

Lisa E. Betz Press Kit



BRIEF BIO

Lisa E. Betz is an award-winning author, motivational speaker, and unconventional soul. She is passionate about inspiring others (real and fictional) to become their best selves, living with intention, authenticity, and purpose.

SHORT BIO

An engineer-turned-mystery-writer, Lisa E. Betz infuses her novels with authentic characters who thrive on solving tricky problems. Her debut novel, *Death and a Crocodile*, won several awards, including the Golden Scroll Novel of the Year (2021). Lisa combines her love of research with her quirky imagination to bring the world of the early church to life. She and her husband reside outside Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, with Scallywag, their rambunctious cat—the inspiration for Nemesis, resident mischief maker in the Livia Aemilia Mysteries. Lisa directs church dramas, eats too much chocolate, and experiments with ancient Roman recipes.

Visit www.lisaebetz.com.

LONG BIO

Lisa Betz never intended to become a writer. She followed her love of math and science to a degree in mechanical engineering, and a job at an aluminum manufacturing plant. (She knows the real reason aluminum foil is shiny on one side and dull on the other.)

After six years in industry, parenthood led her to change jobs and become a high school substitute, which led to an opportunity to direct a high school play. Lisa's directorial debut was a success, leading to a dozen more plays, everything from Shakespeare to Oscar Wilde, plus one pun-filled melodrama she wrote herself.

Looking back, Lisa can see how her unconventional path to authorhood prepared her to create her quirky, unusual mysteries. Her years leading Bible studies gave her a deep understanding and appreciation for the first century setting of her books. Her analytical, engineering mind helped her create complex, clever mystery plots. And her years

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directing high school plays gave her a deeper understanding of how to develop complex, lovable, sometimes snarky characters.

In addition to writing novels, Lisa speaks and blogs about living with authenticity and purpose. She also experiments with ancient Roman recipes, eats too much chocolate, and enjoys long walks in the woods. She and her husband live on a beautiful, wooded hillside on the outskirts of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania with their rambunctious cat, Scallywag, who is the inspiration for Nemesis, the mischief-making cat who stalks the pages of the Livia Aemilia Mysteries.

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- Facebook page: [LisaEBetzWriter](#)
- Pinterest: [Lisa E. Betz | Intentional Living](#)
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AWARDS

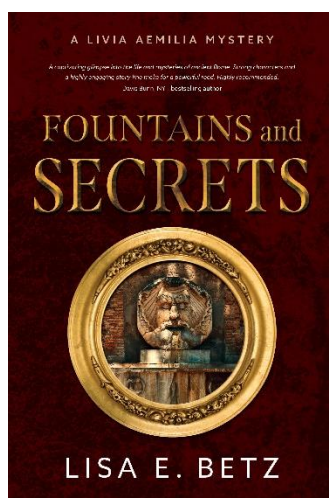
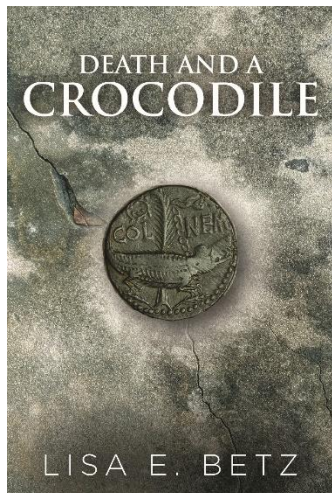
- Golden Scroll Novel of the Year (2021)
- Illumination Book Awards, gold medal mystery category, (2021)
- Finalist, historical mystery category, American Fiction Awards (2021)
- ACFW Genesis finalist, mystery category (2019)

RECENT INTERVIEWS AND GUEST POSTS

- All Things Podcast with Athena Dean Holtz. [Embrace Who God Made You to Be](#)
- Reading is My Superpower guest blog: [Countercultural Faith in the Early Church](#)
- Loretta Eidson, *Where Danger Lurks*. [Life Lessons: Attitude Adjustment Needed](#)

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BOOK DESCRIPTIONS



***Death and a Crocodile* (Livia Aemilia Mysteries, #1)**

In ancient Rome, sensible young ladies don't investigate crimes, but Livia Aemilia doesn't let stuffy conventions stand in her way. When her father is murdered and her innocent brother accused of the crime, Livia and her spunky maidservant set out to identify the killer. Will their meddling expose the culprit or lead them into mortal danger?

A fast-paced mystery set in first-century Rome, featuring a feisty amateur sleuth, a cast of eccentric characters, and a glimpse of the early church.

