

Hello:

I hope this finds you well.

The big news is that the E-book version of “Stealing Picasso,” is available for preorder. Here is the [link](#). The release date is October 14. I will have advance paperback copies available around October 5 if you want an autographed copy and don’t want to wait. A hardback edition will also be available, soon, as I’m still waiting on the printers. Contact me directly if you want autographed copies.

[Anne did the artwork!](#) Click on the link to go to her website.

I’m creating a special edition, annotated version of the E-book for my Kickstarter campaign. This will have links to the featured artwork mentioned in the book, along with insights at the beginning of each chapter about the creative process and the inspirational moments that shaped the finished story. Kickstarter is something new, and if it works, I’ll be able to produce an audio version of the book. I don’t have the link yet, but the campaign is entitled: Stealing Picasso: A Mystery Thriller.

### **Mark your calendars:**

Wednesday, October 19, 6:30 to 7:30 pm, I’ll be hosting a free program about “Stealing Picasso” at the St. Matthews Branch Library, 3940 Grandview Ave, Louisville, KY 40207, (502) 574-1771. The library has a moratorium on selling books, but I’ll have copies of all my books available and I’ll handle any transactions before or after the presentation offsite. If you’ve already purchased a copy, I’ll be happy to sign it!

I’m back on the Kentucky Humanities Speakers Bureau now that Covid fears are subsiding. I’ll be speaking about “[Stealing Renoir](#),” (the first book in my “Stealing Masterpiece Art” series,) and how World War II was the greatest art theft in history. I’ll be at the Hopkins County Genealogy Society in Madisonville in October. If you know of anyone who is looking for a speaker, the bureau is great about helping to subsidize appearances. I’m also giving talks about “[A Promise Moon](#)” and how it relates to the Underground Railroad in Kentucky, as well as gardening with native plants and “[Let The Earth Breathe](#).” If you or anyone you know would like to schedule a talk, here’s the [link](#).

If you are reading a good book and would like to share it, let me know and I’ll post it on Facebook and mention it in my next newsletter.

I’m reading, “Hidden Treasures Revealed,” by Albert Kostenevich. It is a history of the masterpiece Impressionist paintings that were presumed lost during World War II, but were stored at the Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg. For the most part, the Nazis stole these paintings from Jewish Citizens. The Russians then stole them from the Nazis toward the end of

World War II. The paintings have been kept in a controlled environment and away from the harming effects of light and restoration, so they are a time capsule of the artists' true work. Renoir, Monet, Manet, Cezanne, Degas, Gauguin, Pissarro, and of course, Van Gogh. Van Gogh's brushstrokes and vibrant colors leap off the canvases of "Portrait of Madame Trabuc," "Landscape With House and Ploughman," and "Morning, Going Out to Work (After Millet)." It's "The White House at Night" that really speaks to me. Look for these paintings to show up as clues and plot points in "Stealing Van Gogh" about a year from now.

I've also started writing a cozy mystery and will have more information on that in the near future.

Here are a few pictures of what's currently blooming in our gardens. New England Asters (*Symphotrichum novae-angliae*) (For more information, see page 83 in "[Let The Earth Breathe](#)." ) The hummingbirds are having a feast with the Jewel Weed (*Impatiens capensis*.) The pale blue asters were a gift from one of the seed swap members last year. Maximilian Sunflowers (*Helianthus maximiliani*) are survivors and come back stronger every year. This year, a few of them cropped up in unexpected places, so I think the birds really like the seeds. Obedient Plant (*Physostegia virginiana*) has been a welcome addition to our fall garden. These seeds were gifts from last year's swap, as well.



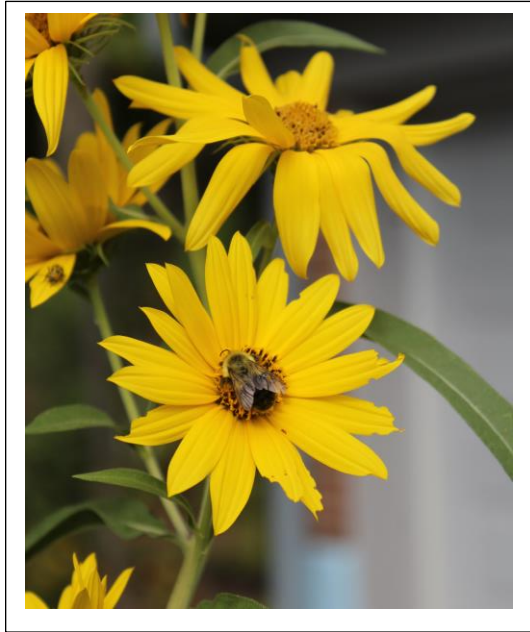
New England Asters (*Symphotrichum novae-angliae*)



Jewel Weed (*Impatiens capensis*)



Fall Asters (The seeds were a gift from one of our seed swap friends last year)



Maximillian Sunflowers (*Helianthus maximiliani*)



Obedient Plant (*Physostegia virginiana*)

Reviews on Amazon are a big deal and really help me out. They are especially critical for new releases. If you haven't already, please take a minute or two and review one—or all of my books. The links to each book are below. You will have to scroll down the page to reach the review section.

[Stealing Picasso](#)

[Stealing Renoir](#)

[Mystery Island](#)

[Let The Earth Breathe](#)

[A Promise Moon](#)

[Shadows of Chaco Canyon](#)

If you can't make it to a presentation in person, here is the link to my recent videos. They are short, 5-6 minutes. [Video link.](#)

I'm currently creating a "Stealing Picasso" video which I'll upload to my website when it's finished. There will be a short version of the video on my Kickstarter campaign.

Happy reading.

Stephen Allten Brown

[www.singingrockpublishing.com](http://www.singingrockpublishing.com)

I got a couple of mean-spirited reviews on Amazon, which come with the territory, but really hurt sales. If you're read "Stealing Renoir" and enjoyed it, then please do me a favor and leave a positive review. [Here's the link.](#) Thanks!