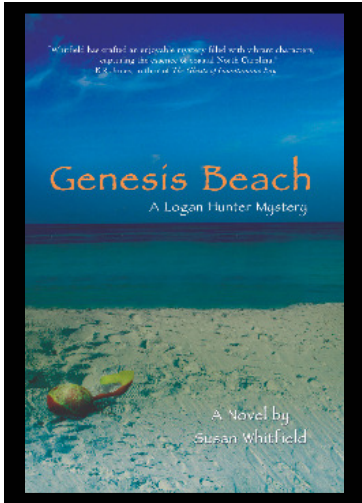


Books In Sync Mystery Author Susan Whitfield's Books In Review



Genesis Beach (Book 1 - The Logan Hunter Mystery Series) Book Reviews:

“Great New Series!

Serving her internship in the small coastal town of Genesis Beach, NC, SBI Agent, Logan Hunter has the responsibility of solving the town's first murder fall on her shoulders. Rick Teater, the town's wealthy benefactor is found dead in his luxury beach front home and suspicion falls on his chef, Pepper Ellis; a local prostitute, Chyna; and a Caddy from Teater's golf club.

Ms. Whitefield did a superb job of pulling the reader step by step in the well plotted mystery. All the clues are there, but only become clear with the exciting and surprising ending. I look forward to reading more about this young SBI Agent and recommend that readers who like a well written and and spine tingling mystery add the Logan Hunter series to their reading list.”

Reviewed by Martha H. Hampton "AkA Lynette Hall Hampton, Author of Jilted By Death and Duo Of Opposites"
May 15, 2009

“A Shocking End!

The main character Logan Hunter is with the NC SBI serving her internship in her home town of Genesis Beach. In this small town crime usually consists of misdemeanors and a major crime is unheard of. So the murder of the wealthy Rick Teater shakes up the whole town. Logan's coworkers consist of the Sheriff and his deputy who have never handled a murder, so it's turned over to Logan to solve. Logan narrows it down to the caddy Lincoln Tumu and Pepper Ellis, Teater's chef. She follows the book to the letter for recovering evidence but when the weather changes and a hurricane hits Genesis Beach evidence as well as Logan's home are destroyed.

While reading Genesis Beach I found myself not wanting to put it down. Each page had a piece of evidence that would help me solve the mystery before Logan. I really thought I had pin-pointed the murderer. Boy was I in for a shock. The murderer and the reason were both something that I never figured into my theory. So if you like a book that holds your interest to the very end, Genesis Beach is the perfect book for you.”

Reviewed by Martha A. Cheves (Charlotte, NC)
April 8, 2009

“Enjoyable New Mystery!

Logan Hunter is an engaging heroine - the reader can easily identify with her as being very believable, very human. As a neophyte SBI agent, she makes mistakes and has thoughts and fears that are easy to identify with. Whitfield has done an excellent job with her first mystery - her language is brisk yet descriptive. Hopefully more Logan Hunter stories are on the way."

Reviewed by O. W. Pierce "Librarian at Heart" (North Carolina)
April 28, 2007

"Loved Genesis Beach!

I enjoy reading mystery novels. Genesis Beach was an easy and quick read, but nonetheless, an engaging and entertaining book. I found it easy to associate and like the main character, Logan Hunter. I feel that anyone who enjoys mysteries will genuinely like Genesis Beach. It is definitely worth the time."

Reviewed by W. Grantham
April 27, 2007

"Great New Mystery Heroine!

Logan Hunter is a wonderfully believable character who muddles her way to finding a murderer. She is sometimes unprofessional, plagued by nightmares, and always funny. She is a little like Evanovich's Stephanie Plum. If you are a Janet Evanovich fan, give this book a try."

Reviewed by M. Daly "Lover of Mysteries" (North Carolina)
April 4, 2007

Book Details:

Publisher: iUniverse, Inc.; 1st edition (February 13, 2007)

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ISBN-13: 978-0595417865

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Paperback: 172 Pages

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Print Price: \$13.95

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[Amazon Purchase Link](http://www.amazon.com/Genesis-Beach-Logan-Hunter-Mystery/dp/0595417868/ref=ntt_at_ep_dpi_2)
http://www.amazon.com/Genesis-Beach-Logan-Hunter-Mystery/dp/0595417868/ref=ntt_at_ep_dpi_2

Just North of Luck (Book 2 - The Logan Hunter Mystery Series) Book Reviews

Short Reviews:

"Just south of sanity!" Genevieve Harris, Apex Reviews.

