

HYGIENISTS IN PRINT- DENTAL PERSONNEL- FICTION & NON-FICTION—Lois Foster Hirt

MURDER UNFOLDS—Sharon Short - Josie Toadfern runs a Laundromat & writes a stain removing column. One tidbit we get while she is trying to solve a murder is “Denture cleaning tablets are a fast and great way to clean a coffee mug of coffee stains.”

Did you know that the old fashioned brown Listerine is good for dandruff? According to the newspaper article, “the alcohol & herbal oils have antifungal properties, & dandruff is caused by yeast.

THE ACCIDENTAL HUMAN by Dakota Cassidy (A paranormal romance) This is the 3rd in the series. This time 30-something Wanda Schwartz is the protagonist. She is divorced & is making a nice amount of money selling Bobby-Sue Cosmetics & is great at recruiting saleswomen. It comes to a shock when a man answers her ad & wants to be a rep. She can't discriminate so she has to invite him to 1 of her home parties. Heath Jefferson shows up, & what a hunk! He has got the women all ga-ga over him, & he sells them lots of cosmetics. Heath talks her into being his sponsor. She acquiesces. She realizes Heath is hot & knows he isn't gay, but can't do anything about it. At least she thinks she can't. Her problem .she has a terminal illness. She hasn't told anyone she doesn't have much time to live. As it turns out, Heath has his own problems. He & his friend are homeless. He has some problems. He has feelings for Wanda & realizes something isn't right in her life. He works on finding out what her problem is & helping her.

Wanda uses excuses to avoid telling her best friends Nina Staleon, a vampire, (who used to be a RDH) & Marty Flaherty,-a werewolf about her situation. Things get somewhat messy when they try to help Wanda when they find out about her illness.

Teeth start out right in the dedication. 1. Cassidy states, “My poor mother, Eleanor, who does everything for me but brush my teeth, & even then, she leaves a sticky note on my desk to remind me it's a no-discussion rule.” 2. When Nina lost her stenographer's job, she had nothing to fall back on. She “had found a government funded job retraining program, and she's willingly given up selling Bobbie Sue to go off to college and become a hygienist. Which hadn't worked out so well, seeing as on her first day she ended up accidentally bitten by her very first patient--who'd turned her into a vampire & then into his life mate.” It is funny that Cassidy gave the hygienist the pottymouth. That is the last we hear of Nina's hygienist life, but she is throughout the book. 3. “Just as she (Wanda) was spitting toothpaste out of her mouth, her doorbell rang.” 4. “And then Wanda, snarling, hairier than any werewolf either of them had seen during a shirt, wild-eyed, & drooling hatred from her canines, shot through the basement door like she'd been hurled from a cannon.” 5. “Ohhhhh, & he had those crazy fangs Nina'd had once upon a time. Not nearly as big as Nina's but they were there, gleaming at her.” 6. “Her neck arched upward against the smooth enamel, frantically seeking the pleasure his bite brought her.” 7. He sank into her one last time, his teeth still embedded in her neck.” 8. Fango is the name of Nina's husband's cosmetic company.

DEATH TAKES THE CAKE by Melinda Wells ---Protagonist Della Carmichael is a 40 something year old widow whose husband was a cop who died of a heart attack, & they had no children. She is a cooking school owner in Santa Monica, CA, & the star of the cable cooking show In The Kitchen With Della on the Better Living Channel owned by Mickey Jordan, her boss.

Watch it if you tick off someone in college. Della had a problem with wealthy student Regina (Reggie)Davis in college who threatened to get back at Della. Years later, Della meets her, & Reggie acts as if she had forgotten everything she ever said & is her almost best friend. Reggie is the owner of Reggi Mixx which evidently is a yucky tasting cake mix. Mickey Jordan has struck a deal with Reggie to have a cake baking contest with a \$25,000 prize. This is to help promote her show. Della is his entry along with 4 other well-known cooks. Reggie will pick the other 4 so people don't think the contest is fixed. Della's big problem is that she is not a dessert making person. This will be a real challenge because there little time to prepare. The contestants will have to go to the factory in the Davis Foods Test Kitchens to get ready after work hours. They each have their own space & a key to come & go as they please in the Mixx factory to do what they have to do before the contest. Reggie came over to Della's after the deal was sealed & drank so much Della had to drive her home.

