

To view this email with images [click here](#)



Louise Penny's September Newsletter

Dear First name

"From the moment I picked your book up until I laid it down I was convulsed with laughter. Some day I intend reading it."
- **Groucho Marx (1895-1977)**

This month's quote comes courtesy of my brother Doug - who is supportive enough to know when I need to laugh.

How has your August been? Can you believe it's September? Took me decades before I stopped feeling that I had to go back to school. And now I quite like September. It's a beautiful month here in Quebec. Still mild, but the leaves begin to turn, the nights close in a bit, the light grows deeper. Every now and then we can catch the scent of wood smoke in the air, as fires are lit.

It's a very gentle month as we pass from summer into autumn. For those of us who like nothing better than sitting with a tea by the fireplace, September is a lovely time.

I have to tell you, too, that this September is one of the most exciting times in my life.

Still Life / En plein coeur - French publication

Two books are being published this month. Including the very first one in French. It's called En plein coeur and is a translation of STILL LIFE. As you might know, I've been lucky enough to have the books translated into a dozen languages, including German, Japanese, Turkish - but not French. It was the only sadness in a career that has amazed me. That my friends and neighbours here in Quebec couldn't read my books. That they weren't available in the language of Armand Gamache and the other characters.

But now they are. Not many events in my career measure up to this one. It's thrilling for me. Mostly, though, it's a quiet event of the heart.

Book club

Another extremely exciting thing to happen is that STILL LIFE has been chosen by [Laurie R. King's Virtual Book Club](#) as their September selection. It's a wonderful, very active and thoughtful book club - and they welcome new members. If you go to Laurie's site you can sign up.

Bury Your Dead - launch

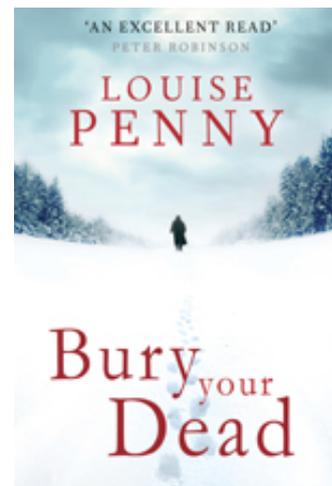
The other huge event this month is the publication in Canada and the US of BURY YOUR DEAD. The official date is September 28th,

Bury your Dead US Edition



Click if you wish to order
[Barnes & Noble.com](#)
[Amazon.com](#)
[ABA American Booksellers Association](#)

Bury your Dead UK, Canada and the Commonwealth



Click if you wish to order
[Amazon.ca](#)
[Amazon.co.uk](#)

and I have a bunch of events beginning in a few weeks that I'll tell you about soon, but I just want to say how much I adore this book.

Bury Your Dead - listen to an excerpt

The wonderful people at Macmillan Audio have also provided us with an excerpt of Ralph Cosham reading the very beginning of BURY YOUR DEAD. To hear it just [click here](#). It will take you to YouTube, where you can 'watch' it. Enjoy!

BURY YOUR DEAD takes place mostly in old Quebec City, within the walls. And within the dwindling English community. Chief Inspector Gamache is there, visiting his mentor Emile, and recovering from a police raid that went terribly wrong. One he led, and feels responsible for. As the book progresses we slip deeper and deeper into understanding what happened, and why Armand is struggling with both grief and guilt.

But the Chief Inspector is also drawn into another mystery. Two, in fact. One concerns the murder of an eccentric amateur archeologist, who's spent his life digging up old Quebec City, looking for the remains of Samuel de Champlain. The other mystery is just that - where is the body of Champlain? The founder of Quebec died 400 years ago. How is it they know where nuns, minor functionaries, farmers are buried, but not the father of Quebec?

What happened to his body? And why is it missing?

As Gamache investigates one mystery the other grows until the two are intertwined, and the Chief Inspector comes to realize that in this city, in this society, the past is never buried. And a mystery 400 years old can still kill.

Bury Your Dead - news and reviews

BURY YOUR DEAD has the very rare honour of having received starred reviews from all four pre-publication reviews: Publisher's Weekly, Kirkus, Library Journal and Booklist.

It has also been chosen an October IndieNext book, by the Independent Booksellers Association in the US.

I hesitate to say this, because each book really is like a part of me, but BURY YOUR DEAD is my favorite so far. I hope you feel the same way, and get a chance to read it. It's always a good idea to pre-order, since the first editions go very quickly.

And, if you could do me the very great favour of telling others about the Gamache books, I'd so appreciate it.

Thank you.

