

HYGIENISTS IN PRINT=RDH/DDS SPOTTINGS/PLUS=FICTION & NONFICTION—Lois Foster Hirt NOVEMBER 2010

THE POT THIEF WHO STUDIED PTOLEMY—J. Michael Orenduff --Protagonist Hubert Schuze rips off pots, not cooking ones, that are usually buried around the world. He also reproduces them. Another story. This time he wants to return the pots once he acquires them to the New Mexico pueblo. This pots are housed in the person's apartment who originally ripped them off from the pueblo. He gets into this security building but is arrested for the murder of the man living there.

DENTAL HELP=1. "Except he turns out to be a pathologist with bad teeth & a comb-over, & the only people he deals with all day are dead." 2. "My final stop was at my dentist's office, It was closed, but it didn't matter. I didn't need any dental work. I had called ahead and asked my dental hygienist to do me a favor, & she was waiting for me. Sharice & I have more than a hygienist/patient relationship. We flirt with each other. Actually, she does most of the flirting. It's hard to reciprocate with her fingers in my mouth. I took her to lunch once, & we had a good time, so I asked her out. But she said her boyfriend wouldn't approve, & then after my next appointment she said she didn't have her boyfriend anymore, but I was seeing someone else by that time, so we've never actually a date. I don't know if she'd like me to ask her out again, or if she'd content to leave it at the flirting stage. I don't know how I feel about it either. She's attractive enough, but don I really want to date someone who scrapes my teeth." 3. "during this entire adventure I was wearing thin plastic gloves Sharice had given me from their supply at the dental office." 4. "If the gold is sealing inside, how can you know it's there? 'I had them x-rayed.'" —Note: It is never said that Sharice did that. [[Orenduff has 4 reasons Sharice is a RDH: 1. "I wanted someone who had access to x-ray equipment. 2., I think dental hygienist is an underrepresented profession in mystery fiction. Why have another model, actress, nurse, etc., if you can go outside the norm and use a dental hygienist? 3. my books are humorous mysteries, and I wanted to use the line, "She's attractive enough, but do I really want to date someone who scrapes my teeth" because I think it is funny. I'm glad you agree. 4., my own dental hygienist, Sheila, is a fan of my books. Her son Jimmy works at the local UPS and knows me because I am always shipping boxes of books to bookstores that want signed copies. She has also made him a fan. By the way, I see her twice a year. :He added: I didn't realize there were so many dental tidbits in THE POT THIEF WHO STUDIED PTOLEMY. Maybe I'm subconsciously more interested in the subject than I realize, which could be another reason why Sharice is a dental hygienist."]] NOTE: Oren duff's THE POT THIEF WHO STUDIED PYTHAGORAS includes a name & some miscellaneous tidbits.

DOG ON IT—Spencer Quinn =PI Bernie Little, who's not doing well, is the owner of the book narrator, Chet the dog. Bernie is asked to look into the disappearance of a 15 year-old girl. When she comes home, he's off the case. Then she's gone again, & they're back on the case, however, not everyone wants them looking for her. Chet discovers where she has been abducted, but being a dog, can't tell anyone.

