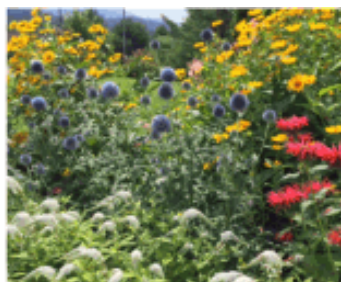


TO VIEW THIS EMAIL WITH IMAGES [CLICK HERE](#)

Louise Penny August Newsletter

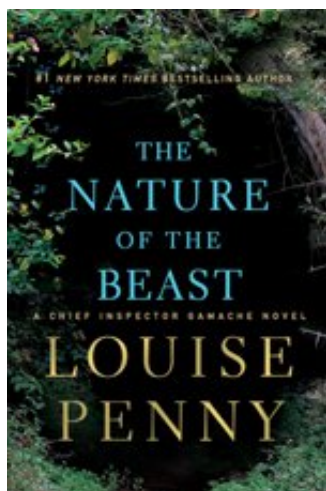


*"And what rough beast, its hour come round at last,
Slouches towards Bethlehem to be born?"*
W. B. Yeats, *The Second Coming*

BOOK LAUNCH

It's almost time to release *The Beast*! On August 25th, the eleventh Armand Gamache novel, *THE NATURE OF THE BEAST*, will be published. Finally! Can you believe it? We've waited so long. More than a year to write. Months of editing.

Before this month is out, it will be too. Its hour has come round at last.

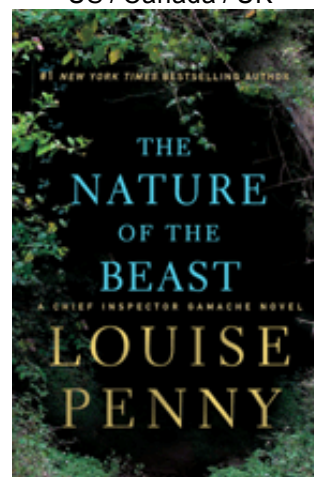


August 25th

The book is set in Three Pines, and while clearly a crime novel, its core is really about the stories we tell. The ones we tell others, and the ones we tell ourselves. And that blurred line between truth and lies.

Oh, I do hope you like it!

The Nature of the Beast US / Canada / UK



August 25th

Click if you wish to pre-order

[Barnes & Noble.com](#)

[Amazon.com](#)

[Amazon.ca](#)

[Amazon.co.uk](#)

[iBookstore](#)

[ABA](#) American Booksellers Association

[\(IMBA\)](#) The Independent Mystery Booksellers Association

The Long Way Home US / Canada / UK

If you'd like to read the first chapter, or pre-order the book, [click](#)

[here](#).

We're starting the tour, as always, in our beloved Eastern Townships of Quebec, from whose soil these characters have sprung. Danny and Lucy at Brome Lake Books are once again organizing the pre-launch party at the Knowlton Community Centre. It will be on Saturday, August 22nd at 2pm. But you need tickets.

You can email them at: blb@b2b2c.ca

FUNDRAISING EVENT

From there I fly to Vancouver for an event on Monday night to raise money for Paul's Club, a Dementia/Alzheimers place providing respite care. It's vocation is specific to early onset. Helping those who develop dementia when they're young. It is also to help their families. Give them a bit of a break.

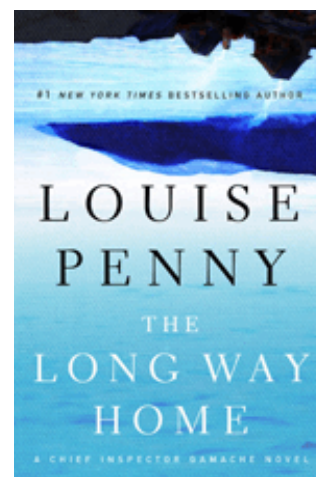
Paul's Club works on a shoestring, with volunteers. The work they do is vital and practical and challenging. There is a crying need. Literally, a crying need.

There are times, with Michael, I have wept out of exhaustion, and fear, and stress and loneliness. And I'm young, and Michael is in his 80's after a full and fulfilling life. We are as lucky as it gets. And still I find myself reduced to tears.