"Not for the faint of heart!" Mark Stevens, author of Antler Dust.

"...eloquent descriptions of the Blue Ridge Mountains and grisly murders that take place in that beautiful setting will haunt readers." Sunny Frazier, author of Fools Rush In.

"Susan Whitfield takes the reader to the backwoods of North Carolina...She weaves a tale that leaves us breathless..." Sylvia Dickey Smith, author of Dance On His Grave and Deadly Sins-Deadly Secrets.

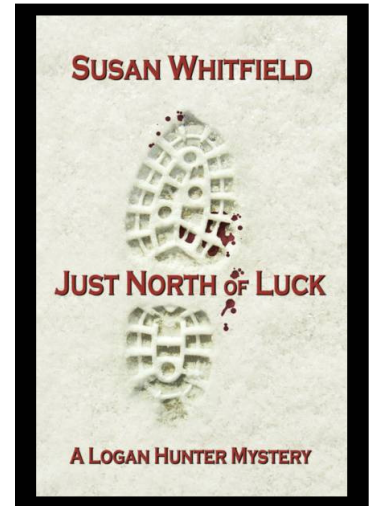
"Whitfield has created a unique supporting cast of Appalachian characters" Maggie Bishop, Murder At Blue Falls.

"Tense mystery with a touch of humor" Lynette Hall Hampton, Echoes of Mercy.

"A keen sense of place" Bob Avey, Twisted Perception.

"Just North of Luck is a murder mystery in a beautiful Appalachian setting. The characters are real, the action and pace fast and smooth, the murders bloody...with just the right amount of humor." John Fox, Cold Tears.

"If you like tense mysteries with a touch of humor and unexpected twists in the end, I recommend you put the Logan Hunter Series on your reading list."



Long Reviews:

"In Just North Of Luck, the second in the Logan Hunter series, Susan Whitfield's tightly plotted novel will at times make your spine tingle and at others you'll find yourself chucking out loud.

Set in North Carolina's majestic Blue Ridge Mountains, we find Logan Hunter, a new SBI agent has been sent out on her first case alone. But searching the kudzu for the production of illegal moonshine is soon forgotten when she is called teams with Detective Chase Railey to solve a baffling and brutal murder. In the process we see this character grow and reach out to others as some of her background is explored and explained."

Reviewed by Martha H. Hampton "AkA Lynette Hall Hampton, ... (North Carolina)

“There are two authors that I've followed by reading all of their sequel novels. One is Patricia Cornwell's Dr. Scarpetta and the other is James Patterson's Alex Cross. I now have another favorite to follow and that is Susan Whitfield's SBI Agent Logan Hunter. In fact, she may now be my #1 choice in sequels due to Whitfield's style of writing. Whitfield adds a twist to murder mysterie making the story more believable. That added twist is humor which makes the stories more realistic.

In Just North of Luck Logan Hunter is assigned to the mountains of North Carolina in search of "Moon Shiners." That assignment is soon put on the back burner when school employees start turning up murdered or have mysterious accidental deaths. Logan is teamed up with Detective Chase Railey to find the killer. You'll follow Logan as she tramples through kudzu, goes to her first Testicle Festival, rents a room from a woman who runs around at night in the nude and connects with a wolf. You will also follow her as she gets her man, or should I say men.

I've read Genesis Beach where Logan was first introduced and loved it. Just North of Luck, which is the 2nd book in the series, was even better. I can't wait to read the 3rd book Hell Swamp.”

Reviewed by Martha A. Cheves (Charlotte, NC)

“The persistent voice of the deranged makes the reader urge on Agent Logan Hunter in her pursuit of the serial killer. Whitfield has created a unique supporting cast of Appalachian characters in the true Southern writing tradition. Poor Agent Hunter gets lost and skunked in the North Carolina Mountains in this mystery which combines hate and humor.”

Review by Maggie Bishop (Boone, North Carolina, USA)
June 16, 2008

“Murder in the hills of North Carolina!

Quirky characters, humor and an interesting setting lend buoyancy to Just North of Luck, a tale of suspense by Susan Whitfield.

