



MIDNIGHT LOUIE'S SCRATCHING POST-INTELLIGENCER

News about the Mysteries of Midnight Louie, Delilah Street, and Irene Adler

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Bookstores and libraries may copy for readers

"Midnight Louie is the funniest, hairiest hard-boiled PI on the planet."
—JANET EVANOVICH



Editor-in-Chief: **Carole Nelson Douglas**

Vol 15 Issue 1 Fall 2008

Here **SEPTEMBER 2 '08**

A Fontana Brothers Extravaganza with Intimations of Max

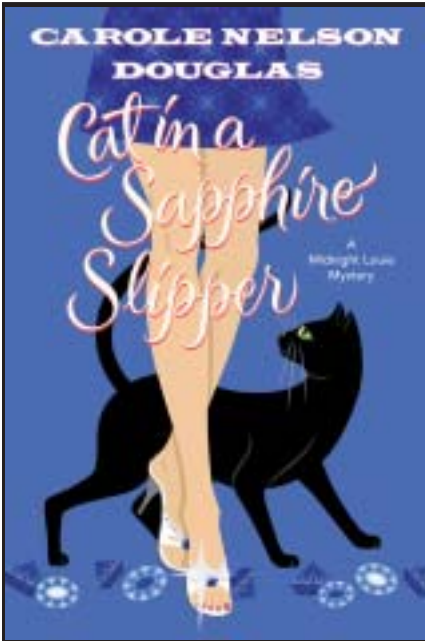
"The fur-flying 20th entry in Douglas's cat whodunit series [has] Temple Barr helping her romance novelist aunt, Kit Carlson, prepare to wed, but when a bachelor party prank goes awry, Matt Devine, former priest turned radio self-help guru, Mr. Midnight, and various members of the groom's family wind up at the Sapphire Slipper, the classiest little licensed brothel in Nye County, Nev., where Matt stumbles on a murdered prostitute. Midnight Louie, feline sleuth, offers his considerable expertise in solving crimes of passion. Douglas explores the campy, lighter side of 'chicken ranches' at the same time she exposes their seamier aspects." —*Publishers Weekly*

"wacky, extremely fast paced and funny. If a detective cat in a cozy is your thing, Douglas does it best."

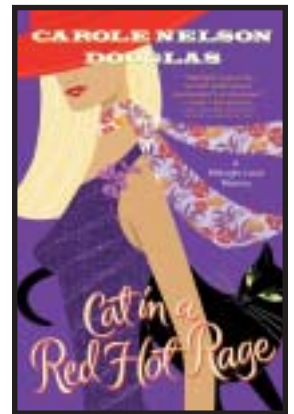
—*Romantic Times BOOKreviews*

Red Hat Ladies and Red-handed Killers

"Temple and Midnight Louie swing into action with the help of Electra's fellow Red Hatters and some clever cats. Douglas's humor and keen plot twists keep this long-running series purring." —*Publishers Weekly*



ISBN 978-0765318619.....\$24.95/CAN\$27.95



ISBN 978-0765352705.....\$6.99/CAN \$8.99
This novel has not been endorsed or authorized by the Red Hat Society.

LOUIE (AND DELILAH) GO LEGGY

OOH LA LA! The cover designers of Louie's and Delilah's latest adventures decree short skirts for fall



Dear Readers,

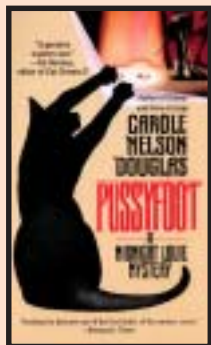
Usually my new hardcover comes out with the paperback version of my previous adventure, but **CAT IN A RED HOT RAGE** arrived in mass market last March. My "newest" paperback is vintage: the "reissue" of my out-of-print second mystery, **PUSSYFOOT**, fresh out this August. The first, **CATNAP**, was reissued last year. Nowadays, it is rare that a dude as long-lived as I would keep my "backlist" in print. Apparently, new readers are finding them and veteran readers are buying them as gifts to get friends started on the series. This is cool catnip! Also, Miss Carole has a Delilah short story in **UNUSUAL SUSPECTS**, a December '08 fantasy/mystery anthology edited by Dana Stabenow. More about Delilah on p. 3.

Midnight Louie, Esq.

