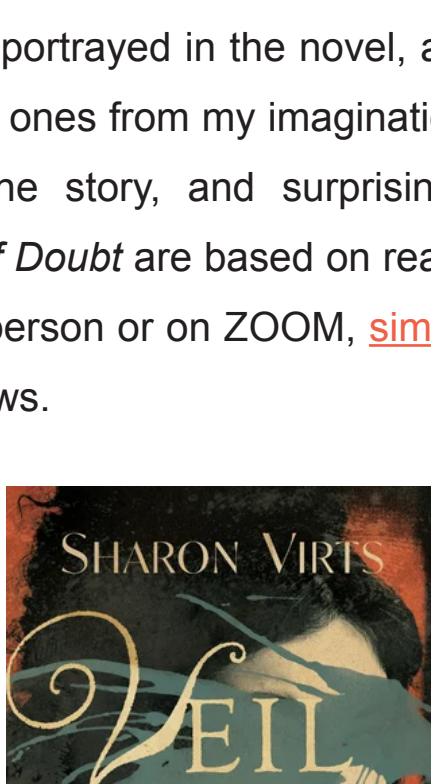
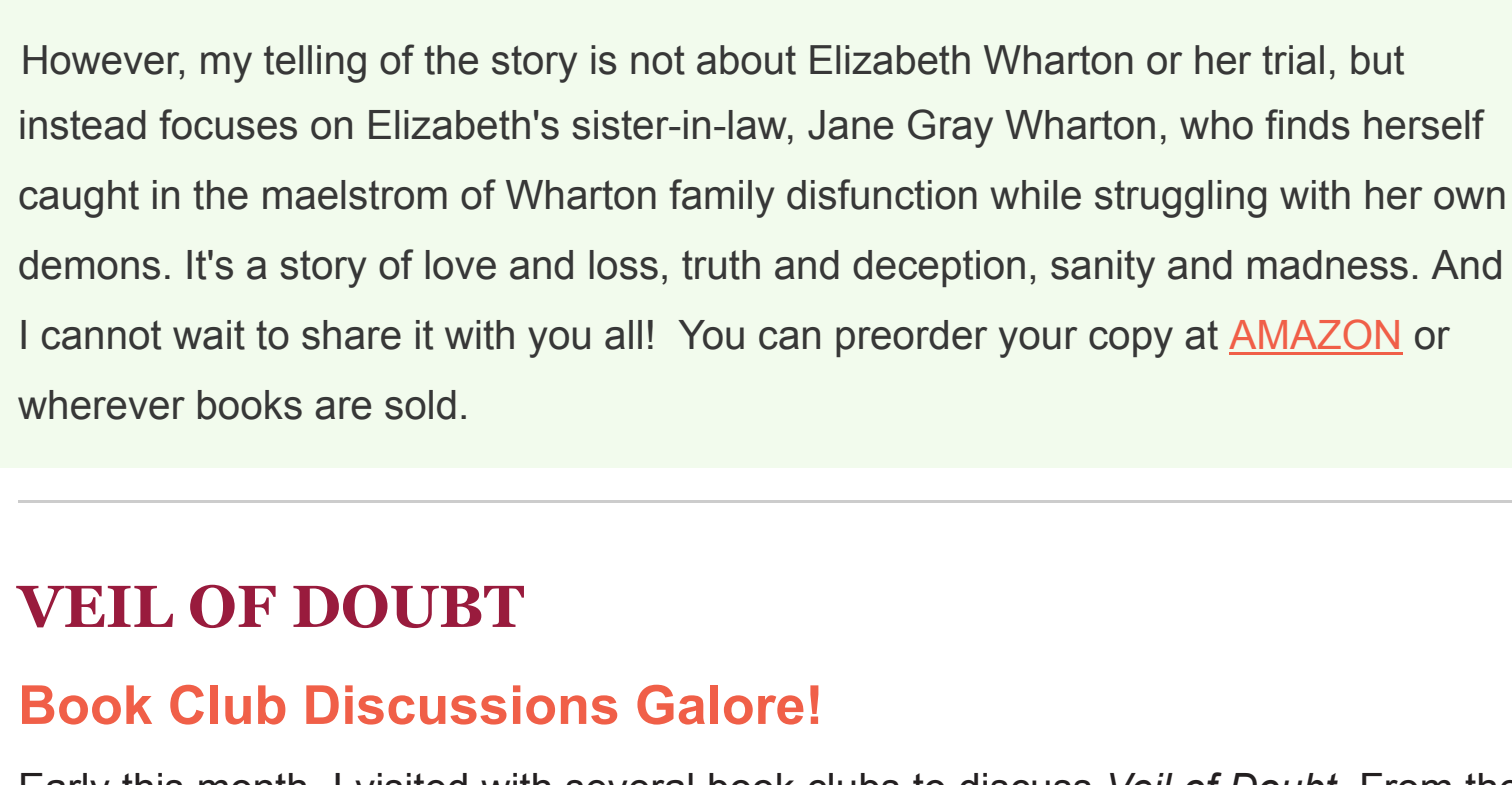


All You Need is a Book!