In the story, Whitfield pits her heroine, Logan Hunter, a rookie SBI agent from North Carolina, against the current problems in the character's life as well as the story villain, Haze DeBrew, a sociopath with killer instincts brought on by a life of abuse at the hands of his father.

You'll get a keen sense of place and laugh at some of the character antics.”

Reviewed by Bob Avey "Author of Beneath a Buried House, a... (Tulsa, OK)
May 29, 2008

“Suspense with a Dash of Humor!

Many scenes in Just North of Luck are loaded with intensity although the book offers enough humor to settle nerves before the next onslaught.”

Reviewed by M. Daly "Lover of Mysteries" (North Carolina)
February 18, 2008

“Rough Enough!

At times brutal and rough, the action in Just North of Luck comes in waves of violence against an otherwise serene backdrop. Not for the faint of heart. Mud, blood, and love, Logan Hunter always seems to be in the middle of everything.”

Reviewed by Mark Stevens (Denver)
February 3, 2008

“Just South Of Sanity!

"You're a wuss! Rubbish from the git go. Quit tryin' to squirm away. I ain't turnin' you loose `til I'm done with ya."

The aftereffects of domestic violence manifest themselves in various ways, but its most devastating legacy is the erosion of the self-esteem of its victims. Years and years of abuse, neglect, and mistreatment will surely wary even the strongest of souls, and, without intervention, the vicious cycle inevitably continues from generation to generation.

Such is the case in the remote community of Trust, North Carolina. The typical small, mountain town has its own mores and cultural traditions, and DV is certainly among them. The fact that the problem goes unreported and - ultimately - unresolved, though, contributes more to the town's everyday logistics than most of its residents realize; thus, when a series of grisly murders soon envelops the community in fear, the local folk are understandably shocked and mortified; however, when SBI agent Logan Hunter descends upon the town to assist in the murder investigation, she is taken aback by the community's over-eagerness to keep silent about the matter. With their very lives at stake, most people would be more than willing to share crucial information leading to the apprehension of a perpetrator; in the small town of Trust, though, Logan soon finds that the local folk are just as mysterious - and keep just as many secrets - as the mountains that surround them.

Teaming up with local detective Chase Railey, Logan struggles to make sense of an investigation that drags on for months, and, with each fresh corpse that emerges, the duo quickly realizes that they have less and less time to find the killer before it's too late.

What they don't know, though, is that they'll soon stumble upon an even more sinister, devious scheme framing the town's everyday workings - the reach of which extends all the way back to Chase's own affluent roots...

Many words can describe Just North Of Luck: action-packed, suspenseful, engaging, witty - but it shines most brightly as a tightly-plotted, masterfully scripted story that stands alongside the best and brightest that the mystery/suspense genre has to offer.

Highly recommended!"

Reviewed by Apex Reviews (Durham, NC USA)
January 31, 2008

Book Details:

Publisher: L & L Dreamspell (August 30, 2009)
ISBN-10: 1603181903
ISBN-13: 978-1603181907
Paperback: 214 Pages
Language: English
Genre: Mystery

Print List Price: \$15.95

Kindle Edition: \$4.79

[Amazon Purchase Link](http://www.amazon.com/Just-North-Luck-Susan-Whitfield/dp/1603181903/ref=ntt_at_ep_dpi_3)

http://www.amazon.com/Just-North-Luck-Susan-Whitfield/dp/1603181903/ref=ntt_at_ep_dpi_3

Hell Swamp (Book 3 - The Logan Hunter Mystery Series) Book Reviews:

Short Reviews:

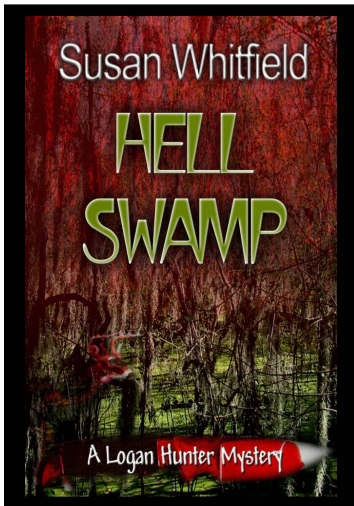
"...leaves the reader no choice but to turn page after page in anticipation of the latest unexpected twist. "
Renee Washburn, Apex.