Della goes to the Reggi Mixx factory one night & discovers Reggie dead. Her face in a bowl of cake mix. She calls the cops. One person who shows up at the factory is Nicholas D'Martina, (NDM) a newspaper man Della was dating recently until she discovered he was dating other people, which is not what she wants. He is not ready to give up a story.

As the cops investigate, their number 1 person they focus on is dentist Bill Marshall, her best friend Liddy's husband. They found his gold pen in Reggie's purse, & he hasn't been at his poker games. Liddy is a wreck about this, & Della is determined to help prove him innocent.

Her friend policeman John O'Hara is involved in the case. Wells gives John's wife Shannon a little larger role in this book. She is on meds for a psychiatric problem which is why their college age daughter Eileen has been living with Della for quite a while. When Eileen meets Addison, Mickey's son, they start to work on a project together.

Bill Marshall segues throughout the book from being a DDS to a DDS out of the office/murder suspect playing a large part.. [Wells informed me Bill became the murder suspect because of being Liddy's husband & so close to Della. Reggie, wanting to hurt Della targeted almost 50/having a mid-life crisis Bill, who still loves his wife. Even though Reggie targeted him, he couldn't go through with an affair. Well said, “It's human, I think, to be tempted. What matters is whether or not we give in.” If the Marshalls broke up, it would hurt Della also. Bill Marshall, DDS, was going out to lunch when he bumps into Reggie in the hallway leaving the periodontist office on his floor. Her purse spills & he helps her put everything back,. They end up going to lunch. Big mistake! When Liddy, Shannon, & Della do lunch, Shannon says to her, “Oh, Liddy, you're so lucky to be married to a dentist, they never leave you to go running office the middle of the night.” Liddy talks to Della that she's worried Bill is being unfaithful. Della hearing this wanted to clobber “popular Beverly Hills dentist. Deep down Della can't believe he would have an affair. Wells lets us know a couple of times that the camera operator for the contest,” grinned at me (Della) exposing a mouth full of teeth in desperate need of a dentist's attention.” [The bad teeth reference came from Wells seeing “quite a few people—mostly men—walking around with missing teeth. They are blue collar types, not white collar. It was a way to differentiate him from

expected so he had to leave for his game right from the office.” Bill’s “nurse” is mentioned again. “John tells Della he went to Bill’s office to ask about the pen, but he wasn’t there. “His nurse said that he’d called her very early & asked her to reschedule his patients. What he told lawyer was that he decided to take a ‘vacation day’ with his wife. John assured Della Reggie wasn’t 1 of Bill’s patients because according “to his nurse, Ms. Davis has never been one of his patients” [I reminder Wells that a receptionist or RDA, possibly the RDH would have called, not a nurse. Wells replied, “I’m horrified that I made the mistake about the dental office, even on the phone. That was stupid of me. I should have known better.” She said the next time she’ll run things by me 1st. Then it will be my fault is something dental is wrong.” She apologized & said she realized that and this is a mistake.] Bill’s personalized license plate reads, “SAY AHH.” We discover Joe Collins is the periodontist in Bill’s building when Bill tells the police about how he met Reggie coming out of Joe’s office. Della has deal with Frank Mazzone, a bail bondsman, for Bill. He asks about her dental friend & then Goggles him & finds out he has a “big bucks dental practice, some movie star clients. Della deals with Joe Collins office a few more times trying to get some information about Reggie being his patient. [The positive scary situation (Is this an oxymoron?) is what Wells brings up in the information I can dig up on you on the computer. She has had some experience with computer info being wrong when someone contacted her, confusing her with someone else.]