As we march into spring, there is a parade of things happening this month. In addition to March being Women's History month, we just celebrated St. Patrick's Day, Palm Sunday and Purim are this weekend, and Easter is less than two weeks away. But did you know that March is also National Reading Month?

In honor of Dr. Seuss's birthday, **March** is designated as a month to motivate Americans of all ages to read every day. And with so many great books released each and every week, the options are endless. I have a great list of suggestions for you this month and I am sharing six months of #ReadWithSharon book club picks. So stop by the library or your favorite bookseller and pick up something new to read. Trust me, there is nothing like finding yourself lost in another world.

Happy Reading!



COVER REVEAL!

GRAYS OF TRUTH

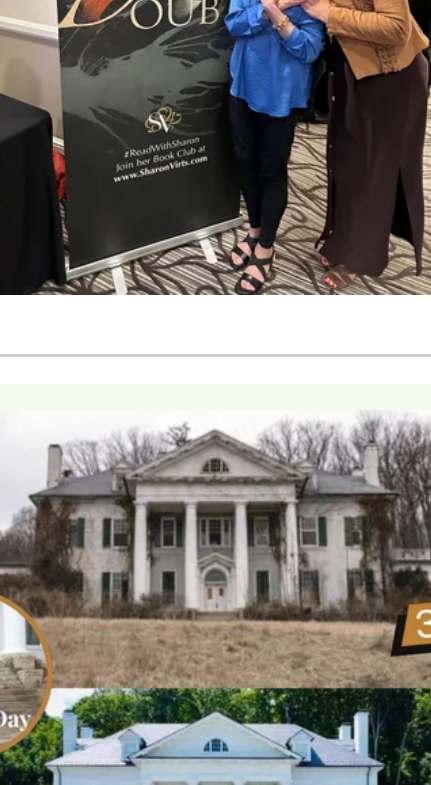
I am thrilled to reveal the cover of my newest book, the *GRAYS OF TRUTH*, which will release this fall on October 29. Set in Baltimore, Washington, and Philadelphia, *The Grays of Truth* is based on the real-life case of the Baltimore Borgia, Elizabeth Wharton, who in 1871 was accused of poisoning multiple members of her family and tried for murder.

However, my telling of the story is not about Elizabeth Wharton or her trial, but instead focuses on Elizabeth's sister-in-law, Jane Gray Wharton, who finds herself caught in the maelstrom of Wharton family disfunction while struggling with her own demons. It's a story of love and loss, truth and deception, sanity and madness. And I cannot wait to share it with you all! You can preorder your copy at [AMAZON](#) or wherever books are sold.