Audio book / interview

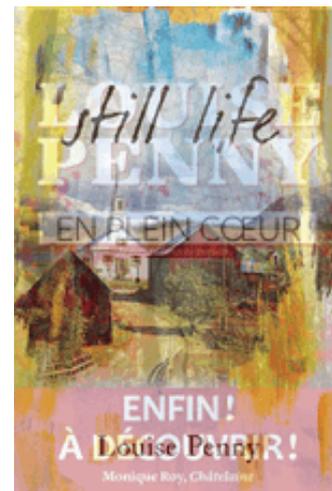
The audio book of BURY YOUR DEAD, read by the incomparable Ralph Cosham, will also be available, and has been chosen by Kirkus as one of their top picks. You can hear an interview with me done for the audio book by clicking on this [link](#).

Book tour

It's going to be a busy September. In fact, it's going to be a busy fall. Once I leave on tour September 20th I don't get home until late November, on a tour that takes me back and forth across North America, and to England.

People always ask what happens to our golden retriever Trudy when we go away. We're so lucky here to have Pat and Tony, our caretakers, who move right in with their dogs and look after the

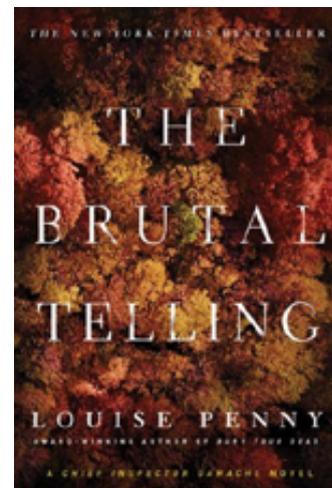
Still Life US/ French editions



Click if you wish to order
[Barnes & Noble.com](#)
[Amazon.com](#)
[ABA American Booksellers Association](#)

French edition
[Amazon.ca](#)
[Archambault.ca](#)

The Brutal Telling US Edition



Click if you wish to order
[Barnes & Noble.com](#)
[Amazon.com](#)
[ABA American Booksellers Association](#)

The Brutal Telling
UK, Canada and the
Commonwealth

place. Trudy, truth be told, gets quite upset when we come home - preferring the company of Pat and Tony!

Here are my September events:

Sept 2	- Launch of EN PLEIN COEUR!!!! Plus - 5:30 pm - Toronto - Courtyard Stage of the CNE - reading with Linwood Barclay
Sept 18	Livres d'or bookstore in Sutton - 1pm-3pm Siging En plein coeur
Sept 21	- 7pm - Ottawa Public Library - 120 Metcalfe Street
Sept 23	- Wordfest Kingston, Ontario - 1:30-3:30 - Holiday Inn Waterfront. Event with Peter Robinson - panel and signing 6-8pm - Belleville Public Library (Pinnacle Street) - talk and reading
Sept 24	- 12:30 - Toronto Reference Library - launch of BURY YOUR DEAD
Sept 25	- 4-6pm - Sleuth of Baker Street Mystery bookstore, Toron to - book signing
Sept 26	- 11am- 5pm - Word on the Street Kitchener, Ontario - Victoria Park - talk and signing
Sept 28	- 7pm - Runnymede Library, Ontario - talk and signing
Sept 29	- 7pm - Mystery Lovers Bookshop - Oakmont, Pennsylvania
Oct 1	- 5:30 to 7:30 - New England Independent Bookseller's Association Book Fair - Rhode Island
Oct 2	- 7pm - Madison, Connecticut, RJ Julia Bookshop - talk and signing
Oct 3	- noon - Brattleboro, VT Bookfest

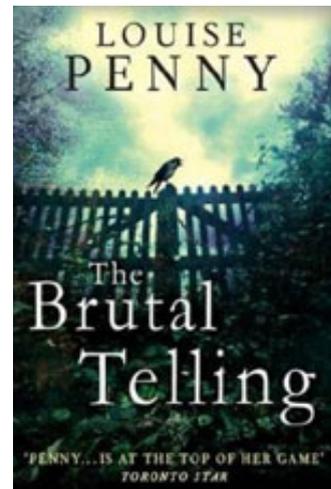
And I'll let you know the rest of the schedule in upcoming newsletters.

Advanced Reader Copy - winners

I want to congratulate the winners of the Advance Copies of BURY YOUR DEAD. Risa Parsons and Nancy Jo Leachman. The books be winging their way to you immediately.

