

BOOK AGAIN

NEWSLETTER

September/October 2005

Sheryl's News

As the summer season ends, and students and teachers return to school, we realize how much we will miss seeing you here at Book Again. We enjoy having so many visitors to the store during summer vacation.

Speaking of the start of the new school year, I'd like to remind you that Book Again gives teachers a 20% discount on books purchased for their classrooms! Have a good and productive school year and come in as often as your studies allow.

We also want to welcome so many of our new customers who have come to us after Taz closed his bookstore. We understand how sad it is to lose a store that you are happy with and that it makes it difficult to adjust to a new store and new procedures. Please let us know if we can help make it easier.

We are happy that you have come to Book Again and we are hoping that you will want to stay with us!

—Sheryl

HALLOWEEN HALF-OFF SALE!

Friday, Saturday and Sunday

October 21, 22 and 23

Also

October 28, 29 and 30

**All books inside the store will be
half-off our already low prices!**

Prices this low are absolutely

SCARY!

This is our best sale - don't miss out!

"The greatest gift is a passion for reading. It is cheap, it consoles, it distracts, it excites, it gives you the knowledge of the world and experience of a wide kind. It is a moral illumination."

—Elizabeth Hardwick

Diana Looks at Romance...

Recently I was introduced to some authors who lean toward lighter, more contemporary romance. Romance where the **heroine** gets to make the decisions leading to romance that is fun and lighthearted but still Spicy!

If you are a take charge woman who enjoys lots of laughs and love along the way then these are some of

the authors you might start reading – Valerie Frankel, Lori Devoti, Emma Gold, Carly Phillips, Jennifer Cruise, Hailey North and Lori Foster.

Remember, with books you are only a page away from your familiar authors if you are not delighted with some new ones. And free-bees are a great way to try someone new...

STORE HOURS: Tuesday through Sunday 11 am to 4 pm (Closed Mondays)
5039 Torrance Blvd., Torrance, CA 90503 • (310) 542-1156 • www.bookagain.com

Linda's Pumpkin Cookies

4 C flour
5 tsp baking powder
2 tsp cinnamon, nutmeg, baking soda
1 tsp salt, vanilla, ginger
1 lb butter
1 C sugar
2 eggs
1 large can pumpkin (29 oz)
1 C nuts
½ C raisins

Melt the butter and cool; mix all dry ingredients together; add everything else, including the butter (add nuts and raisins last). Spoon onto greased cookie sheet and bake 12-15 minutes at 375°.

Maple Icing

1 C brown sugar
6 T butter
⅓ C milk
2⅔ C powdered sugar
1 T vanilla

Boil together the first 3 ingredients; cool. Add sugar and vanilla. Spoon onto cookies... Yummy...

BOOKS WANTED:

- ✓ Classics in good condition
- ✓ Elm Creek Novels by Jennifer Chiaverini
- ✓ Books by Wilbur Smith
- ✓ Books by Robert Crais
- ✓ Books by Harlen Coben

Folklore

by Joe Nolte

A MYSTERY FOR HALLOWEEN

Once upon a time, long ago yet not so far away, a story was told to me. I remember the teller well – quite well indeed, as you will soon see. I remember the exact location, too – I can still see the sunlight poking incongruously through the curtains as this strange tale of a mystery from an impossibly distant past unfolded...

It would have been forty years ago now, when I first heard the story. It concerned a woman, young and alone, who had made her way back to the old family estate, an estate that, though presumably at least somewhat welcoming in days gone by, was now the very model of the Old Dark House. She entered, and looked around her. The furniture was all covered in sheets, and it was apparent that no one had lived there for quite some time. (I remember at the time being particularly impressed at the vision of the sheets on all the furniture. It was decidedly chilling and, hence, delightful to my ghoulish young mind!)

The woman went into the dining room, wherein stood a long table, surrounded by thirteen chairs. And she remembered... She remembered being at the table when her grandfather sat at the head. She remembered asking him why, when there were never more than twelve family members present, there was always a vacant thirteenth chair at the table.

If all this is beginning to sound like a bad movie, that is only because that's exactly what it was!

The Thirteenth Guest was originally a novel written in 1929 by young Maurice Coons, who decided to

change his name to "Armitage Trail" for this and one subsequent novel – a little thing called *Scarface*...

One wonders what else he might have given us... We'll never know, since within two years he was dead of a heart attack at age 28.

At any rate, the novel was made into the film *The Thirteenth Guest* in 1932, featuring a young Ginger Rogers, but we are more interested in a later version... for the film was remade in 1943 on a shoestring budget as *The Mystery of the Thirteenth Guest*, and directed by Bill "one shot" Beaudine.

The reason we are mostly interested in this remake is that the person who played the woman as a young girl in the '43 version is the very one who told me the story of it, some forty years ago!

It was her one and only appearance on the silver screen.

And I remember it all so well, as she went on to open a book store some twenty years after telling me the tale. Yep, Sheryl Anderson, founder of **Book Again** and mother to myself, played the leading lady as a young girl in that 1943 mystery!

Oh – you want to know exactly why there was a thirteenth chair? So did I, back then – and Mom couldn't tell me. I spent decades wondering about it – and now...

Well, you'll just have to read the book!