond her crime fiction, she has explored themes of modern dating in works such as 60 Dates in Six Months (With a Broken Neck) and Push You Away.

Meehan's second title, "Fox Hollow Farm", turns to another real-life horror—this time in suburban Indiana.

A quiet community is shattered when Fox Hollow Farm is revealed to be the burial site of numerous missing young men. Tied to the crimes of Herb Baumeister, and potentially to the I-70 Strangler, the story uncovers how easily such atrocities can hide in plain sight. The novel investigates the cultural silence surrounding marginalized victims and serves as a haunting tribute to those lost.

In "Highway to Justice", Meehan continues her true-crime-inspired fiction with the story of female serial killer Aileen Wuornos, who targeted men along Florida highways in the late 1980s and early 1990s.



HIGHWAY TO JUSTICE, a Mary MacIntosh Novel



The Dream Champion

Set in Ocala, Florida—where natural beauty and rural charm contrast sharply with its high crime rate—the novel explores the broader history of violence, social invisibility, and how certain narratives are often left out of public memory. Through Mary MacIntosh's lens, the book interrogates justice in a place where violence has become normalized.

Lesley Fisher's "The Dream Champion" introduces Max G, a boy forced to battle the creatures of his nightmares both in sleep and in waking life.

After surviving a car accident, Max begins to encounter terrifying beasts sent by two gods who enlist him to fight their battles—without explanation or support. Fisher's novel presents a layered fantasy where dreams bleed into reality, exploring fear, resilience, and a young hero's will to survive.

Fisher, born in the small town of Erickson, raised her sons on a steady stream of fantasy literature, cultivating their imaginations through books, games, and handmade dragon eggs. Her writing is deeply influenced by these shared moments and her love for storytelling filled with witches, fairies, and trolls. Her stories aim to bring that same magic to readers who believe that the fantastical belongs in everyday life.

Howard L. Kent's "The Knightlands" follows a holy knight and a young priestess as they embark on a sacred quest to reassemble the legendary Holy Stone before the red dragon Natas can seize its power. Each piece of the shattered orb holds extraordinary energy—capable of restoring peace or destroying the fabric of time itself. Their journey unfolds across a richly built world, blending timeless fantasy archetypes with high-stakes adventure.

Kent, born in Burbank and raised in California's San Fernando Valley, now resides in the Sierra Nevada region. With a career spanning security work on film sets and a long history in writing, comedy, and voice-over, Kent draws upon a cinematic sense of storytelling to craft fast-paced, visually evocative fantasy narratives.

These five novels dive into true crime, mythic adventure, and psychological battlefields, revealing the authors' varied inspirations—from courtroom realism to childhood fantasy games. Each story carries a deep engagement with justice, imagination, and the spaces where reality and fiction blur.



The Knightlands

These titles are available through leading book retailers including Amazon and Barnes & Noble. They are also featured on the Spotlight Shelves at The Maple Staple bookstore and [digital bookstore](#), where readers can discover stories that provoke, thrill, and transport.

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