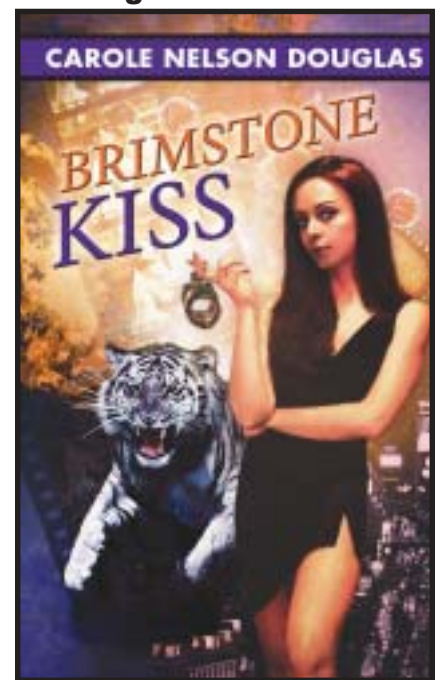


CATNAP.....978-0812516821.....\$6.99/CAN \$8.99

PUSSYFOOT.....978-0812516838.....\$6.99/CAN \$8.99



Coming OCTOBER 15 '08



ISBN 978-0809573042...\$7.99/CAN\$9.99



LOUIE'S LETTERBOX



Dear Mrs. Douglas, Midnight Louie, and Pals,

As a fan of your mystery series I am concerned about the absence of ML paperbacks in Southern California Borders and Barnes and Nobles bookstores. (They put everyone else out of business.)

I don't understand why they don't stock ML paperbacks since they always disappear (presumably sold).

I have enclosed some stamps. I just want to say that my favorite image/part of the series remains ML and Midnight Louise and Nose E. Byrd on stakeout in the Mojave Desert, a very accurate description of life out here.

Christine Schuett, Hesperia CA

Dear Miss Christine,

Thanks much for complimenting our accuracy and reporting our dwindling copies on the shelves! For years, Miss Carole got reports that my books and her Irene Adler series occupied an entire shelf in the chain stores. Now one is lucky to find one or two paperbacks shelved and new hardcovers stay around only a short time. Both major book chains are cutting back the number of books they stock in this challenging financial climate.

That means customers must speak up and ask at store service desks and alert managers that my

books do have a local audience. Readers need to support their favorite writers, like *moi*. See the readers' What-To-Do list on p. 3.—*ML*

Subject: **Midnight Louie**

May I congratulate you on your above series. I bought **CATNAP** in April '07 and currently have all that were available. I am missing **PUSSYFOOT** (which has just become available again and is on order) and **LEOPARD SPOT. SAPPHIRE SLIPPER** I will get when it comes out in paperback. I love your characters and the way each book carries on where the last one left off. I particularly love Louie and Louise—more of her please! I have my own 'Midnight Louise' but I am afraid she is not as enterprising as yours! Keep up the good work but what happens when you get to **Z**?

P.S. I have had to get all your books on-line as they are not available in the local bookshops.

Anne Durban via e-mail

Yes, readers today must request the books they want or buy online. Fear not: **Z** is not "the end" of ML's adventures, especially with the reissue program gathering new readers like you! I had a pre-incarnation in a romance/mystery quartet and plan to continue to exploit all my nine literary lives in new incarnations as long as Miss Carole lasts.—*ML*

ALL-TIME SUPER-SPONSOR: LINDA TILLEY * Massillon OH
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Thank you, stamp donors! From loose stamps to a packet or roll, from under \$2 to much more, every donor is a champ.

Yes, checks are welcome too. **PLEASE!** Let us know if you move or change street or e-mail addresses!

WE TRULY HATE TO LOSE YOU! If you're a donor who's not listed, please let us know.

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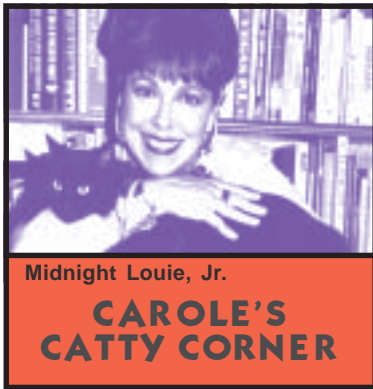
Track the interior title alphabet after *Blue Monday*
CATNAP, PUSSYFOOT, CAT on a BLUE MONDAY, CAT in a CRIMSON HAZE, CAT in a DIAMOND DAZZLE, CAT with an EMERALD EYE, CAT in a FLAMINGO FEDORA, CAT in a GOLDEN GARLAND, CAT on a HYACINTH HUNT, CAT in an INDIGO MOOD, CAT in a JEWELED JUMPSUIT, CAT in a KIWI CON, CAT in a LEOPARD SPOT, CAT in a MIDNIGHT CHOIR, CAT in a NEON NIGHTMARE, CAT in an ORANGE TWIST, CAT in a HOT PINK PURSUIT, CAT in a QUICKSILVER CAPER, CAT in a RED HOT RAGE, CAT in a SAPPHIRE SLIPPER, CAT in a TOPAZ TANGO

Want *Midnight Louie's Scratching Post-Intelligencer* newsletter free? Or to order Louie's T-shirt? It's passionate PURPLE with green, silver and black type. A very cool cat design on high-quality shirts: \$20-up plus \$5.25 shipping. Write, e-mail, or visit the website for information and to order.