DENTAL TREATS: 1. "Need to go out?...Just because my back teeth are floating.", 2. "He had lots of different smiles. This particular on I thought of as just showing teeth. I did the same. Bernie has nice teeth for a human, but I'm only being realistic when I say they're nothing compared to mine." 3.-"I crushed the ice cubes. Made my teeth feel great." 4.- "A wax ball would probably be kind of soft, unlike our lacrosse ball, say which made my teeth feel great every time I gave it a good hard squeeze." 5. "Denim scraps hung from my mouth, snagged on my teeth." 6.-"He had huge teeth for a human, & bright, the brightest I'd ever seen." 7.-"and lots of movies, too—check out White Fangs" fight with Cherokee!.." 8.-"...and smiled. A real big smile but not teeth. No teeth? How did that happen?" 9.-"Dylan smiled-he had nice teeth for a human, bug & bright, had to give him that—" 10-"It smelled like Bernie's breath in the morning, if he'd been smoking the night before & hadn't brushed his teeth yet..." 11-"Dentists." Said Albie. "I love dentist. They make good money, look around for investments, always pick wrong, get buried." ["My father's a dentist, now retired, so I learned this first hand." said Quinn] [12.--"Not a big fan of popcorn myself; mostly air, except for those unpopped kernels that get stuck between my teeth, sometimes for days. Even now I could feel a little something caught back there. When was my next appointment with the groomer? She always brushed my teeth, one of my favorite things in the whole world. "[Chet's teeth are very important to him. He likes them to feel good." said Quinn]] 13.-"I couldn't wait for the toothbrush." 15. 270-"And then, finally, the toothbrush. Janie always sang a song while she brushed my teeth, *Brush your teeth with Colgate, Colgate dental cream, It cleans your breath, What a toothpaste, while it cleans your teeth.*" [[14.-"an ugly brute, with an overbite and not chin." Quinn commented: "Yes, this is the old jingle. It just popped into my head that Janie would be singing it-kind of says a nice little something about her."]] 15.-"Have I mentioned the size of my teeth? Like daggers, and not much smaller." "I dug a tooth deep into what was left, pulled back with a side-to-side motion that always-

NOTE: Writing as Peter Abrahams his YA Echo Falls series 1st book starts off in an orthodontist's office.

HEREBY HANGS A TAIL=Spencer Quinn PI Bernie Little is offered a job of security for pampered, tiny, show dog Princess, when her owner Adelina Borghese gets a threat. She is entering a big dog show. Bernie meets them at their private plane when Princess arrives. Adelina tells the trainer to give Princess a treat since the poor thing probably had to suffer flying on the private plane. Since no 1 offered Chet a treat, he flies in the air & grabs the treat before Princess does. They get fired. On the way back to their house, Adelina's limo is blocked & Princess & she are kidnapped. Bernie deciding he needs to work on the kidnapping, goes to Count Borghese to get permission & gets hired. Reporter Susie Sanchez on the case, disappears. This is personal for Chet & Bernie since they kind of had a thing going.

DENTAL TREATS: 1. "Brush your teeth? said Bernie the next morning. 'Yeah,' said Charlie. "Didn't hear any spitting," said Bernie. So what? Bernie didn't hear a lot of things; but I hadn't heard any spitting either. Hey! Charlie is tricky.' ..Go brush

your teeth,' said Bernie. Charlie went into the bathroom I followed Bernie into the office. He took down the Niagara Falls picture, opened the safe, & removed an envelope.' 'What's in there?' said Charlie from the doorway.' 'that was quick,' Bernie said, 'How many teeth did you do?' 'All of them, Dad. Wanna smell my breath?' 'No, thanks.'" 2. Crash & Disco were both missing teeth, lots of them. For some reason that made my mouth feel weird for a moment or two." 3. "I got that funny feeling at the roots of my teeth, like they needed lots of pressure on them." 4. "She's the best groomer in the Valley., has a great business with a great business plan; Janie's Pet Grooming Service—We Pick Up & Deliver. Loved Janie, & she hadn't picked me up in way too long. She even brushes my teeth! The fun we have with that, let me tell you."

THE ANTEATER OF DEATH Betty Webb Protagonist "Teddy" Bentley is a zookeeper at the Gunn Zoo in CA living on a boat. Teddy is back to very seriously dating widowed Sheriff Joe Rejas who has 2 young children. Teddy gave up her teaching job to become a zoo keeper. There was money in her family but not now.

Head zoo director Barry Fields doesn't like animals & most of the zoo workers didn't like him. He likes women & money. Anteater Lucy was originally framed for killing Grayson Harrill-married to wealthy Jeanette Harrill. There has been a party at the zoo which the Harrills attended. Jeanette-left early due to a migraine. Then it was discovered Grayson had a bullet in his chest. Lucy only got to him after he was dead. Head zoo keeper Zorah Vega has been accused of Grayson's murder who originally recommended Zorah for the director job instead of Barry. Then Teddy & the rest of the poor-live-on-your-boat-owners are threatened to be kicked out of the harbor if their boats can't go to a certain area & back, which probably couldn't happen. They've have to find a place to live on land would be almost impossible money wise for them. Teddy also has to contend with her divorced parents.