I was in Las Vegas (2/2=09) with some of my dental hygiene school friends. We have known each other 47 years! We try to get together at least once a year- We saw a show at the Hilton called **THE SCINTAS**, a family act. They tell jokes, sing, play instruments, etc. Very entertaining. They do a skit where Joe tells Frankie he went to the DDS (as a kid) He says when he went there, .the DDS put the chair down, turned down the lights, & told him to open his mouth wide like he is going to get an injection. The DDS then put a little “prick” in his mouth. It was a little more involved than that but that is the general idea. I just thought it was funny, that 1 of the shows we would pick, would have some dental. I talked to them after the show, & Joe, the brother who “went to the DDS, totally put it out of his mind & had to think of what I was asking about.

READ Dianne Emley’s **THE FIRST CUT** to see how a swallowed crown swallowed by a murder victim’s find her killer. There is quite a bit of dental in it because of the crown.

THE LAWYER WHO DIED TRYING by Honora Finkelstein & Susan Smiley Protagonist/psychic Dr. Ariel Quigley is an adjunct English professor at a university in Fairfax, Virginia. She was also a soldier during Desert Storm. Lawyer Jassamine Steele contacts the university’s Dean Riordan looking for an expert witness in the occult He recommends Ariel. She meets with Jassamine who explains the job is for her own child custody case she has against her ex-husband Jordan. She found out the type of person he was after she had their son who is now 6. She has custody & doesn’t want to share it. Jordan, she explains, is not your normal person. She needs Ariel’s expertise in the black magic of Kali worship, which she thinks Jordan is involved in. Ariel agrees to help her. As her fee, Jassamine offers her shares in Aquavest, a venture she is involved in that is getting off the ground, since she is cash poor. Ariel goes for that deal. Ariel then asks her landlady/good friend Bernice Wise if she is willing to take some shares as her rent. Maybe for 1 month. She figures she has nothing to lose either. Ariel meets three of the women, Jassamine’s college friends, who have invested in Aquavest & and then meets more people at a stock meeting that Bernice goes to also.

Bernice’s twins, Mike & Michelle, are in college but are on the crew of a local cable TV station. They have Ariel come on 1 show about ghost busting, which she does. That is how Ariel met Bernice. She got rid of a ghost living in Bernice’s house. She gets a number of calls after being on the show. She goes & helps some of the people who are quite desperate.

A problem arises with Aquavest, & soon after Jassamine is murdered in her office. Ariel’s new boyfriend Greg is a cop. He is with her when she discovers Jassamine’s body. It isn’t Greg’s jurisdiction but he can get her a little info when she starts to investigate which she needs because Jassamine’s ghost doesn’t want to leave Ariel alone. She needs to be able to get rid of her.

Throw in a cool Halloween party that the twins put on each year at their home, & where this year Ariel will do Tarot card readings. She has already done them on Jassamine’s three college friends, Jordan, & Dr. Ernie Redmond ,CEO of Aquavest & is a practicing dentist. Ariel’s family all have sort of powers to a degree, especially her very young nephew Max.

Dr. Redmond is an orthodontist & appears throughout the books. [Originally Redmond was going to be a chiropractor that Honora knew & did have some dealing with small venture that was suppose to be environmentally friendly. One of the investment principals was a crook. Since she knew more about an orthodontist than a chiropractor, Redmond’s profession changed. She thinks kids are “more concerned about their teeth than they are about their spines. Anyway, making Ernie a dental professional gave me a way of bringing Bernice & Michelle into the story by having them know Ernie. Two of her kids in grade school, made paper clip braces thinking they were straightening their teeth. She had no clue about this for over 2 years.] Some dental we get because of him is 1. that Dr. Redmond introduced Jassamine to Aquavest. 2. Ariel describes him when she meets him at an Aquavest meeting as a man “about 55 years old, with thinning sandy hair, a mustache, & glasses. He was dressed casually but well, in dark gray slacks & a tweedy sport jacket, with a burgundy shirt & light gray tie. He wasn’t a commanding presence, standing only about 5’ 7”, but he had an air of success & affluence that can be quite attractive and inspirational, even charismatic.” 3. At this meeting he says, “Now, I’m not much of one for fancy speeches. I spend most of my time wiring the mouths of the rich & famous-& their offspring. So I won’t lie to you-I like making money-hey, that’s why I went into dentistry....” 4. At this same meeting Bernice tells Ariel, “I know Dr. Redmond already. He reshaped the teeth of my daughter Michelle when she was 12, & she’s been happily biting ever since.” 5. Because of problems with Aquavest, Dr. Redmond says, “Instead of retiring to my own South Sea island, I may be fixing teeth until I’m 85.” 6. Dr Redmond talking about Aquavest’s financial problems, “So, in the terminology of my profession, maybe we’re not in as deep a cavity as we thought at first!” 7. Ariel & Bernice are talking after Ariel read Tarot cards on Dr. Redmond, she describes him with his ties to Aquavest after each of the cards. Bernice aggress with her evaluation & savs. “Ernie has always been really action oriented in a lot of ways. I thought

