



October 2020 Newsletter

## I WON the ACFW Genesis Contest for "The Demons Among Us!"



Last month, I entered the first 15 pages of *The Demons Among Us* into the American Christian Fiction Writers Genesis Contest (Young Adult Category) for unpublished writers. In May, ACFW notified me that I was a semi-finalist. In June, the call came that I had advanced to one of three finalists. At the ACFW's virtual conference Gala September 19, a trio of judges (two agents and one publisher) named *The Demons Among Us* the winner.

**What does this mean?** I'd love to say that the big prize is a publishing contract, but it's not. It simply means that when I query publishers, I can represent my work as a contest winner, which might be an eye-catcher.

Please know how much I appreciate your continual support and prayers. You've been a constant source of hope for me. I'll keep you posted!

### Check out my fall faves



#### Pumpkin Scones

[Starbucks](#): Get there early. They go fast!



#### Pumpkin Carving

[Red Tricycle](#): Easy downloadable templates.



#### Creepy Podcast

[Fireside Mystery Theatre](#): Spine-tingling stories.



#### Autumn Baking

[Delish](#): Healthy and yummy recipes.

*It's the season to read spooky stories*

**"The Institute" by Stephen King**

This crossover thriller will keep both older teens and their parents up at night (with the lights on). After Luke's parents are murdered, he ends up at The Institute in a room identical to his own. He soon learns that his parents died because of his extranormal gift and that all the resident students possess similar talents, which the administrators force them to share with the government. Terrifying. What's your favorite spooky story?



*Chat with a middle grade author*

### **Julane Fisher is delivering virtual talks**

Do you know a teacher who would like to have an award-winning author talk with their students? For a limited time at no cost, [Julane Fisher](#), one of my critique partners and author of *Sour Lemon and Sweet Tea* and *Sour Lemon Strikes Out*, will deliver a timely presentation and chat with students in grades 4-12. Topics include: How to Write Fiction, Implementing Literary Elements in Creative Writing, and Writing Essays that Stand Out. She also has an anti-bullying message. Each chat aligns with ELA standards. For more information, [email Julane](#) directly.

Short video clip

I'd love to hear from you! What are your fall faves? Scary movies, books, food, activities?

Email me at [jill@jillkwillis.com](mailto:jill@jillkwillis.com), and **please add me to your Contact List**.

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