DENTAL MORSELS—Maxwell Jarvis, "a San Francisco-based society orthodontist" has a big yacht. His name appears a number of times because he is trying to get the poor-live-on-your-boat-owners thrown out of the harbor. "Jarvis' big stomach spilled over his black Speedo." [[Webb states "The reason I didn't answer about Dr. Jarvis is because to save my life, I can't remember!"]] 1. "Anteaters have no teeth." That is mentioned a few times. 2. "We made the official ID from dental records." 3. "I bared my teeth at Parker. "Nice to meet you." His smile was no more genuine than mine." 4. "Lucy seemed to appreciate my attentions & rumbled mmm-mmm- at me while her blue tongue flicked in & out of her long snout as it carried banana mush to her toothless mouth." 5.. "His teeth were scattered all over the place." 6. "Cisco, the alpha male, trotted toward me with a sharp-toothed grin..." 7. "But as to who paid *your* bail. I haven't the slightest idea. " "Her mouth twitched into a smile. "Tooth Fairy." [[I've always admired the tooth fairy. She made me rich! admitted Webb]] 8. "I never came too close to snapping teeth or snatching talons." 9. "As the alcohol built up in his system his teeth seemed to grow longer & sharper at the same rate of speed that his brain diminished." 10 "Several enraged squirrel monkeys leaped on the zoo director, nipping at his hands, his ears, his cheeks-everywhere their teeth could find exposed flesh." 12. "My arm, now imprinted with two rows of tiny teeth, began to bleed..." "Stop biting!" I snapped, hoping I sounded parental. Apparently I didn't, because his teeth clamped down on me once more." 13. Teddy is dreaming that she is in the water surrounded by sharks. "One of them, a sharp-toothed Great White decked out in a black leather bustier & cheap blond wig, was singing..." 14. p "Too bad he didn't knock out a tooth." Zorah, are you serious?" "bigger damage settlement." 15. "When I tried to stop him, he hit me hard enough to knock loose a tooth." 16. "Certainly I have a gun. I don't exactly fill teeth for a living." [[This reference because "Everyone knows a dentist, and Teddy's father is no exception. He sees that as safe, secure work -- unlike what he does for a living." 17. There is a whole thing with wolves attacking each other in their enclave. Fangs are mentioned. There is jealousy among the animals. 18. She'd married a dentist." [[I asked why a DDS- "I don't know. Could be because my mother was always trying to get me to marry the boy next door who was in dental school. Instead, I rebelled & married an idiot."]]

NOTE: Webb included I wasn't aware I'd used all those references to dentists & teeth. When I told her I was donating copies of the books to the National Museum of Dentistry in Baltimore, she replied, "Next time I'm in Baltimore, I'll stop by & see it. I'm already thinking of ways to kill a dentist; just imagine what fun the research would be!

THE KOALA OF DEATH, A Gunn Zoo Mystery Betty Webb==Protagonist zookeeper "Teddy" Bentley feeds a sea otter, every day at the same time from her boat. She hears what she thinks is the otter hitting the boat. Instead she discovers a woman's body there. It's too late for zookeeper Kate Nido. She was murdered. She also lived on a boat. She, Teddy & other zookeepers had been aboard another boat for a party the night before. There are a number of people who had their own reasons to kill Kate. Teddy had to do Kate's other zoo jobs of writing a zoo blog & doing a weekly TV show bringing different animals. There is more than one murder.

