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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 that 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 fulltime.

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 ForeWord Reviews’ “Book of the Year for Historical Fiction” for her debut novel *Noah’s Wife* and *Angels at the Gate*, the coming-of-age story of Lot’s Wife, which won the Benjamin Franklin Award for historical fiction. The *New York Post*’s “Books You Should Be Reading” list featured her first non-fiction book, *Last Chance for Justice*, which details the behind-the-scenes investigation of the 1963 Sixteenth Street church bombing case. Most recently, Thorne explores murder, mayhem, and magic when a police officer discovers she’s a witch in her newest novel, *House of Rose*, the first of the Magic City stories.

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 a dog and cat vying for her lap.

“...a terrific storyteller.”

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