"...edgy stuff that made me grit my teeth." Mary Deal, author of River Bones.

"...a good old fashioned roller coaster ride....After reading Hell Swamp, any thoughts I had about living in a small town just sank." David Fingerma, Minnesota Reads.

"...oozes local color. The author's sense of North Carolina is authentic; the novel is steeped in atmosphere....Worth reading!" Jacqueline Seewald, The Drowning Pool.

"...riveting from page one..." Theresa Jenner Garrido, Wind Whisperer.



Long Reviews:

“Wonderfully evocative!

Hell Swamp, by Susan Whitfield, throws the reader straight into the investigation of a truly gruesome murder, but the beautifully described scenery on the journey lightens to the tone. The author's deft hand with conversation brings characters and location to life, with a particularly memorable discussion where local men don't recognize a hoop earring. Agent Hunter proves an able investigator, noting the cloudy water from thawing vegetables, bagging and tagging evidence, and tolerating the missteps of unseasoned country coroners with wise aplomb.

The story slows when Hunter's back-story intervenes, with reminiscences about her past and promises for her future. But beautiful descriptions bring time and place to life, and the present tale is more than able to keep the reader turning pages. Telling details of plants and foliage always come back to research and evidence.

Hell Swamp, up close and personal, soon lives up to its name. And danger, up close and personal, sends the reader on a wild exciting ride to find the killer. All the suspects seem so nice, if oddly named--and cook so well, sweetening the tale with some truly fascinating culinary detours. Red herrings (or catfish) are chased and caught, and the killer's final identity is revealed in a truly surprising conclusion.

A fascinating cast of characters carve a place in the reader's memory in this book, and a pair of lead investigators draws the reader on, promising more of their relationship and more mysteries to come.”

Reviewed by S. Deeth "Sheila Deeth" (OR, USA)
September 9, 2009

“SBI agent Logan Hunter is called back from personal leave to investigate a brutal murder along the banks of the Black River in Ivanhoe, North Carolina, where animal rights activist Clara Banoak is found hanging from her chandelier, gutted like a deer. Logan quickly learns that Banoak was outspoken in her views against harming animals and had more enemies than friends in this hunter-infested area. Due to an outbreak of the flu, Logan is initially on her own as she investigates the murder, developing a long list of suspects. When she gets too close, Logan is assaulted and left to die in Hell Swamp. More determined than ever, she doggedly pursues her case, uncovering other heinous crimes, with danger lurking around every corner.

Hell Swamp, book number three in the Logan Hunter Mystery series, is an intriguing thriller. Logan Hunter is an interesting character: a woman with backbone who does not let the threat of peril get in her way; an investigator committed to her case who will not stop until it's closed. Whitfield adds a nice touch of romance with Logan's lover, fellow SBI agent Chase Riley. The plot moves at a fast pace with an abundance of suspense and suspects, offering a mystery readers will be challenged to solve.”

Reviewed by Christy Tillery French "reviewer and author" (Powell, TN)

August 3, 2009

“You won't be sorry!

Hell Swamp was the first book I have read by Susan Whitfield, but it definitely won't be the last.

Someone asked me recently why all my reviews are five-stars, and the answer is simple, if I don't like a book, I don't give it any rating. If a book is good enough for me to take the time to rate--it deserves the best.

That's the reason Hell Swamp has five-stars from me.

I loved the characters and the emotions and suspense kept me reading.

I highly recommend this book!”

Reviewed by Best-selling author John Foxjohn
July 19, 2009

“Murder Mystery Oozes Local Color

When Clara Banoak is murdered in a gruesome manner--the murder victim is strung up on a gambrel used for skinning deer--Agent Logan Hunter, SBI Agent, is brought in to investigate the crime. The victim hated hunters and was an outspoken animal rights activist. Logan must discover whether this crime is a retaliation of the hunters or if they are being made scapegoats. This fast-paced suspenseful novel does not stint on character development. Logan, a tall, attractive woman who suffers from night terrors, is a well-rounded character. She a good daughter and a woman with a conscience. The love of her life is Chase Railey, who also works for SBI. They plan to marry, and he helps her solve the case, but not before Cyrano Blood, who had something to tell Hunter regarding the initial murder, is poisoned. The novel offers many interesting suspects including Hawk Daw whose fingerprint is found on a spotlight used in the crime. He is initially the prime suspect. However, Logan suspects that someone may be out to frame him. The novel offers many twists and turns and will keep the reader guessing. But the most fascinating thing about this novel is the use of local color. The author's sense of North Carolina is authentic; the novel is steeped in atmosphere.