Sitting on the dock of the bay

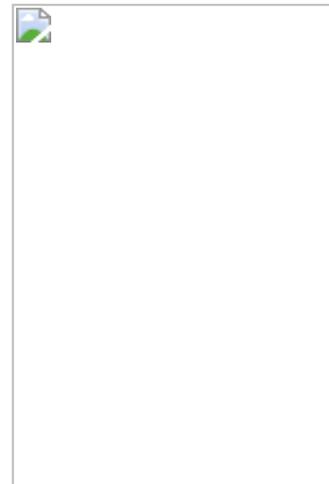
We had quite a few fun events in August. Michael and I were in Stratford as part of their Celebrated Writer's series. Such fun to be in



Click if you wish to order

[Amazon.ca](#)
[Amazon.co.uk](#)

A Rule Against Murder/ The Murder Stone



Click if you wish to order

**A RULE AGAINST
MURDER
US edition**

[Barnes & Noble.com](#)
[Amazon.com](#)
[ABA American
Booksellers Association](#)

**THE MURDER STONE
UK/Canada & the
Commonwealth edition**

[Amazon.ca](#)
[Amazon.co.uk](#)

**Cruelest Month
US edition**

a theatre I was at as a member of the audience, and this time I was the entertainment. Then we hopped on a plane and went to the Sunshine Coast Festival of the Written Arts in Sechelt, British Columbia - up the coast from Vancouver. My God, what a beautiful area. You can see some of the photos at the top. Our Bed and Breakfast was right on the water. In the morning I'd take the manuscript for the book I'm working on down to the dock, with a cup of coffee, and read. Makes it very hard to feel sorry for myself! Damn.

Went out on a six hour cruise around the inlets and bays. Saw eagles and seals. And was awoken one morning by furious splashing, to find dolphins playing outside our window. The locals believe they might have been feeding, but it looked like playing to me.

The festival itself is lovely. Set in the woods, in a big open air theatre that seats 450 people. And it was packed. That feels wonderful, to have gone all that way across the continent from our home in Quebec, and see all those people there.

The photograph at the far right on top shows me with Gwen Southin, one of the founders of the festival who at the age of 73 started writing mysteries. Now 83 years of age, she has a new book out, *Murder as a Last Resort*, and was honoured at the festival she helped create.

don't merde it up

The other thing that happened in August was that I had my first interview in French. Now, Quebec is French, and I live a part of my life in that language. But it's one thing to bumble along with friends or at the store, and another thing to know hundreds of thousands of people will hear me declare I have 'quite large vacuums' - when what I meant to say is 'I have quite large aspirations.

Aspirateurs. Aspirations. A language of nuance. And nuisance.

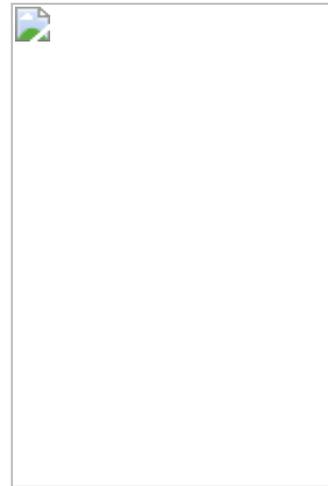
The publicist, in preparing me, had these parting words: Just don't merde it up.

This will, of course, become my new motto. Besides, how can anyone with such large vacuums even consider merde-ing up an interview?

Hope you're well, and happy. Enjoy September. Wish me luck!

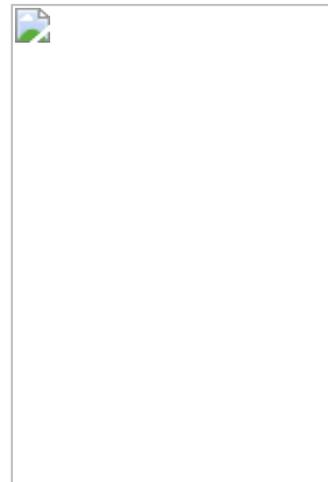
With delight,

Louise



Click if you wish to order
[Barnes & Noble.com](#)
[Amazon.com](#)
[ABA American](#)
Booksellers Association

Cruellest Month
UK/Canada edition



Click if you wish to order
[Amazon.ca](#)
[Amazon.co.uk](#)

A Fatal Grace
/ Dead Cold



Click if you wish to order

A FATAL GRACE
US edition
[Barnes & Noble.com](http://Barnes&Noble.com)
Amazon.com
ABA American Booksellers Association

DEAD COLD
UK/Canada edition
Amazon.ca
Amazon.co.uk

© Louise Penny 2010. This entire newsletter and its content is copyright.



Louise Penny's blog
Louise Penny on Facebook

E-mail: contact@louispenny.com
official website