Bernice continues with, "He voiced the fear that he might have to continue working until he's 85 to make up for what he's lost in Aquavest." 8. There's also, On night Ariel left Greg's after midnight. When she got home she just brushed and didn't floss. "Tomorrow morning, I promise, I said to my teeth."

CREAM PUFF MURDER by Joanne Fluke Norman, is a dentist who appears in all the books. Hannah Swensen owns The Cookie Jar with her partner Lisa Beeseman. Joanne put me in the Acknowledgments.

Hannah's mother Delores is now a Regency romance writer with a book coming out soon. She has ordered "Regency-style ball gowns for her 3 daughters without them going into the store to be measured. She also has Hannah making special treats for the launch party which she & her sisters will serve. When Hannah goes in with her sister Andrea Todd to try on her dress, it doesn't fit. It is too tight & the seams were cut, so there isn't enough material to let out. Hannah is going to have to lose weight. Andrea tells her not to worry because she bought a year's membership at Heavenly Bodies, the new mall fitness spa, & got a free 1 to go with it. Hannah can exercise with her & take some of the classes. That should do the trick.

Ronni Ward, who is pretty with a great body & no longer engaged, was rehired by Andrea's husband Bill as the sheriff's department fitness instructor. Since she isn't making much money there, she gets a part-time job at Heavenly Bodies. Ronni is a 1st class flirt. She has to take over 1 of the male instructor's classes when he breaks his arm. She treats the women students horribly. Hannah tries to talk to her about that.

Police officer, & 1 of Hannah's special male friends, Mike Kingston gets some cream puffs from Hannah to take to Ronni's birthday party being held at Heavenly Bodies. There were no women invited to this party. The next day Hannah & Andrea go to the spa where Hannah discovers Ronni's body in the Jacuzzi. She was murdered. Not all the cream puffs were eaten. Lake Eden's police department is very small & when most of the cops, including Mike and Bill, are put on leave because they were at Ronni's party & have to prove their alibis, the town has to bring in someone else. You can't work a case if you had a personal relationship with the victim, which Mike did. When Hannah tries & does get involved in the other murder cases that have taken place in Lake Eden, Mike isn't happy and tries to get her to stop. Now he needs her. He wants her help & sends Norman the dentist as his go-between & not just once. Norman, by the way, is Hannah's other love interest. He gives Norman a list of books he thinks will help Hannah. She plans on getting to the bottom of Ronni's murder without the books.

All 3 sisters are affected by Ronni & her death, since all their men are cops. Her sister Michelle, who is in college, is dating another cop.

Hannah has another mystery to solve. Mike gave Moishe, her cat, a special food dish so he can eat when he wants. The problem is that when Hannah comes home all the food is gone, which shouldn't be, & Moishe is not gaining weight. What is happening to the food?