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E-mail: cdouglas@catwriter.com



Dear Readers,

An article about Louie's namesake oldies band is on the back page!

Publishing as we know it is changing, but I'm plotting Louie's series through **CAT in a Z ? ___** (oooh, but that would be telling). I'm determined to finish the

series for all you loyal readers, and am considering other Louie book incarnations coming from my Cozy Noir Press.

That's why we must keep in touch via the newsletter, whether you get it by email, or "snail" mail.

Those who can get the color PDF version by e-mail attachment, please let me know. Those who aren't on computers or the Internet, *fear not!* There will *always* be a mailed print version for you. So if you can, based on your ability . . .

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5. Check out the books from the library
6. Post good reviews on barnesandnoble.com and amazon.com if you can. Also, "tag" books by subject matter (just check the boxes) so they appear on recommended reading lists.

VIVA LAUGHLIN? VIVA LOUIE!

Excited readers asked last fall about a new TV series, *Viva Laughlin*, set south of Las Vegas, with producer Hugh Jackman playing a hotel-casino owner named "Nicky Fontana." Were my books now a TV series? Alas, no.

How did "Nicky Fontana," owner of my series' Crystal Phoenix hotel-casino, in manuscript since 1985 and in print since 1990, become a VL character? Miss Carole suspects a script researcher found my books and liked the name. She avers that, had they done "our" series with the hunky Mr. Hugh Jackman playing Mr. Max Kinsella, it would have been a hit. Readers of the female persuasion reacted to that scenario with sighs and swoons. *Viva Laughlin* aired only two of its three filmed episodes, the fastest flash in the pan of any TV season ever. When will they ever learn?—*ML*

PIONEER AWARD



Janelle Taylor, Barbara Metzger, CND

I've attended many *Romantic Times* magazine annual conventions since *Probe* was given a science fiction award in 1984, when I left my St. Paul newspaper job for full-time fiction writing in Fort Worth. "RT" focuses on romance fiction but has always covered mystery and sf/fantasy novels. Many of my books have been nominated for or won RT awards, including a 1991 Lifetime Achievement Award for Versatility. Yet I was surprised and thrilled at the 2007 RT convention in Pittsburgh to be among 20 authors honored as "Pioneers of Publishing" for our innovative genre novels. We received crystal mountains (symbolizing the slippery publishing climb). Mine read: "Forging the path since 1980." I was the fourth-longest-published author, which says much about the career mortality rate for novelists! If you look carefully at the photo, I'm wearing the Midnight Louie shoes. Of course.

Dancing with werewolves and Delilah Street, PI, in Las Vegas

DANCING WITH WEREWOLVES got a starred review in the key trade journal, *Publishers Weekly*, reprinting in seven weeks, just before Christmas. After **BRIMSTONE KISS** this October, **VAMPIRE SUNRISE** arrives in March, '09.

★ "Douglas handles the premise with spectacular style [and] spices the action with fabulous characters: Quicksilver, Delilah's protective dog; CinSims (Cinema Simulacrum), dead celebrities recreated via science and magic; the oldest living vampire in Vegas, once a famous aviator. Readers will eagerly await the sequel."—*Publishers Weekly*



978-0809572038...\$6.99/CAN\$8.99

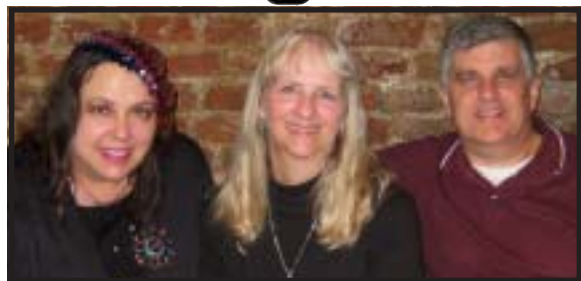
"This is a smartly written, plot driven, original novel that deftly combines the elements of fantasy, mystery, and romance to the well sated delight of the reader . . . enthusiastically recommended."—*Midwest Review of Books*

"...one of the smoothest and most satisfying of the current flood of contemporary paranormal romances or whatever the category is calling itself these days. A second adventure is already in the works and I'm sure it will be a good one."—*Don D'Amassa*

