



Midwest Crime Writer

Marguerite Ashton

Crime Fiction With Color

Dear Reader,

I want to thank you for giving Detective Lily Blanchette a chance to invade your personal reading space. As a person who's addicted to books, I understand the importance of being invested in a character that I want to see win, solve a crime or to find their soul mate. And that's what goes through my mind every time I start a new story for Lily.

I'm aware of my different writing style, but I think it comes from my days as an actress. I found it hard to relax in front of the camera. But the minute I got behind one, it felt more natural to me. Just like writing *Her Final Watch*. The beauty of seeing Lily's story unfold in front of me was amazing.

For me, I had the pleasure of doing rewrites and edits, with the hope of creating a novel that you'll enjoy. However, you as the reader, get the better deal. You get to see Lily's life unfold without interruption. And I'm grateful because she goes through complex challenges in each book. You've got betrayal, murder, deception and family drama. There's at least one thing in the list that we can all relate to. On top of that, Lily's smack in the middle of an investigation. Talk about stress.

If you're still reading this letter, and I hope that you are, let me explain Lily's dilemma. It's been two weeks since she killed her husband in self-defense and learned that she was pregnant. Now she has a decision to make. The choice is, to have a family, or let her child be placed for adoption. But before she can come to grips with the latest news, an undercover cop is murdered, and everything points to the mob.

That's when it hits home for Lily. She's the lead investigator. Her victim is a colleague and a mother. At this point, there's no turning back. She has to find her killer.

I don't know about you, but I would stay in bed and binge-watch movies to help cope. But Lily, no way. She's an alpha female who knows what she wants and will bend the rules to solve her case. The thing is, she's still vulnerable. She's risking her life, and with every second that passes, she hopes this isn't her final watch.

So, thank you for your time and being the devoted reader that you are. I look forward to hanging out with you to discuss the book and answer questions.

Best Wishes,
Marguerite