What if he'd been in his 40's or 50's? What if he was the only breadwinner, and I suddenly had go out to a job? And leave him at home? What if we had young children? What if we had no resources and didn't know where to turn?

The answer, for many in Vancouver, is Paul's Club. But they too are struggling. And so I'm going out there and with the huge support of Raincoast Books, and the Vancouver Writers Festival, and you - we are raising money for them. Proceeds from book sales will go to Paul's Club, and there will be a donation box too.

For more information on the event, [here's the link](#). It would be so wonderful to see you there.



Click if you wish to order

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

[\(IMBA\)](#) The Independent Mystery Booksellers Association

HERE'S THE ORDER OF THE CHIEF INSPECTOR GAMACHE BOOKS, FROM THE FIRST TO THE MOST RECENT:

STILL LIFE

A FATAL GRACE / DEAD COLD

THE CRUELEST MONTH

A RULE AGAINST MURDER / THE MURDER STONE

THE BRUTAL TELLING

BURY YOUR DEAD

A TRICK OF THE LIGHT

THE BEAUTIFUL MYSTERY

HOW THE LIGHT GETS IN

THE LONG WAY HOME

THE NATURE OF THE BEAST

THE NATURE OF THE BEAST - TOUR

From there the tour swings into action!

Here's the link to specific information on my tour including addresses etc: louispenny.com

But here's the Coles Notes (which got me through high school, BTW!) version:

Tuesday, Aug 25th - Seattle - 7pm [Temple University](#) United Church

Wed, Aug 26th - Corte Madera, CA - 7pm - [Book Passage](#)

Thurs, Aug 27th - Menlo Park, CA - 7pm - [Kepler's Books](#)

Friday, Aug 28th - [Pittsburgh Arts and Lectures](#) - 7pm - Carnegie Lecture Hall

Saturday, Aug 29th - Youngstown, OH - 6pm - Literary Society Author Event

Sunday, Aug 30th - Washington, DC - 3pm - Willard Hotel - put on by [Politics and Prose](#)

Monday, Aug 31st - Pittsboro, NC - 6:30 - The Barn, Fearington Village - put on by [McIntyre's Books](#)

Tuesday, Sept 1st - Raleigh, NC - 7pm - Meredith Chapel - put on by [Quail Ridge Bookstore](#)

Wed, Sept 2nd - New York City - 7pm - [Barnes and Noble, Union Square](#)

Now, most of these events are ticketed, so that no one has to be turned away at the door and they know when it's at capacity. Often, if there's a price involved, it includes a signed book (preferably one of mine!) So it's a very good idea to contact the bookstore or [go to my website events page](#) and make the arrangements using the links.

REVIEWS

THE NATURE OF THE BEAST is picking up all sorts of great buzz and wonderful reviews - from being mentioned in the AARP Magazine, to receiving starred reviews from Kirkus, Publishers Weekly and Library Journal.

It has also been chosen by the Independent Bookseller's Association as an outstanding August selection and made an Indie Next Pick.

★ Kirkus Review (starred review)

'...a mystery with global scope and consequences.... What makes this story most magical...is the perfect reminder of the dark side of human nature, but that side does not always win out. Penny is an expert at pulling away the surface of her characters to expose their deeper—and often ugly—layers, always doing so with a direct but compassionate hand.'

★ Library Journal (starred review)

'... A strong sense of place, a multilayered plot, and well-crafted (and for Penny's fans, familiar)

characters combine for a thoughtful, intriguing tale. More than a simple mystery, Penny's novel peels away the emotional and psychological layers of the inhabitants of Three Pines..'

★ Publishers Weekly (starred review)

'The bucolic Quebec village of Three Pines again proves no refuge in Penny's stellar 11th Armand Gamache novel.... Gamache has settled in the small community after retiring from the Sûreté, where he worked as a homicide detective. But he's drawn back to the hunt after Laurent Lepage, a nine-year-old boy with a penchant for crying wolf, is found dead under circumstances that Gamache finds suspicious.... Series fans will delight in Penny's continued complex fleshing out of characters they have come to love..'

★ Booklist

'...a compelling mystery that leads to an exciting but tantalizingly open-ended finale.'

THE NATURE OF THE BEAST - AUDIO CLIP

And, as you might know, we have finally chosen a narrator for the audio books! Robert Bathurst. And the good people at [Macmillan Audio have provided us with this excerpt](#). Enjoy!

