

# WORKSHOP PRESENTATION TOPICS

## **DIANE A.S. STUCKART a/k/a ALI BRANDON**

- New York Times Bestselling Author of the Black Cat Books Mystery Series from Berkley Prime Crime
- Award-winning Author of the Leonardo da Vinci Mystery Series from Berkley Prime Crime
- Critically Acclaimed Author of Historical Romance and Short Fiction

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**Diane A.S. Stuckart a/k/a Ali Brandon** is available to speak to book clubs, library groups, civic organizations, and writers' conferences on a variety of topics. She also has some standard workshop presentations geared toward new writers. *(Duration 45 min. to 1.5 hr., includes handouts)*



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## PRESENTATION TOPICS

### **The Protagonist's Journey**

Do your plots go nowhere fast? Get your story back on track by getting back to age-old storytelling basics. Learn how to tap into traditional myths that resonate with your readers on both a conscious and a subconscious level. Examples from Joseph Campbell, the Tarot, fairy tales, and more will help you build your narrative structure.

### **Me, You, and He: Unraveling Point of View**

Been accused of being a head-hopper and don't know what that means...or how to fix it? Unsure of the difference between 3rd person limited and 3rd person multiple? This workshop will explain the difference between 1st person, 2nd person, and 3rd person view point styles, give you tips for writing in each, and show you how to choose the most effective point of view for your novel.

### **The (Almost) Real Deal: Turning Historical Figures into Fictional Characters**

You'd like your romance heroine to have a run-in with Henry VIII...or maybe you think that Benjamin Franklin would make a great sleuth for a mystery series. Learn how to bring historical figures to life and believably incorporate them as characters in your novel. Taught by the award-winning author of the Leonardo da Vinci mystery series.

### **Cozy vs. Crazy: Two Genre Writers Compare Notes (in conjunction with Patrick Kendrick)**

NYT bestselling author Ali Brandon and award -winning writer Patrick Kendrick both kill literary characters for a living, but that's where the similarity ends. Or does it? She pens cozy mysteries featuring amateur sleuths; he writes thrillers populated with anti-heroes and serial killers. Yet when it comes to the structure and plotting of their novels, many of the same rules apply to both types of books.



*If you would like Diane/Ali to speak to your group, please contact her with the date(s) and time(s) and locale. Weekends and evenings are best, but other times will be considered. Worried about an honorarium? Her compensation is negotiable and may be waived depending upon the nature of the group and distance traveled. She requests that all appearances allow for a book signing to take place afterward.*