With Norman being a DDS & appearing basically throughout the book helping Hannah, we get dental. Oh, I got mentioned in the Acknowledgments. Hannah is over at one of the other stores talking to Florence the owner. Hannah tells her that Mike is coming to dinner. Florence asks if Norman knows. Hannan answers her & adds, "I guess you like dentists more than cops right now, right?" Florence comes back with, "I'm partial to Norman right now because he replace one of my fillings for free." Norman also has a cat Cuddles. He tried to put her in the carrier & had to leave her at his office. Norman mentions that Mike told him about her diet. Hannah asks if he did that in front of Norman's patients. He replies, "Of course not. I don't allow anyone except relatives in the treatment rooms & that's only when the patient is a child." Norman's power went out, so he is at Hannah. He leaves saying he has an early appointment tomorrow when he thinks it came back. Norman can take time off to help Hannah with the case because Doc Bennett, the DDS he bought the practice from, loves to come back & do some work, especially since he wants to make some extra cash for a trip he is planning. Hannah is trying to think of something Norman's & her mother can do to help with the case that is safe. Norman tells her they will know if "you feed them a placebo. Hannah asks, "Do they teach about placebos in dental college?" "Dental school," Norman corrected her. "It's just like med school, except it is for dentists." You have to love the following: Hannah has a group of people watching the surveillance tapes from the entrance to the spa. Norman says "I'll see if I can get Doc Bennett to watch a couple for me tonight. When he came into the clinic this morning, he said there was nothing he wanted to watch on regular television and it was pretty sad to have to judge his bedtime by the number of One Eight-Hundred Dentist commercials he'd seen." Norman & Hannah are watching Moishe eat, Norman notices his cheeks looked fuller. Hannah figures it is something a DDS would notice.

KILLER CRUISE by Laura Levine--Jaine Austen is a freelance ad writer & somewhat of a sleuth. Jaine got a one-time job on a cruise line going to the Mexican Rivera for a week where she thinks everything will be free for her, as in all expenses-paid trip. As the old saying goes, there is no such thing as a free lunch. She will be teaching a writing class.

Before she leaves, her neighbor Lance tells her not to worry about anything since her parents will be arriving soon & will take care of Prozac her cat. Lance keeps reminding her she probably will be the youngest person on the ship. She isn't worried. She will have time to read & relax. The best laid plans of mice and men. She gets to the ship just in time to board. One big problem, taking her luggage out of the trunk, she finds Prozac. There is only time to try to sneak him on board. She succeeds. She is housed in the bowels of the ship, on the Paradise Deck with the rest of the crew members. Jaine gets lucky when Cookie Esposito, a band singer whose cabin is beside hers, spots Prozac & is cool with it. She even helps get him a litter box. Cookie introduces Jaine to Graham Potter III, her boyfriend & one of the men hired to dance with the ladies. (Have you ever noticed there aren't women hired to dance with the men? Or at least I haven't.) She realizes that she will have to cancel housekeeping so no one comes in to clean & discovers Prozac. Unfortunately, she forgets, & Samoa, a non-American would be writer, is in her room cleaning. He promises not to rat on her if she edits his book. There goes her relaxing time.

Teaching her writing class is easier said than done, especially since only a handful of people show up, & they are something else, Jaine is assigned to the Prichard family table for dinner, since many passengers like to have a ship celebrity sit with them. Wealthy, 70 year old Emily has taken her nephews, brothers Robbie & Kyle, his wife Maggie, & Leona Emily's personal

there is dancing & Graham invites Emily to dance. Leona tries to be overly protective and doesn't want her to, but Emily does have a mind of her own. Robby invites Jaine out to the dance floor. Over the next couple of days, Graham & Emily seem to be inseparable. Not everyone is happy about that including Cookie & Kyle, who seems to worry about what share of Emily's money she'll leave him. They don't have to worry too long, because Graham is stabbed to death with 1 of the ice sculptor's ice picks. The \$7000 cuff links Emily bought for Graham on board are missing from his shirt when he is found. The thing is the sculptor claims there are 2 missing picks. Where is the other 1? Cookie is arrested because she was heard threatening him for his actions with Emily, & someone thought they saw her when he was killed. Jaine who appreciated her help with Prozac, tells Cookie she will look into Graham's murder. Jaine finds out if anything can go wrong, it will & not only that, it will cost her money.

