



Gardner Gab

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“Writers should be read, but neither seen nor heard.” Daphne du Maurier

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New House, New Baby, New Book Equals Newsletter

Things have changed a little bit in the past year. There I was, merrily writing my sixth suspense novel, *The Killing Hour*, and the husband and I had a great idea. Let's get pregnant. Then we had another idea. In honor of having a child, we'll simplify our lives by reducing from two homes to one. But rather than keeping one home and selling the other—which would be much too easy—we'll sell both existing homes, buy a third house, and in the process, move two times in 12 weeks.

So we did. And I wrote and I wrote and I finished up *The Killing Hour* just in time to collapse from exhaustion or give birth.

I gave birth. Her name is Grace Marie and she is officially the most beautiful baby in the whole wide world. I'm sure she's also brilliant because she makes cooing noises for hours on end, or at least ten minutes, with the most serious look on her face. She obviously knows the secret of the world and we're just too stupid to understand. I always figured that was the way it worked.

So now we're in our new house with our new baby enjoying our new life. But what about getting back to writing?

Good question. It sounds like something I should do. I even have aspirations along those lines. These aspirations generally occur in the five point five seconds Grace sleeps each day. So in my own way, I'm making progress.

In the meantime, my agent and editor thought it would be a super

idea for me to produce a newsletter. The goal is to keep readers posted on the development of my next novel, as well as other book biz. In theory, I'll get this thing out 3 to 4 times a year—or at least once more before Grace turns 18.

Sound like a plan? I hope so.

Book Seven Begins!

Good news! I have actually started work on the next novel. Bad news, the book does not involve Rainie or Quincy (please don't hurt me!). The novel, however, features a new cast of characters whom I hope readers will love. Plus, the book involves two other previous characters. Think *The Perfect Husband*. Haven't you always wondered how J.T. and Tess were doing? Well soon, you will know...

Meet Bobby Dodge, a tall, dark and handsome police sniper who considers himself to be a pretty good guy doing a pretty good job. Until the night his S.W.A.T. team is deployed to a domestic disturbance call in swanky Back Bay, Boston. A husband appears to be holding his wife and four-year old child at gunpoint. The S.W.A.T. unit deploys and Dodge takes up position across the street.

Then, the unthinkable happens. The child bolts from his mother's arms, the father takes aim at his unprotected wife, and Dodge drops him dead from two hundred yards away.

It seems a righteous shooting. Or is it? Who was the real threat that night? The father? Or the *mother*? Now, as accusations mount and a little boy grows sicker from a mysterious illness, Dodge must pry into the dark secrets of a troubled family to determine if he killed a guilty man...or if he was used as a tool to commit the perfect murder.

Surviving Hollywood

Last year, the Lawrence Bender Production Company (*Pulp Fiction*, *The Mexican*) optioned the film rights for *The Survivors Club*. For writers, anytime Hollywood comes knocking, it's pretty heady stuff. In the real world, however, movie options are rarely exercised and most of the time you're simply collecting money for nothing (which I'm not complaining about, trust me!).

For *The Survivors Club*, however, the adventure continues. The project has just been green lighted by CBS as a possible TV-movie starring *Touched by an Angel* actress, Roma Downey. What does "green lighted" mean? Technically, still nothing. But it's a bit more nothing than the option clause nothing, which should be something. Right?

Lisa Gardner Bookshelf

The Survivors Club May 2003
The Killing Hour July 2003

For more info, check out:
www.LisaGardner.com