

Greg Lilly Newsletter

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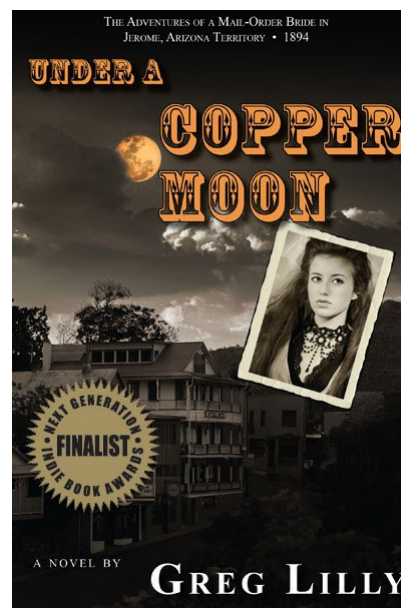
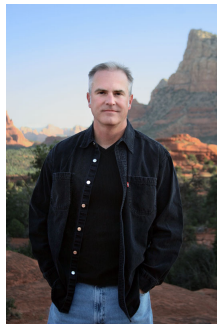
Message from Greg

In the News:

No, I didn't get arrested...

Under a Copper Moon and I were featured in Hampton Roads' *The Daily Press*. Book editor

Mandy Malone did a thorough interview with me about women in the Old West and how I researched the book.



2008 Finalist for the Indie Book Awards

***Under a Copper Moon* wins a Finalist Medal in Historical Fiction**

Great news!! ***Under a Copper Moon*** has been named one of the ten Finalists in the Historical Fiction category of the 2008 Next Generation Indie Book Awards according to C. Goulet, Awards Administrator.



Under a Copper Moon is published by Cherokee McGhee. Set in 1894, the novel tells the story of Inez, a young woman who finds herself alone and hopeless after her mother dies, who discovers adventure in a newspaper ad. She arrives in the town of Jerome in the Arizona Territory as a mail-order bride for a miner. Through circumstances that twist, turn, and buckle, Inez discovers another side of the town: elegant parlor houses, the mysterious Navajo Onalee, Mr. Zhen and his Chinese laundry girls, the town's handsome sheriff, and a new best friend Pearl who fancies striped stockings and a sip or two of wine.

The Indie Book Awards were established to recognize and honor the most exceptional independently published books for the year and is presented by the Independent Book Publishing Professionals Group in cooperation with Marilyn Allen of Allen O'Shea Literary Agency. Additionally, ***Under a Copper Moon*** will be listed as a Finalist in the 2008 Next Generation Indie Book Awards catalog which will be distributed at Book Expo America in Los Angeles.

Indie Book Awards is open to all independent publishers based in the United States, Canada, or internationally who have a book written in English.

I'm honored the novel won this award. Just as independent film and

Outdoor Adventures: The peninsula of Virginia has many outdoor activities. I recently kayaked for the first time. I loved it and can't wait to save up and buy a kayak of my own. Also, my house is adjacent to the Carter's Grove Plantation Country Road. This is an abandoned road that leads from that James River plantation to Colonial Williamsburg. It's a great trail for walking the dog and for jogging. Jogging-wise, I'm up to five miles. Anything longer than that, I'll just drive.

A Sad Note: Two wonderful women have passed on.

Rochelle Brener Weis was a celebrated poet, writer, and the Senior Poet Laureate of Arizona. She supported me from the time I arrived in Sedona and always cheered me on in each new project.

Ann Schweitzer was an artist and a tireless

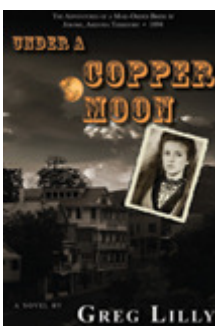
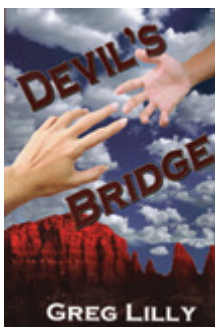
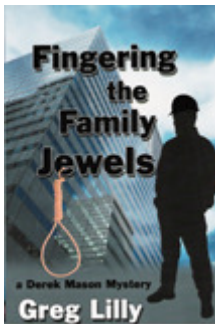
volunteer at the Sedona Arts Center. I saw her at many SAC events and know that she was a great inspiration to the people of Sedona's art community.

The memory of these women will live on in all the souls they touched.

Summer Reading

What's more fun than relaxing in the summer sun with a good book?

