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T.K. Thorne

“Historical Fiction: A Different Beast”

1. Why is historical fiction important and how is it a different beast?
2. What distinguishes good Historical Fiction from bad? What makes any writing good or bad? How much research is enough, too much?
3. What are the tools for writing Historical Fiction that work?

Thorne has presented at several conferences, including Historical Writers of America, The Carnegie Writers Conference (keynote) and return engagements to the Alabama Writers Conclave and Chattahoochee Valley Writers Conference. Her MSW and career in law enforcement have given her insights into the psychology of using story and emotion to engage readers, insights which have led her own novels to garner multiple national awards.

- “You held us spellbound!”
 - “More!”
- “...so relevant to my writing struggles.”

Bio:

T.K. Thorne’s childhood passion for storytelling deepened when she became a police officer in Birmingham, Alabama. “It was a crash course in life and what motivated and mattered to people.” When she retired as a captain, she took on Birmingham’s business improvement district as the executive director before retiring again to write full time.

Both careers and a Masters Degree in Social Work from the University of Alabama provide fodder for her writing, which has garnered several awards, including “Book of the Year for Historical Fiction” (ForeWord Reviews) for her debut novel *Noah’s Wife*. The *New York Post*’s “Books You Should Be Reading” list featured her first non-fiction book, *Last Chance for Justice*, which details the investigation of the 1963 Sixteenth Street church bombing case. Rave reviews have followed her newest novel about the unnamed wife of Lot, *Angels at the Gate*, which won the Independent Book Publisher’s Association’s Benjamin Franklin Award for historical fiction.

She loves traveling, especially to research her novels, and speaking about her books and life lessons. She writes at her mountaintop home near Birmingham, often with two dogs and a cat vying for her lap.

“...a terrific storyteller.”

—Sena Jeter Naslund, author of *Ahab’s Wife*

