

Maria Pell Mystery Series by Lynne Handy

Like Christie's Hercule Poirot, poet Maria Pell happens upon crimes, which she feels compelled to solve due to a strong sense of moral duty. She is psychic, but as a Kirkus reviewer noted, "...spirits guide her, but Maria works her way toward a solution primarily with gumption and intuition."

CATEGORIES: Crime Thriller and Mystery: Women Sleuths

PURCHASE: Ingram Catalog and all major book retailers for paperback. Exclusive to Kindle for ebook.

Learn more at: LynneHandy.com Email: LCHandy610@gmail.com

The Untold Story of Edwina:

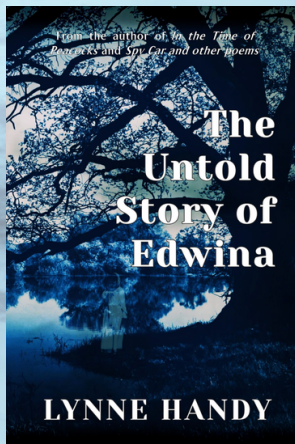
Maria undertakes a biography of deceased horror fiction writer, Edwina Frost. When Maria discovers Edwina's secrets, the writer's malevolent spirit takes over her mind. Maria's partner, Mathieu, is introduced in this book.

Where the River Runs Deep:

Mathieu and Maria are estranged after his infidelity. In North Carolina she's teaching at a poetry retreat, when members of a family with ancestral ties to the 1700s begin to die mysteriously. Secrets written into the poetry of deceased prison inmate, Amen Hotep Jones, provide important clues.

Old Sins: In Ireland, Maria studies ancient cultures and tries to write poetry.

A girl is murdered; others are kidnapped and villagers fear they've been taken by sex traffickers. Maria works to solve the crimes, while Mathieu charms the villagers with tales of his native Togo.

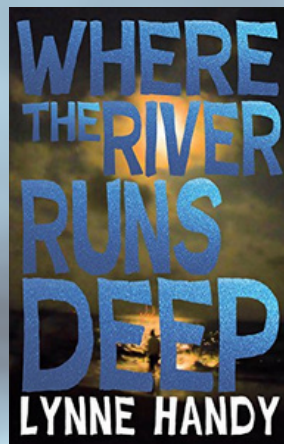


Paperback: 9780692686843

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E-Book ASIN: B0B5HS2YCC

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The eldest child in a farm family, Lynne Handy grew up in western Indiana where the tall corn drove her inward to create fantasy worlds. Books were her salvation. She worked as a librarian in Illinois, Texas, and Michigan. In retirement, she co-founded Open Sky Poets, a collaboration of poets in the western suburbs of Chicago, and published poems and short stories in literary journals. She has independently published four novels—three are mysteries in the Maria Pell series. Current projects involve a new mystery series with main character author Jake Westin, who, like Christie's Miss Marple somehow lands in the middle of murder investigations. Handy now lives in a blue, yellow, and brown house with a yucca plant out front and two wonderful rescue dogs who keep her company.

Maria Pell Mystery Series Reviews

"Handy's writing is concise and fittingly lyrical, packing a punch with few words."

- Kirkus Reviews

"For the reader who appreciates the complexities of a solid, traditional murder mystery, master mystery writer Lynne Handy should be your new favorite author. . . Handy's writing is mesmerizing and this edition, as all within the series, offers that satisfying surprise element at the end. Once you begin, you won't stop reading until the last chapter." - L.A. Scheer, Media Goddess/Writing Mentor

"Lynne Handy has packed a steamer trunk of action and intrigue into this slim volume, which is equal parts mystery, romance, thriller, and parable. The lively adventures of Maria Pell in the North Carolina backwater are punctuated by poetry that is sometimes achingly lovely and often just plain ingenious." - Reader Review of *The Untold Story of Edwina*

"A poet writing a posthumous biography of a horror- novelist colleague gets caught up in an investigation of bones found buried on the author's property in Handy's thriller. A mystery novel with a sympathetic protagonist whose apparent descent into madness makes her no less riveting." - Kirkus Reviews - *The Untold Story of Edwina*

"Author Lynne Handy has done a fine job creating a lead character in Maria Pell who is strong, independent, and successful yet still vulnerable enough to be seeking love and romance, now that her relationship with Mathieu has gone sour. What the author does so well is to expose the underlying racism and hatred that is sometimes taught to young southerners at their parents' feet. . . I particularly appreciated that the author beautifully used the vehicle of poetry to convey this deep-seated weight of injustice that so many people of color felt. The author's fulsome and descriptive passages, setting the scenes of the forests and sea that surround the North Carolina Outer Bank, certainly allow the reader to feel part of this often foreboding atmosphere." - *Where the River Runs Deep* 5-Star Review from Readers' Favorite

"*Old Sins*, featuring poet and amateur sleuth Maria Pell, grabs you from the first page and doesn't let go. Exceptionally well plotted, the book's mysteries and crimes—both old and new—weave together in intricate and unexpected ways. The author builds a creative cast of characters that will have you guessing as to the real culprits as murder, kidnapping, sex-trafficking and more have the small Irish coastal town on high alert. This setting along with the influence of Celtic myth, archaeology, ancient religions, and Maria's haunting memories provide a rich backdrop for her sleuthing activities and the danger she faces. A satisfying, well-written mystery you won't be able to put down!" ~ Valerie Biel, author of the award-winning Circle of Nine series