DENTAL FEEDS: 1-"He flashed a smile, a gesture which people not familiar with primates often mistake for a smile." 2. Mr. Sewer Mouth" 3. "He (Vet) looked up from the anesthetized Bengal tiger whose fangs he was cleaning." "At that, the vet techs helping him giggled until he silenced them with a growl worthy of the Bengal." 4.: "What did they think Abim was going to do? Nibble their pinkies with his tiny teeth?" 5.-Keeping a wary eye on Mr. Trifle's tiny fangs." 6. p. "He gave me a big smile. His teeth were brown, but they were his own." 7. "He flashed those brown teeth of his." 8.-"I might even be crazy enough to make Annalee perform a dental inspection on a full-grown Bengal-tiger." 9.-His teeth were almost as big as a wolf's, too. 10. "but this time he kept his teeth to himself." 9. p.185 "Bonz was twice his size, with teeth two times as long." 10. p. 243- I remember when Flossie, my adopted yellow Lab-Chow, brought home a bird in her mouth." 11.- Turow's mouth fell open so far I could see the gold inlay on one of his molars." ", 12., "then handed me a glass of Listerine, "Just gargle, don't swallow." As per instructions, I gargled, brushed my teeth, and gargled again."

A CATERED THANKSGIVING Isis Crawford Sisters Bernie & Libby Simmons have been asked to cater Thanksgiving dinner for the dysfunctional Field family at Monty Field's house because the housekeeper has been taken away for being illegal. Monty owns 60% of Fortuitous Fireworks & is wealthy but very tight with money. The family has specifically requested a

certain size turkey with the pop-up thermometer in it. Monty has a tradition. He insists on checking out the turkey. He opens up the oven, taps on the turkey, & it blows up in his face. Monty won't see another Thanksgiving.

DELICIOUS DENTAL 1. p. 2 –We had 2 people in the ER room with that (bulimia) this week. Rotted their teeth right out of their mouths.” 2. p. 222 “She was so tired her teeth hurt.”

GINGERBREAD COOKIE MURDER ANTHOLOGY—1. GINGERBREAD COOKIE MURDER =Joanne Fluke= Protagonist Hannah Swensen & Lisa Beeseman own The Cookie Jar in Lake Eden, MN. Big lottery winner, recently divorced Ernie Kusak, is living in Hannah's condo complex. At The Cookie Jar Hannah asks Ernie again to please turn down his blasting Christmas music. He agrees. She misses the timer going off while baking at home because the music is still blasting. She tries calling & knocking at his door but no one answers. Norman Rhodes, DDS, 1 man she's dating, calls her. Because of the loud music, he volunteers to take her cat to his house & her to dinner. When they come back, policeman Mike Kingston the other man she's dating, is at the complex because of all the noise complaints. Thanks to his ex-wife Lorna having Ernie's key & living nearby, they enter, & Hannah finds Ernie's body. Hannah & Norman don't believe the man arrested for the murder is really the killer. They promise the man's wife they will look into it.

DELICIOUS DENTAL: 1. Norman appears throughout but not in a dental capacity except for a few dental mentions. .2. - “I've got a short day tomorrow, Doc Bennett is coming in to do Bertie Straub's whitening at two and he'll take over for the rest of the day.” “Seems to me you've had quite a few short days lately,” Mike gave Norman a friendly slap on the back. “Are you sure there's enough work for that new partner of yours?” “Beverly? Oh, there enough work for her. Doc Bennett wants to cut back on his hours and Bev's agreed to free me up for more of what I want to do.” “What do you really want to do?,” she (Hannah) finally asked Norman. “Paint,” Norman looked slightly embarrassed as he turned to face Mike. “It was Hannah's idea. I used to paint and I gave it up when I became a dentist. Hannah reminded me that there was more to life than just work & she told me I shouldn't give up my dream. So when Beverly needed to sign on somewhere as a dentist, I snapped her up to give me more free time.” “Good for you!” Mike said, nodding in approval. “Right,” Hannah echoed, although she wished she hadn't told Norman not to give up his dream if that was the real reason he'd hired Beverly Thorndike. Now Norman's former fiancé was coming to Lake Eden and Hannah felt almost as if it were *her* fault!” “So when is she coming?” Mike asked.” “Not until January fifteenth. She's still under contract at another clinic and they won't let her go early.” 3.-Hannah gives Norman some Magic Chocolate Caramel Cookie Bars to try. “Not too sticky and chewy? She asked” “Not at all. It's good for my business.” 4. “Would you (Norman) like to go with me (Hannah) to Gary Jenkins?” she asked” “Sure, but there's something we ought to do first. You need to talk to Marsha Gilman. I just finished cleaning Barbara Donnelly's teeth & she told me Mike arrested Steve on suspicion of murder early this afternoon.” 5. “The wind had teeth that nipped at their noses and cheeks as they walked along the cold concrete walkway,...” 6. “And Norman. I'm only Dr. Rhodes at the clinic.”

