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## Shut the Front Door! It's book #4

I can only use this rhyme once, unless I get to book 24. Sad to say, I have an expiration date (still unknown, thankfully) so I probably won't write that many books in my lifetime. But I couldn't pass up saying it.

And if you even read and pay attention to my newsletters, it seems I announced Book 4 would be published in January. Well, that didn't happen, so I'm re-announcing it now. I need to remember that just because I send a "final" manuscript off to my publisher, it still has to be formatted and sent back to me to have one last look at it. And it never fails, I always find something more things to fix. Then it has to go back to them again, and they send me a new approval form. In the meantime, I wasn't in love with the background color of book 4's cover, so I asked for that to be changed too.

I should give myself (and my publisher) three months from when I think the next book is coming out until it really does.



**So now, Book Four, *The Maidservant in Cabin Number One*, is officially going to be available on April 26, 2024.**

There are two ways you can get it. One is to order it now, (called a pre-order) and it'll be shipped the minute it's available, or you can wait to order it on April 26. If I had a preference, I'd suggest you pre-order it. It gives me more credibility with Amazon, and they are the Big One. Did you know they generate around \$28 billion worldwide from book sales every year? They are responsible for over 50% of sales from the Big Five publishers and they control between 50% and 80% of the book distribution in the United States. Amazon sells at least 300 million print books every year. Frightening, isn't it?

It makes you wish you would have started a business in your garage back in July 1994. And it brings all authors like me back down to reality. The chances of us becoming an overnight success are 1 in 300 million rather than 1 in a million. But who cares?

### Fun things about April

- **April 1**, April Fool's Day when you can pull a joke on someone
- **April 10**, Property Taxes are due and it's my birthday
- **April 15**, Income Taxes are due
- Okay, here's one I can only use once a year. If April showers bring May flowers, what do May flowers bring? Pilgrims. haha
- **April 22**, Earth Day
- **April** is the first full month of Spring
- The **month of April** gets its name from the Latin word aperio, meaning "to open [bud]," because plants really begin to grow now
- You can also celebrate Bucket Day, Mani-Pedi Day, World Book Day, Take your Daughters & Sons to Work Day, and National Independent Book Store Day, just to name a few.

**Whew!**

### What I'm Reading

I've fallen in love with Marie Benedict and Donna Everhart! I've just finished these three great reads, and I hope you'll add them to your To Be Read list.

**The Only Woman in the Room** is the fascinating story of Hedy Lamarr and her escape to America just as war breaks out.

**The Mystery of Mrs. Christie** When Agatha Christie disappears for twelve days, her husband is implicated in her possible murder, but the disappearance was a ploy to expose him for being an adulterer. (hopefully I didn't spoil the story)

**The Mitford Affair** is the story of three sisters, all opposite. Set during the beginning of WWII, it's amazing how Marie Benedict weaves in so much history.

**When the Jessamine Grows** is set during the Civil War, and it's an incredible story about one woman's journey to survive and hold her family together.

I hope in some way, by reading stories by these incredible writers, it somehow makes me a better writer.

And last but not least, **Book Four, The Maidservant in Cabin Number One, The Beginning**, is the story about Ruth Landry, the woman who starts a new life, and owns the cabins before Annie buys them.

Here are the links to preorder:

The paperback is available only through B&N until April 25, and the ebook is available from KDP.

B&N Paperback

B&N Hardcover

B&N eBook

KDP eBook

Kobo eBook

Google Play eBook

iTunes eBook

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**THE COVETED LITERARY TITAN BOOK AWARD**

I hope you don't mind if I remind you on (or about) the 26<sup>th</sup> you can order the book if you haven't already done so. As usual, I'd love to hear your thoughts about the story, and of course Amazon (and I) love it when readers leave a glowing review.

Happy April,

*Chrysteen*

**P.S. If you know someone who loves to read, please forward this!**

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