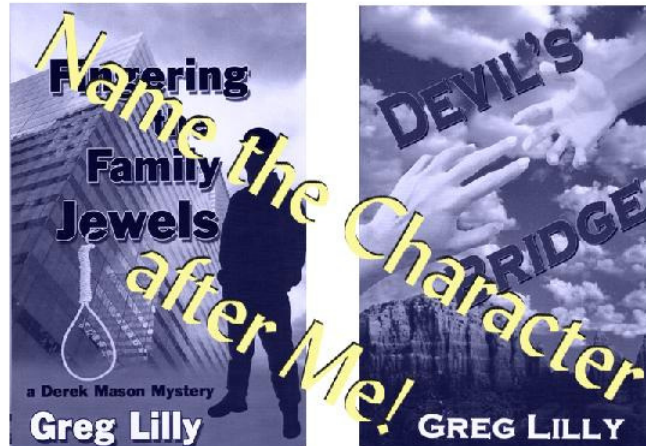
Ask for these books at your local independent bookstore or click on the covers to order them at Amazon.com.



music have blazed a trail for innovation and originality in overly commercialized industries, independent publishers deliver creative and well-written stories that the big houses in New York overlook in their pursuit of fast-selling celebrity books.

Contest Winner

Thanks to all who entered the "Name the Character after Me" Contest



The next Derek Mason Mystery is unfolding in my head and on the computer's keyboard, and now, I have a name to add to the characters: **Doris Weintraub**.

Doris was randomly picked from the correct answers to the contest question:

From *Devil's Bridge*, why does Myra believe Gil has the knowledge to poison her food?

Answer: Gil is an exterminator.

Congratulations Doris!

Writing Tip

Setting as a Character

Readers have said that I treat the setting of my stories like a character. True. The setting is seen through the Point of View character, so although the setting can be filtered depending on the character's mood and personality, certain places bring traits of their own.

I'm drawn to places that inspire stories. That's why the settings come to life. A real place has baggage. And the reader's preconceived notion of the place can be used to enhance the story. Charlotte, North Carolina is a banking town, a down-to-business city. Sedona, Arizona is a spiritual place, an artful town



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Under a Copper Moon is published by Cherokee McGhee, L.L.C.

Devil's Bridge and *Fingering the Family Jewels* are published by Regal Crest Enterprises, L.L.C

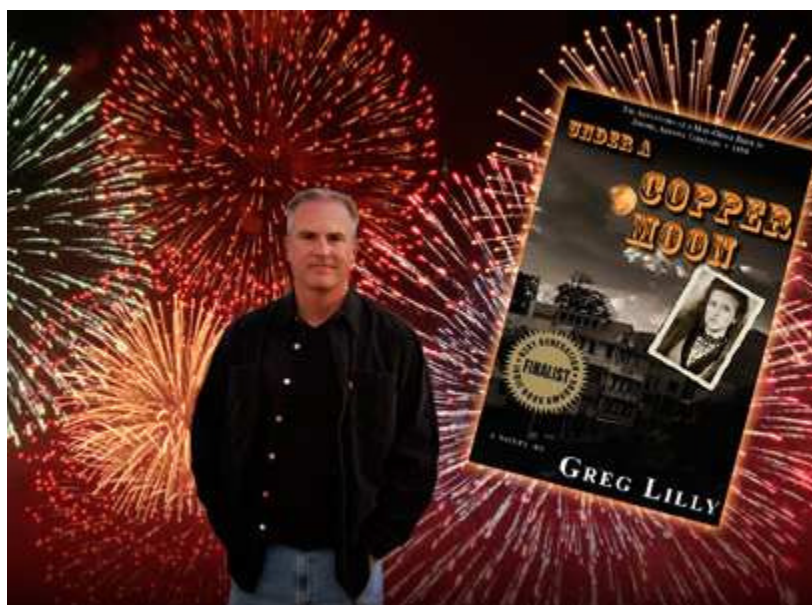
with an outdoor-oriented way of life. Jerome, Arizona is steeped in the history of western mining towns.

As you read or write, think about those preconceived impressions the setting makes. Do they add to the story or could it be set in just about any place?

From my years in instructional design, I know that adults bring life experience to everything they do. Writers should take advantage of that. Don't spend two pages describing an office cubicle when most people have experienced one. Likewise for a grocery store...Unless there is something that the reader needs to know that is unusual, like a butcher knife sticking out of the butter pecan ice cream in Frozen Foods. That could be a clue!

Closing

Yes, I'm celebrating the Award... And congratulating Doris Weintraub for winning the "Name the Character After Me" contest.



Have a safe and fun summer,
Greg Lilly

Thank You

Thank you for reading. I know that with all the things vying for your attention, books and reading are quiet and solitary pursuits. I appreciate your time.

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