Definitely a book worth reading!”

Reviewed by Jacqueline Seewald "Jacqueline Seewald"
July 7, 2009

“A Great Read!

Hell Swamp! What a story! Author Susan Whitfield whisks her readers off to the rural south to solve a grisly murder along with female SBI Agent Logan Hunter. Her hard hitting prose leads us through swamps and down dirt roads, into both mansions and shacks, before finally presenting us with a surprisingly evil conclusion.

I always like to see women portrayed as strong and able to solve problems in their own right, not just as creatures to be rescued by some man. Susan Whitfield has managed to create a strong female protagonist who is at the same time feminine and sexy. A good role model for us all!"

Reviewed by JRM "The Tsarina" (Laurens, SC)
July 7, 2009

“Watch out for the Snakes!

I've followed SBI Agent Logan Hunter through her internship at Genesis Beach as she solved her first murder. I followed her through the NC Mountains in Just North of Luck as she solved yet another murder. Now I've followed her into the NC backwoods as she tries to survive in Hell Swamp while solving the murder and gutting of Clara Banoak.

Clara is a widow and getting up in age so who would want to murder her as if she was an animal? The answer is everyone. Clara was the most hated person in the whole area around Hell Swamp. She hated hunters and wasn't afraid to tell them or anyone else that would listen. But Clara's death isn't the only mystery. Cats and dogs are starting to become missing. Is there a cult running loose in Hell Swamp? And is this cult possibly connected with the church that allows its members to drink poison and handle rattle snakes?

Whitfield really outdid herself with Hell Swamp. She has created a murder mystery that has a surprising ending while including a little humor along the way that only Whitfield can get by with. This was another enjoyable book in the Logan Hunter series. I can't wait to read her next book "Sin Creek."

Reviewed by Martha A. Cheves (Charlotte, NC)
July 2, 2009

“The Backwoods Like You've Never Seen Them Before!

Clara Banoak has many enemies - specifically hunters. The reason? She's a fervent animal rights activist, and what hunters consider to be sport she sees as the slaughter of innocents - and she has no qualms about letting them know. Every time one of them appears in the local paper proudly displaying their latest hunting "trophy," soon after they receive nasty, threatening letters from Clara, accusing them of being cold-blooded murderers and condemning them to damnation for their evil deeds.

So, it comes as no surprise to anyone when Clara is found murdered in her home one day; what does come as a shock, though, is the horrific way in which her life is ended: strung up and gutted like an animal - much the way a hunter would dispatch his quarry...

SBI agent Logan Hunter is then dispatched to the scene, and she soon finds herself caught in the middle of - to say the least - quite interesting circumstances that only seem to grow stranger over time. Unsettling characters and a host of bizarre rituals combine to complicate Hunter's investigation, and her resolve is further tested by emergent problems in her personal life. To top it all off, the simultaneously beautiful and deadly Hell Swamp, the daunting backdrop of all the action, adds its own mysterious flavor and mystical lore to the mix.

In the third installment of the Logan Hunter Mystery Series, Susan Whitfield doesn't miss a step with Hell Swamp. Action-packed, intriguing, and rife with suspense, Hunter's latest adventure through the heart of rural North Carolina exposes the reader once again to the particular folkways and mores of a mini-society that proves to be quite compelling. Not one to engage in exaggerated satire, though, Whitfield is to be commended for framing her characters in a realistic light, exposing their adopted habits and lifestyles without turning them into caricaturist, backwoods rubes.

Hell Swamp also solidifies Whitfield's status as a true master of mystery. Her prose is tight and engaging, and her suspenseful writing style leaves the reader no choice but to turn page after page in anticipation of the latest unexpected twist.

Followers of Susan Whitfield will surely not be disappointed with her latest effort, and it will most certainly be successful in drawing even greater numbers to her ever-growing fan base.

An enjoyable, recommended read!"

Reviewed by Renee Washburn - Apex Reviews (Durham, NC USA)
March 24, 2009

"Run with Agent Hunter!