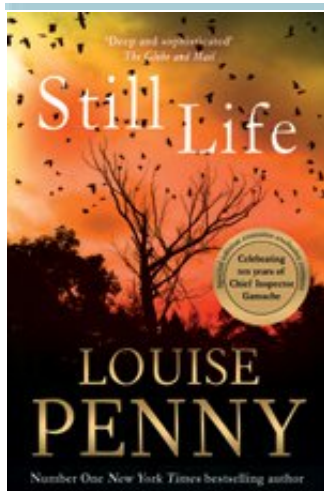
BOOK NEWS

We're continuing to reveal the Real Places of Three Pines, as well as giving out some quotes from the book.

If you want to catch up with what's happening in the virtual bistro, just [click here](#).

And for updates you can [sign up for the Three Pines News](#).

In other exciting book news - **the paperback of THE LONG WAY HOME is now out.**



And in Canada, the special 10th anniversary edition of STILL LIFE entered the Canadian books bestseller list in the Globe and Mail at #7, then climbed to #3 the next week.

This is extraordinary for a book that is a decade old! And even more moving for me since when it first came out it did not make any bestseller lists.

This is thanks to you - discovering Three Pines. Coming across it, almost certainly, by accident. And spreading the word.

Thank you for giving a long life to the books, the characters and my dreams.

CONDO

On the personal front, we took possession of our new condo a few weeks ago and started renovations.

Then, at the start of the second week of renovations I received a terrible phone call.

The two story porch, belonging to us and our upstairs neighbour, had collapsed. By the grace of God no one was hurt or killed. The workers had just started on it, taking the aluminum cover off a post, when one of them saw that it was rotten. And infested with carpenter ants.

At that moment there was a loud crack, and another worker realized what was about to happen. He shouted, 'It's falling, get out!'

The one on the ladder leapt off and the one inside jumped back through the door, into our condo. And felt the roof brush by his shirt as it fell. Missing him by millimeters and a nano-second.

Our contractor, whom I consider a hero in this, discovered that the porch had been made with untreated lumber. And not even a solid post but two smaller ones nailed together then encased in aluminum, with no outlet for rain.

The wood rotted. And ants got in.

This was always going to fall. From the moment those decision were made 8 years ago. The tragedy is that someone did that. The great blessing is that it was found without loss of life. Unlike the horrific events in Berkeley, California, where 5 young people were killed.

The whole condo complex is being checked now. When it is finished, and the work done properly, this is going to be the best built condo in the country! But in the meantime it is terribly stressful.

Questions are being asked about how this could happen. How could there be so many code violations. Why is there no oversight? No accountability?

But, despite this, Michael and I are very, very much looking forward to our new condo. It is a wonderful community, with kind and supportive people.

We are very lucky. Oh, you might be wondering about Bishop and the new condo. That was the first thing we asked, before even viewing it. Do they accept dogs?

Indeed, pets are almost a prerequisite! It's really as much a kennel as a condo. And it backs onto a preserve, so there are walking paths to all parts of the village. Idyllic.

Michael continues to be blissful. He now has massages twice a week, and music therapy, and a friend comes in and gives him movement exercises.

If nothing else, it makes him happy. What could be better?

Friends/caregivers will move into the home while I'm on tour and watch out for him. They see him fairly often and have kept up with the progress of the dementia so they know what to expect.

Thank God for friends. Honestly. I don't know what we would do. Their wisdom, their kindness. Their patience and humour. Their help. Oh man, do we need help sometimes.

And don't even get me started on My Assistant Lise. The million and one things she does for us - not because she's paid, but because she's a friend - an angel. Remarkable person. When she isn't a pain in the you-know-what. (I put that in just for her benefit to see if she's awake and sober).

Lise?

Uh oh. Is she sneaking up behind me...?

Hope to see you on tour - and I really hope you like THE NATURE OF THE BEAST. And please keep telling others about the Gamache books.

Vive Gamache!

Michael, Bishop and I - and My Assistant Lise, wherever she is - send hugs and thanks.

And now, step back - and release The Beast!

Louise

XXOO

*(To see the photographs used in this newsletter in a larger size
[click here to see them via my website.](#))*

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Louise Penny on [Facebook](#)

E-mail: contact@louispenny.com

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