TOOTHNOTES; 1. My salivary glands went into shock. 2. What would Robbie think when he saw me looking like a poster girl for PoliGrip.? 3. "The next thing I knew I'd be blacking out my teeth and stomping grapes with my bare feet." 4. I hope you didn't leave any bite marks. 5. he said, flashing her a smile almost as white as his shirt." 6. "What a scam those pendants were. Graham bought 'em by the gross. Gave them out like lollipops at a dentist's office." 7. The little Mexican man smiled broadly, exposing a mouthful of what I suspect were store-bought teeth" 8. "but much like a dental patient who can't help probing a sore tooth, I felt myself helplessly drawn to the computer room." 9. "It was probably just a shadow, his wife said, now wiping a lipstick smudge from her teeth." 10. I am tall, dark, and very beautiful, too. Plus I have all my own teeth." Different types of smiles and breath appear.

VALLEY OF THE LOST by Vicki Delany --Protagonists probationary constable Moonbeam (Molly) Smith & Sergeant John Winters live in Trafalgar, British Columbia. Molly's parents, Lucy (Lucky) & Andy Smith, left the states during the Vietnam War when Andy got drafted & fled to Canada. They were hippies & Lucky still basically is. Needless to say, they weren't happy when Molly became a cop. Lucky volunteers at a place where young women can get help and food for their babies. Lucky was leaving Trafalgar Women's Support Center, where she volunteers, when she thought she heard a cat. She started to leave when it then sounded like a baby. She decides to check it out. The baby was lucky, his mother not so. She lay near by, dead. Lucky calls 911. Molly is trying to help stop a fight outside a bar when she gets hit in the mouth by 1 of the fighters, who claims it was a accident, when the 911 call comes in. When Molly responds to the 911 call, she doesn't expect to see her mother.

The lady died of an overdose they think. Lucky remembers her name is Ashley. Lucky decides she will take the baby home. The next day a nasty social worker comes & wants to take Miller, the baby, to a foster family until the mother's family is found & they can take him. Lucky refuses to give up the baby. Why go to a foster family when she is just as capable to handle him Lucky feels. Unfortunately, the baby is a crier & loud one. Sleep is something the family isn't getting a lot of with him around. Molly isn't thrilled about that.

The police track down Ashley's roommate Marigold, who claims she only knew her 1st name & nothing about her. She paid in cash for her share of the rent & took Miller with her wherever she went. Turns out the autopsy shows she never had a baby, & she had been clean for a long time. Ashley was murdered, & it showed she had been restrained. The cops know there is pot in town but they definitely don't want heroin there.

The other situation in town is that a large resort might be built, & Trafalgar citizens aren't happy. They are letting the resort people know their feelings. Sergeant Winter's wife Eliza is a model. The complex wants her to be the model in their ad. Even though the money will be good, she has 2nd thoughts if she wants to do this because of the controversy attached to it. A lot is happening in this small town, & not all of it is good.

The dental starts with 1. Molly being hit in the mouth. Some of it ties in with a conversation with Christa. 2. Molly & Christa are talking on the phone. Christa says, "Dad's agreed to pay whatever the dentist charges, so I might end up better looking after this." She had a minor overbite; lots of guys thought it cute, but Christa figured it made her look like Bugs Bunny." 3. Christa & Molly meet outside of Big Eddie's. Molly is talking with a lisp because of her smashed-in mouth. Then Christa tells her she made a dental appointment for the next day. She says, "He's going to make me beautiful." Molly makes a face & Christa asks her what is wrong with Doctor Tyler. Molly replies, "As a dentist, there's nothing wrong at all. He'll do a good job." Christa replies, "But?" Molly comes back with, "But, nothing," Hard to explain that after questioning Doctor Tyler last month regarding the killing of his lover's husband, Smith wouldn't allow her long-time family dentist to approach her with a ten foot dental pick." [Delany says the 10 foot pick was put in to give some background on Christa since she been beaten (in the 1st book) so badly she needed dental work & also trying to be funny.] 4. A man in a bar smiled at Molly and she noticed he was missing his bottom place. 5. It was Katie's responsibility to watch the old man if there was a gap in the nursing coverage. Which there had been, The scheduled nurse had called to say she had a dentist appointment and was running about half an hour late."

A new study led by a Hadassah Medical Center nurse has proven that brushing a ventilated patient's teeth 3 times a day can radically cut down the rate of Ventilator-Associated Pneumonia.

