



I adore this fabulous painting of Jitty that Franziska Franke created. If you want one for yourself, [click me](#).



If you're joining us for D.G. Weekend, I've replenished my [Online Store](#) with these signature trademark shirts. Select a size and let me see you wear it! All proceeds are accepted as a charitable donation to [Good Fortune Farm Refuge!](#)



Dear Friends and Readers,

My goodness, a month of 2012 is already gone. February (and in Mobile that means Mardi Gras) is headed right at us. The truth is that time seems to unreel while I sleep. There are so many things I want to do—so many stories I want to write. But I look at the calendar and another month is gone.

I received my print of [Franziska Franke's](#) glorious painting of Jitty. It is just so incredible that I can't describe it. She has captured the soul of Jitty in a haunting (pun intended) painting. I love it!

The jolly news is [Daddy's Girl Weekend](#). Things are shaping up, and we have some exceptional guests. Dean James, the reigning Big Daddy, is returning. And don't forget, Dean's newest "cat in the stacks" mystery drops Tuesday! [FILE M FOR MURDER](#).

Dean's editor, Michelle Vega, will be one of our special guests at DG Weekend. Michelle has an eye for talent, and we're delighted she's coming south to Mobile for our crazy celebration of reading and friendship.

My agent, Marian Young, will also be with us again. She's marvelous! And her husband, T.R. Pearson, who is a writer in residence this semester at the University of Alabama, will also be on hand. He's giving a special presentation on pitches. T.R. gave a talk at our first Eugene Walter Writers Festival that had people screaming with laughter. He's lethal when it comes to humor.

Ben LeRoy, publisher with [Tyrus Books](#), is also making a return visit to Daddy's Girl Weekend.

[Anton Strout](#) and [Deborah LeBlanc](#) will shed light on some areas of writing and reading that I love—fantasy, paranormal, mysteries, romance, and thrillers. Who can resist that?

And of course, there are the candidates for Big Daddy. More about that next month!

Last year, we all dressed up in peignoirs or smoking jackets for the crowning of Big Daddy. This year, Dean brilliantly suggested that we dress up as "what would Jitty wear." For those who've read the books, Jitty has worn many, many outfits.

Kathy Bergold has made a list of all the costumes from all the books (that is stunning to me!) and I've posted them [RIGHT HERE](#) (under the "News and Notes") so you can read through them to get some ideas. Even if you can't attend the conference, you can dress up as Jitty, snap a photo, and e-mail it to



Seriously, I was blown away impressed when Kathy Bergold presented a list of all of Jitty's outfits from all the Bones books. Thank you, Kathy - you're helping many ladies decide what to wear on party night during [D.G. Weekend!](#)



T.R. Pearson is hilarious and guess what? He will be with us during Daddy's Girls' Weekend.



This is my brat pack: Sorry, Lulu, Babycakes, and Leto.



Here's Marla with her new family, Ellie and Hank. She is safe and happy and in a new and loving home!

SarahBoothDelaney@yahoo.com. We have a great prize for the winner. What is the prize, you ask? I realize travel is expensive and very difficult for those who have responsibilities at home. But we don't want to leave you out of all the fun. So dress up in your Jitty outfit and snap a photo. The prize will be a free registration at Daddy's Girl Weekend 2013.

Before I started writing this newsletter, I read over last January's letter. I was getting ready to go to Chicago with Alice (we almost lost her in a snow bank), and I was fretting over the bitter winter for Miss Scrapiron's sake. I have to say, not a day goes by that I don't miss Scrappy and Zelda. This winter has been much milder, and I'm headed to Birmingham for [Murder in the Magic City](#) next weekend.

School is back in session, and I have some wonderfully talented students. I would prefer to stay home and write without interruption, but it is such a joy to work with these students that I can't stop. They make me stretch myself as a writer and a teacher, and I know I'm a better storyteller because of them. There just aren't enough hours in the day.

I have a new lab rescue, Tootsie. She's just been spayed, and I do believe she needs a trip to a plastic surgeon for a breast lift! But I'm sure [Lab4Recue](#) will find her a loving home and folks who don't care if she's got a bit of sag.

I got reports from Marla, Hope (now Willow), K.C. the boxcar riding dog, Gabby, and Renfield. Everyone is doing great! One dog and cat at a time.

Until next month—y'all take care and be sure to spay and neuter.

Carolyn