"With a brilliant eye for detail, Ms. Douglas demonstrates her creative talents with a captivating storyline and some of the most unique supporting characters around. . .truly a fantastic start to a series that paranormal romance readers are sure to enjoy."—*Darque Reviews*

"Carole Nelson Douglas' writing is crisp and edgy. Delilah's voice [is] a perfect mix of hard-nosed reporter and small town girl. She's a likable character, the kind you would quickly become a best friends with. *Dancing with Werewolves* is a wonderful addition to the paranormal genre and I can only hope that we'll be seeing Delilah again."—*BlogCritics*

The **midnight Louie** Trio Rocks Out with Oldies but Goodies



Pizza in Pittsburgh: Carole with Carol and Mike Hesterberg

www.midnightlouie.net

July 30, 2007

It's official!! "The Ba6ix" band has become Midnight Louie! Carol Hesterberg, our keyboard player and vocalist, has been reading a delightful mystery series written by Carole Nelson Douglas over the past few months and the main character in the book is a cool cat named Midnight Louie. [Carol H.] thought this would be a fabulous name for the band and the guys agreed with her right away. Not only do we love the name, so does everyone else who has heard it (especially our agents) and we even have the blessing of the books' author. She contacted us by e-mail on Saturday (the night that we officially became Midnight Louie!) and asked if we had based the name on her feline sleuth. She was quite flattered that we had done so and we are thrilled to have her blessing. In April, Mike and Carol are planning on driving to Pittsburgh, PA, to meet Carole while she's on the east coast for a convention. She'll mention the band in her national newsletter next fall and possibly use Carol's lovely black cat with white whiskers (like Midnight Louie) as a model for a ML look-alike. We' are happy to loan his pretty puss for a good cause—promoting literacy! Likewise, we will be mentioning Carole's books as we announce our new name to folks at our gigs. **Headline Logo by band guitarist George Hagerman**

I do not know why I do not get taken out for pizza. I would love to snag a spare pepperoni. Miss Carole discovered my namesake band (that does sound classy) through Google Alerts. I am happy to aid the career of the creative set and my name does have a certain cachet. At least I think so. Here is a photo of the aforementioned "Bruiser." Do not forget that I am a black hep cat with white whiskers, a rare puss to find. —ML



... the Advent of Audrey

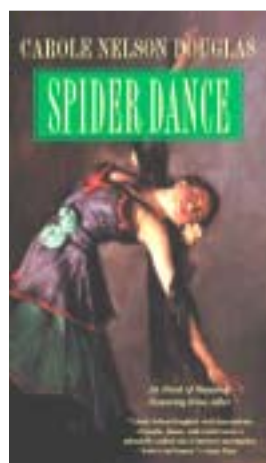
We are now the proud hosts of a feral cat, our first. Audrey, a long-haired calico, has been with us since early January and is still integrating with the resident cats and dog, not to mention us. We'd been feeding her outside before we knew she was a young mother. We weren't able to stop a second litter, but did find out how to trap her, had her fixed, and brought her in. Adopting a 15-month-old feral makes it iffy that she will ever warm up to us, but she is safe and vermin-free and finding her place on the totem pole.



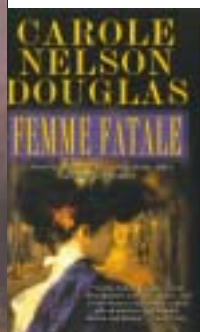
Adieu to the Divine Yvette . . .

After more than twenty years, Aug. 4 we said goodbye to Summer, our shaded silver Persian cat who inspired Louie's ladylove, the delicate but sassy Divine Yvette. Summer and Smoke came to us from two different litters as kittens, a treat for folks who always adopted grown street cats. Both Persians survived life-threatening autoimmune disease early, and lived long and prospered in the lap of luxury. Summer, left, reclined on royal purple.

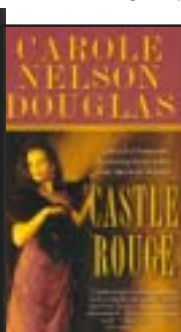
IRENE ADLER: FROM FIRST TO LATEST



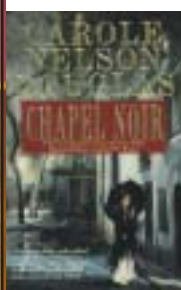
VIII



VII



VI



V



IV



III



II



I

Beginning with **Good Night, Mr. Holmes**, the *New York Times* Notable Book of the Year that began the Adler series in 1990, all eight novels have been reissued with Readers' Guides. The Sherlockian/historical/feminism elements make great book discussion group topics, so please recommend the series to library and bookstore reading groups and friends. *Chapel Noir* is out of print, alas.