- CrossLink Publishing, released 2/9/2021
- 321 pages
- ISBN: 978-1633573161
- Amazon link: <https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/1633573168/>

***Fountains and Secrets* (Livia Aemilia Mysteries, #2)**

Nancy Drew meets ancient Rome. Impulsive Livia is more interested in solving a missing persons case than hiring fresco painters for their new home remodel. But her husband forbids her to get involved, knowing that she could be in extreme danger. Soon their lack of trust in each other leads them to behave in counterproductive ways that threaten their new marriage and personal safety.

Fountains and Secrets, book 2 in the Livia Aemilia Mysteries, is quirky, fast paced, and clever, showing readers that trust and honesty are more important than winning the battle of the wills.

- Redemption Press, released 12/20/2021
- 298 pages
- ISBN: 978-1646456291
- Amazon link: <https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/1646456297>

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SAMPLE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS

About the mystery series

- What drew you to set a mystery series in first-century Rome?
- How much freedom did women have in ancient Rome? Is it feasible for a female to be a sleuth in that period?
- One of the issues your heroine faces in the book is an arranged marriage. What options did a woman of her day have?
- Our society elevates image over character. What pitfalls does judging people by their image lead to in your books?
- Your characters act in unconventional ways, what are some examples of ways your sleuth Livia had to challenge the status quo to solve the mysteries?
- Another challenge that Livia faces in Fountains and Secrets is how to manage being newly married. What tips do you have for women desiring a stronger marriage?
- How will your main characters grow through the series?
- How do the teachings of Jesus run counter to the Roman ideal of honor, and how does that play out in your novels?
- Cooking is one of your passions. Have you tried any of the ancient recipes you describe in the book?
- What surprises did you encounter in your research?

About Lisa and her other work

- Many of your characters, including the sleuth's sidekick, are misfits in some way. How does this fit with your Quietly Unconventional brand.
- Your website's tagline is Quietly Unconventional. What do you mean by that?
- Authenticity is important to your writing. Why do you feel it is so difficult for people to live authentically?
- You started your professional career as an engineer. How did you end up writing mystery novels?
- Public libraries are important to you. Talk about serving as a library trustee and what that taught you.
- What are some of your writing quirks?

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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 6, 2022

NEW REDEMPTION PRESS RELEASE WELCOMES READERS TO A WORLD WHERE *NANCY DREW* MEETS ANCIENT ROME

In ancient Roman culture, few women challenged the status quo. So, imagine when adventurous, spunky, headstrong Livia dives right into a swamp of danger after learning that her new husband's mentor has been murdered.

As Livia uncovers clues in secret, she discovers injustice toward other women and the nasty web of affluent men behind it all. And in the throes of a young marriage, Avitus and Livia come head to head. Avitus doesn't want his wife to be in danger, and Livia wants to prove to her husband that she's capable of solving the disastrous crimes. Their lack of mutual trust and respect turns into a bitter test of wills—and they discover that their assumptions were more harmful than they realized.

In book 2 of *Livia Aemilia Mysteries*, Lisa E. Betz draws inspiration from thirty-five years leading Bible studies to create entertaining mysteries set in the early church era that include eccentric characters, independent females, and an occasional sausage-snatching cat. "I have always been drawn to books that were different than what *everyone else* was reading," she says. Her imperfect, unconventional characters "live with authenticity despite the challenges they face for daring to be different."

For readers who enjoy mysteries and historical fiction with a touch of humor, *Fountains and Secrets* is an engaging tale of identity, purpose, and hope.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

An engineer-turned-mystery-writer, Lisa E. Betz infuses her novels with authentic characters who thrive on solving tricky problems. Her debut novel, *Death and a Crocodile*, won several awards, including Golden Scroll Novel of the Year (2021). Lisa combines her love of research with her quirky imagination to bring the world of the early church to life. She and her husband reside outside Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, with Scallywag, their rambunctious cat—the inspiration for Nemesis, resident mischief maker in the *Livia Aemilia Mysteries*. She directs church dramas, eats too much chocolate, and experiments with ancient Roman recipes. Visit www.lisaebetz.com.

For review copies and media interviews, contact Lisa Betz at lisa@lisaebetz.com.

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/LisaEBetzWriter>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/lisaebetz/>

Pinterest: <https://www.pinterest.com/lisabetz88/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/LisaEBetz>

Goodreads author: https://www.goodreads.com/author/show/20880297.Lisa_E_Betz