

Dec. 29, 2024



Gangster Series—available through: Amazon, Indie Book Stores, Barnes & Noble, Walmart
Customer Reviews: Amazon Author, Goodreads
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Gangster Blog

Thank you for your support — 2017-2024

The end of the year is a good time to take a step back and think about what one is doing—and why. I hope my writings bring you cheer, encouragement and vision. Wishing you the very best in the New Year!

2024 (recap)
HONORABLE MENTION — NEW BOOKS
Before You Go (working title), Gangster Series - Book #3, available early 2025
Taking a Chance in Deadwood—anthology, June 2024: “A Thousand Miles from Boyhood”—short story
HONORABLE MENTION — MAGAZINE INTERVIEWS
— Readers House, London’s Literary Gateway, “A Journey Through Time and Storytelling – Betty Brandt Passick,” Oct. 2024
— Voyage Minnesota, “Rising Stars: Meet Betty Brandt Passick of Oakdale,” Dec. 2024
HONORABLE MENTION — BOOK FESTIVALS
— Wild Deadwood Reads, June 13-16, Deadwood, SD (my debut)
— Bouchercon Nashville, Aug. 28-Sept. 1, Nashville, TN
HONORABLE MENTION — NEW VENTURE
“Gangster in Our Midst — The Play,” submitted proposal to a Twin Cities theater (pending)

INVITATION: WORKSHOPS & AUTHOR VISITS

Schedule a 2025 workshop-author visit (descriptions attached):

- Where does one begin to write — a journal, a story, a book? (workshop, 90 mins.)
— The story behind the story (workshop, 90 mins.)
— Calling all book clubs! (author visit, 60 mins.)
— Writing a Memoir (workshop, 90 mins.)
— Journaling (workshop, 60 mins.)
— Book #3 Book Launch, after April 1st (author talk, 60 mins.)



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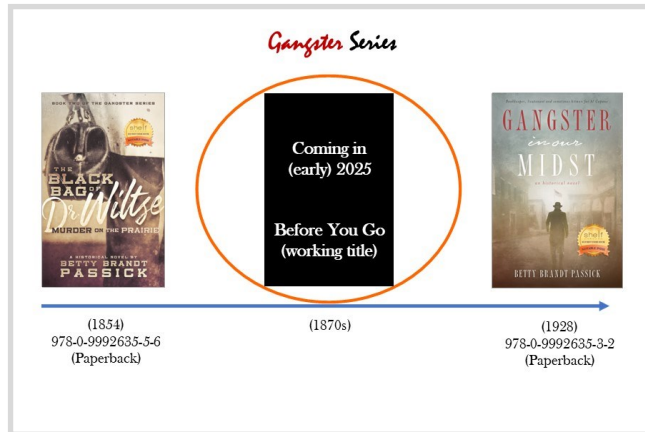
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Gangster Series



Book #3: 2025!

## Gangster Series, Book #3 (progress report)



I report Book #3 (working title: *Before You Go*) in the gangster series is about half written and will be available in early 2025. Pre-order your copy now (\$19.95 + shipping & handling).

Libraries and other organizations are **invited to be a part of the Book Launch Tour in April**. Contact me to schedule ASAP.

Short description: A sharp-witted, high-strung embattled woman and pillar in the community, along with a young vagrant boy, are at the center of this story of love, addiction, sacrifice, and murder in the 1870s. The historical crime novel tells another fact-based story set in northeast Iowa.

## Wapsie Writing Contest — Cash Prizes in 2025!

Beginning in 2025, a small cash prize will be awarded to the winner of the Wapsie Writing contest in each of the three age categories: Adults (19 and older), youth (12-18 years), and children (11 years and younger).

Do you consider yourself a storyteller? Do you have a great story you've always wanted to put to paper and share with others? Showcase your storytelling ability in the

### 3rd Annual Wapsie Writing Contest

Subject: Of your choosing  
Length: 100-1500 Words  
Genre: Nonfiction, Fiction, or Poetry  
Format: MS Word

Contest Rules: [BettyBrandtPassick.com](http://BettyBrandtPassick.com)

CONTEST STAGES:

- 1) Submission: **Jan. 1st**
- 2) Deadline: **March 15th**
- 3) Judging: **After March 15**
- 4) Winners\* Announced: **May 15**

3 Age Categories:  
Adults — 19 years and older  
Youth — 12 to 18 years  
Children — 11 years and under

Judging: by Committee  
Cash prize to Winner! (each category)  
Published in regional newspapers.

Submissions: [bbpassick@comcast.net](mailto:bbpassick@comcast.net)

Applicants are invited to submit a never-before published short story or poetry—fiction or non-fiction—about a subject matter of their choosing. The length must be 100 to 1,500 words, and entries must be submitted in MS Word. Only one entry per person is allowed. Submissions will be accepted January 1st through midnight March 15, 2025. Send your entry along with your name and age category to [bbpassick@comcast.net](mailto:bbpassick@comcast.net). A panel of judges will evaluate entries based on the most creative and original and demonstrated quality of beauty and intensity of emotion for their age category. Read complete **Contest Rules: [www.BettyBrandtPassick.com](http://www.BettyBrandtPassick.com)**.

## Author Events

### 2025

— **Sat., Mar. 16, 9-4:30** (Booksigning), [9th Annual Rosemount Writers Festival and Book Fair](#), Rosemount Steeples Ctr, 14375 S. Robert Trail, Rosemount, MN

— **Apr. 1, 6:30 pm**, "Author Spotlight," [Twin Sisters in Crime](#), St. Peder's Lutheran Church, 4600 E 42nd St., Mpls, MN

— **Apr. 8-12**, Time (Author talk), Denver Library—65th Anniversary Celebration, 100 Washington St., Denver, IA

— (pending) **Sat., April 19, 10-3** (Booksigning), Mystery and Crime Book Fair, St. Michael City Hall, 1800 Town Center Dr, St., Michaels, MN (Press & News, "St. Michael Event Hosts 35 Crime/Thriller Authors," [link](#))

— **Mon, Apr. 21, 7 pm, MN** [Mystery Night](#), "Authors Frank Weber, a forensic psychologist, in conversation with Betty Brandt Passick, a historical crime junky, on writing about death and dying," Lucky 13 Pub, 1352 Sibley Memorial Hwy, Mendota, MN

— **Sat., Apr. 26, 11-1** (Booksigning), "Meet & Greet Author Fair," [Jesup Public Library](#), 721 6th St., Jesup, IA

— **Thurs, May 15, 6:30 pm** (Author talk), "Meet The Author: Betty Brandt Passick," [RAAC / Rosemount Trail Library](#), 14395 S. Robert Trail, Rosemount, MN

— (pending) **Sat., June 14** (Booksigning) 8th Annual Wild Deadwood Reads Book Fair, Lodge at Deadwood, Deadwood, SD