2. THE DANGERS OF GINGERBREAD COOKIES-Laura Levine-L.A. freelance commercial writer Jaine Austen is spending Christmas with her parents in their Tampa Vista senior complex in Tampa. This year Edna Lindstrom wrote the holiday-themed play *The Gingerbread Cookie That Saved Christmas* that's being done there. Edna's fiancée Preston McCay has the gingerbread cookie part. After a rehearsal, Edna, Jaine, & 2 other women involved in the play go out to eat. They discover Preston there with his real fiancé. The other 2 women thought they were engaged to him also. The play must go on, but unfortunately Preston goes on but doesn't make it out of the theater alive. It seems that the wire that had him flying broke & so did Preston's neck. Jaine is out to solve his murder.

One Dental Tidbit: 1 “I'm sure you remember that little vow I'd made to start a vigorous exercise & sensible eating regimen. Well, I'm glad you do, because up till that point, it had pretty much been banished to a dusty corner of my brain reserved for dental appointments & memories of my high school prom.”

3. GINGERBREAD COOKIES AND GUNSHOTS Leslie Meier-Lucy Stone works for the weekly newspaper Tinker's Cove, Maine. Things are not as good as they used to be for the town's people & her husband Bill's business. Lucy isn't happy how her family is going to be spending Christmas. Lucy is food shopping when she spots Nemo, a 4-year old she knows by himself wearing a too-small overcoat. At that point, his mother Ocean Anderson gets him telling him he isn't to wonder off. Ocean, Nemo,& her boyfriend Rick live in the abandoned aquarium that now is a derelict building. Ocean tells Nemo they have to leave, but he wants a gingerbread man cookie. Ocean tells him they can't afford extras. Lucy buys the cookie for him. Outside she finds Rick strapping Nemo into his Porsche. She wonders how you can have a Porsche & not be able to afford the \$1.49 cookie. She comes back in to pay for the groceries. The cashier tells Lucy she thinks they are into drugs. The next day she hears an Amber Alert went out for Nemo. He was snatched from his front yard. At 1 point she thinks she can't do anything to help, but somehow she can't let it go.

DENTAL: “He flailed his little arms & legs, trying desperately to avoid the fox's sharp white fangs.”

WARNING AT ONE Ann Purser - In England, Lois Meade owns New Brooms, a cleaning service. Her mother Gran lives with her & her husband Derek.. They've won a lottery with some other people but both still work. Lois also helps local Detective Chief Inspector Cowgill with some cases.. Lois has gone to Clem Fitch, a neighbor who lives beside a house the Meade's own, to ask him to keep his pet cockerel quiet very early in the mornings. Good luck. Their rental house becomes vacant, & their son Douglas rents it from them Clem & his pet are murdered, & Douglas is the number one suspect, especially because of some anonymous notes turn up at the police claiming they saw Douglas strike him & his pet. There are some other strange activities going on along with some new strangers in town. Lois has to contend with interviewing & hiring some new cleaners since 1 is going to another full time job.

DENTAL THREATS: 1. Floss Pickering is a character throughout. 2. “I'm just passing though & need toothpaste. ...It's a special brand. DenFresh, it's called.” “Come with me,” she said, & led him to a shelf spaced neatly with toothbrushes & pastes of special kinds. She held out a tube to him. “DenFresh,” she said. I use it myself.” “She was looking her best today,...& her own

teeth white & gleaming.” 3. “Sold him some toothpaste.”... “It’s just a thing people say! Nothing for you to get your teeth into.”
“Lois said, that was quite enough about teeth, as she had just made an appointment with the dentist & was dreading it.”