



Jill K Willis  
WRITER

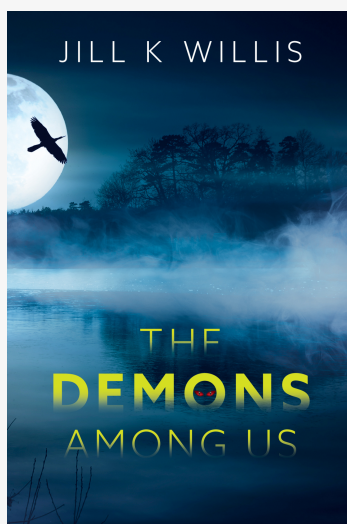


July 2022 Newsletter

IN GOD  
WE TRUST

**Happy 4th of July!!!**

I wish you a safe and happy 4th of July weekend! Though our media outlets are boiling over with news about anti-freedom issues, remember there are immigrants to the south of us willing to risk their lives in a hot 18-wheeler to settle in our country. America's Constitution may be taking some hits, but I can't imagine living anywhere else. May God bless America!



### **Help! I need positive reviews!**

Many thanks to those of you who wrote glowing reviews on Amazon, Barnes & Noble, and Goodreads. I'm still trying to reach 50 reviews on Amazon so its higher level of free promotion will launch. If you liked *The Demons Among Us*, it would help me so much if you would leave brief positive reviews on these websites:

[Amazon](#)

[Barnes & Noble](#)

[Goodreads](#)

### **Disinterested? Or uninterested?**

A friend might say, "I'm not watching the baseball game. I'm totally **disinterested**." They're implying that they don't care about baseball, but

what they're actually saying is totally different. **Disinterested** means a person doesn't have a stake in the outcome because they're not invested in it. Now, if your friend meant they weren't going to be betting or gambling on the game, then **disinterested** would be the correct term to use. There's a small but important distinction between disinterested and uninterested. **Uninterested** is the word that means you find something boring.



# My Bookshelf

Here's what I read in June. Yes, the first five are all cozy mysteries in the same Gilded Age series. I needed some light reading. Follow me on [Goodreads](#) to view how I've rated the books I've read since 2010.

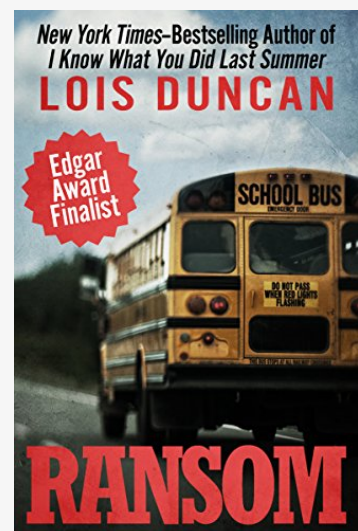
*Murder at the Breakers*, Alyssa Maxwell □□□□  
*Murder at Marble House*, Alyssa Maxwell □□□□  
*Murder at Beechwood*, Alyssa Maxwell □□□□  
*Murder at Rough Point*, Alyssa Maxwell □□□□  
*Murder at Chateau sur Mer*, Alyssa Maxwell □□□□  
*Ransom*, Lois Duncan (YA) □□□□

## BOOK REVIEW

### Ransom

With a copyright of 1966, *Ransom* is still an amazing thriller for teens. The lack of digital devices heightens readers' angst. If the characters had cell phones, the story would have no spine. No one would have died, no one would have been kidnapped, and no one would become a hero. Today's teen readers should check it out and ponder whether they could have survived a 1960s crisis. Many thanks to my reading buddy, Rob Mitchell, for the gift of this book.

Check out all my [young adult book reviews](#).



## July 4th Weekend Activities!

Whether it's raining or the sun is shining, these activities are sure to bring out your patriotic spirit:



1. Place flags on veterans' graves or volunteer at a veterans community center.
2. Sell lemonade.
3. Play the All-American game of baseball.
4. Host a watermelon eating (or seed spitting) contest with prizes.
5. Festoon your bikes with red, white & blue decorations.
6. Bake cupcakes and frost with red, white & blue icing.
7. Fill a glass bowl with red, white & blue candy and ask guests to guess the number inside. Winner takes all.
8. Screen an outdoor patriotic movie like *Top Gun* or *Independence Day*.
9. Host a photo contest. The person who takes the most patriotic photos (of hot dogs, apple pie, flags, etc.) wins.
10. Organize a scavenger hunt by hiding patriotic items around the house or yard.

"You have to love a nation that celebrates its independence every July 4th, not with a parade of guns, tanks, and soldiers who file by the White House in a show of strength and muscle, but with family picnics where kids throw Frisbees, the potato salad gets iffy, and the flies die from happiness. You may think you have overeaten, but it is patriotism."

*- Erma Bombeck, American humorist and novelist*

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### Quick Links

[Book Trailer](#)

[The Demons Among Us on Amazon](#)

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