Hell Swamp, a police procedural by Susan Whitfield, starts with the gory death of an animal rights activist that has Agent Hunter running full speed into a swamp full of snakes of both kinds, those that slither and those that walk upright. Although tough and well-trained, she's thwarted and attacked in this Carolina Low Country tale of greed and mis-guided deeds. Fasten your seat belts for this fast-paced read."

Reviewed by Maggie Bishop (Boone, North Carolina, USA)
February 20, 2009

"I had the pleasure of reading the Hell Swamp manuscript just before it went to publication. The action jumps out at you from the first chapter and never lets up. North Carolina's Agent Logan Hunter learns that the people who live around the swamp have their own rules. They are all hunters and kill and string up and gut anything they can eat. While investigating a gruesome murder, Agent Hunter becomes one of the hunted.

This is edgy stuff that made me grit my teeth."

Reviewed by Mary Deal "Author/Writer" (Kauai, Hawaii, USA) Author of River Bones
February 16, 2009

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**Sin Creek Book 4: - The Logan Hunter Mystery Series) Book Review by Martha A. Cheves,
Author of Stir, Laugh, Repeat and Think With Your Taste Buds - Desserts**

“When I was a high school administrator, I asked a student of mine how her sister coped with college life. She told me her sister found a lucrative way to raise tuition and live “the high life.” What this student said next left me shaken, and I’ve never been quite the same since. I went home that night and searched for information the student had casually given me, hoping to find no truth in what she said. I couldn’t have been more wrong! I still shiver that some among us are so willing to be part of the filthy underbelly that runs beneath many of our towns and cities. Research for this book challenged me to search my soul, and I stopped on many occasions not certain if I should continue. But someone needs to tell this story – as ugly and offensive as it may be. SIN CREEK is truly a work of fiction. However, the seed that started it is alive and spreading like a lethal dose of poison throughout society. WARNING! This book contains sexually graphic scenes! It is not meant to offend but to inform. “Porn is a multi-billion dollar business in the USA.” “Five million new cases of STDs surface every year in the USA alone.” “340 million new cases of STDs worldwide.” - Susan Whitfield, Author



‘I clicked on a video feed that showed a cute girl being offered money at a street café. She didn’t look any older than fifteen, her long hair pulled back into dog-ears on each side of pink ribbons. Two men approached her with their backs to the camera. They had microphones pinned on. I could hear them offer her money for an hour of her time. She asked about the camera and they said they were filming everything for themselves and if she wanted the money she’d have to come with them. This cute but

naïve girl only hesitated for a second, then grabbed her purse and left with total strangers. This scene horrified me.’

I’ve followed SBI Agent Logan Hunter as she tracked down killers in Genesis Beach, Just North of Luck, Hell Swamp and now in Sin Creek. Author Susan Whitfield has created an amazingly ‘normal’ character with Hunter. She has feelings and isn’t afraid to cry, she takes on danger and doesn’t mind showing her fears, but when she takes on the world of porn, she shows a caring side that has been glimpsed in all of her stories but with more strength than ever in Sin Creek.

After reading Sin Creek, I visited some of the sites listed by the author to see for myself exactly how strong the porn world is within our colleges and universities. Is it as big an industry as the author proclaims in her writings. I have to say “yes it is.” Read Sin Creek as a book of murder and suspense but also read it as a book that opens your eyes to the problems our young adults are faced with, where these problems can take them and what the end results can be. It opened my eyes and I believe it will yours too. It has helped to educate me to the underworld of the internet.

Now I’m waiting with excitement for Whitfield’s next book The Goose Parade of Old Dickeywood which promises to fill me with laughter.”

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Book 4 - The Logan Hunter Mystery Series

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[Amazon Purchase Link](http://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_noss?url=search-alias%3Dstripbooks&field-keywords=Sin+Creek+-+by+Susan+Whitfield&x=13&y=15)

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[Author Susan Whitfield](#) is a native of North Carolina, where she sets her Logan Hunter Mysteries. Genesis Beach is set along the Crystal Coast, Just North of Luck, in the Blue Ridge Mountains, and Hell Swamp along Black River in Pender County. She is currently working on Sin Creek, set in Wilmington. Whitfield has three degrees from East Carolina University: B.S. in English, MAEd in Education, and a doctorate in Educational Leadership. She is married with two sons and has a very spoiled Yellow Lab who keeps her sane.

Member:

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