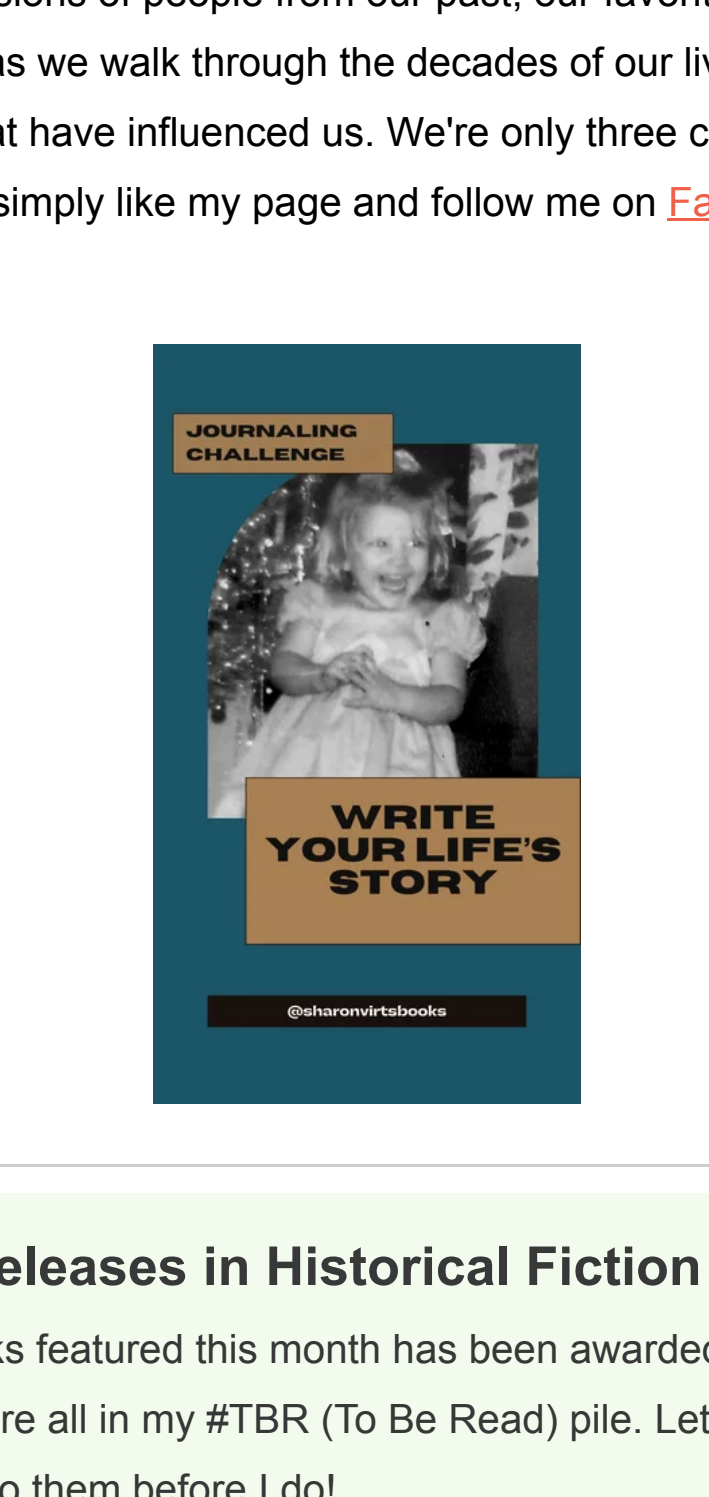
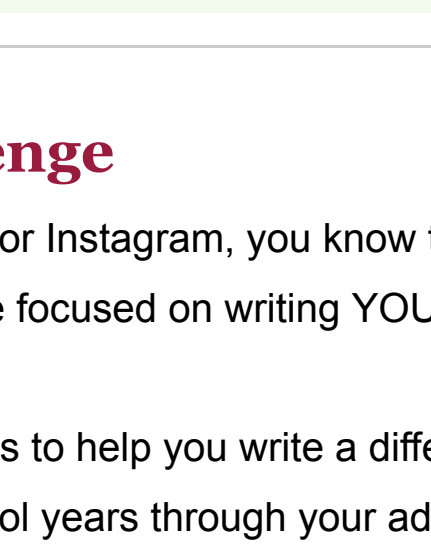
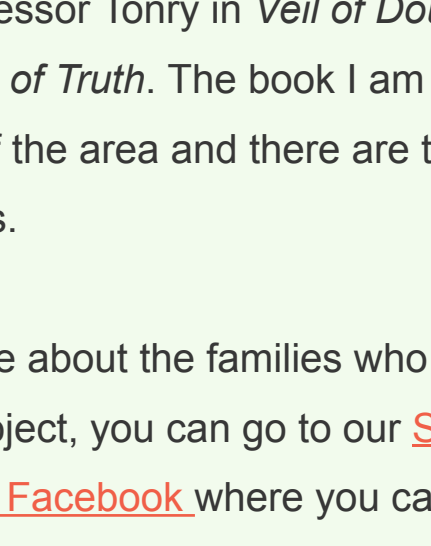
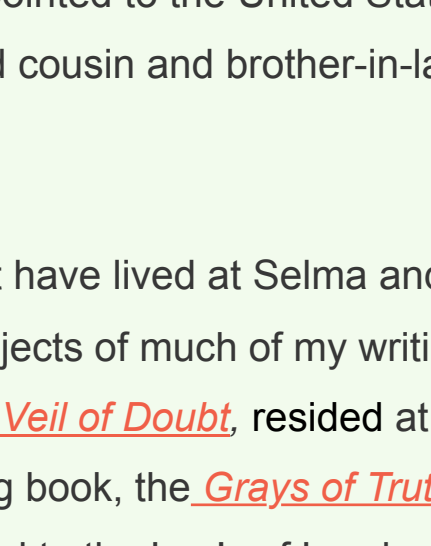
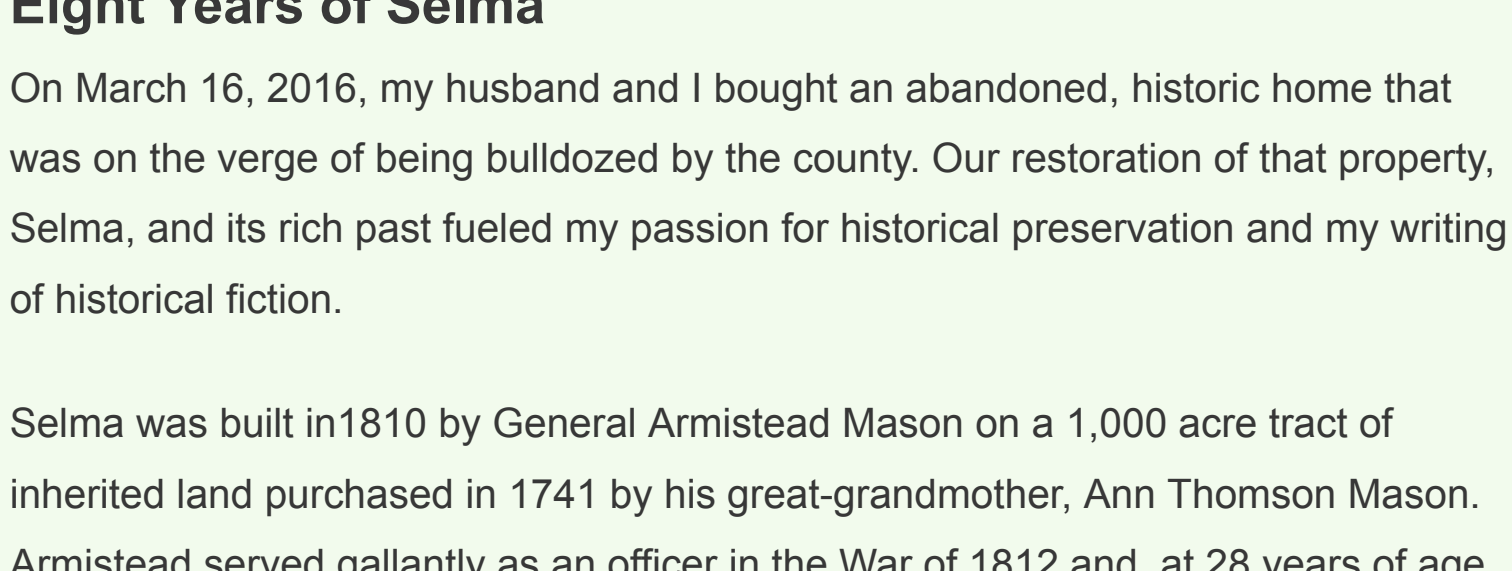
VEIL OF DOUBT

Book Club Discussions Galore!

Early this month, I visited with several book clubs to discuss *Veil of Doubt*. From the fabulous gals in Staunton to members of the DAR in Haymarket to the very large crowd at River Creek Country club, it's been wonderful talking with so many of you about the real-life characters portrayed in the novel, and discussing the events that actually happened versus the ones from my imagination. As always, I do my best to stay true to the spirit of the story, and surprisingly, many of the seemingly unbelievable scenes in *Veil of Doubt* are based on reality. If you would like for me to join your book club either in person or on ZOOM, [simply drop me a note](#). I'm happy to join you if my calendar allows.



Buy Now



Eight Years of Selma

On March 16, 2016, my husband and I bought an abandoned, historic home that was on the verge of being bulldozed by the county. Our restoration of that property, Selma, and its rich past fueled my passion for historical preservation and my writing of historical fiction.

Selma was built in 1810 by General Armistead Mason on a 1,000 acre tract of inherited land purchased in 1741 by his great-grandmother, Ann Thomson Mason. Armistead served gallantly as an officer in the War of 1812 and, at 28 years of age, was the youngest general appointed to the United States Senate. His story and the duel he fought with his second cousin and brother-in-law Jack McCarty inspired my first book *Masque of Honor*.

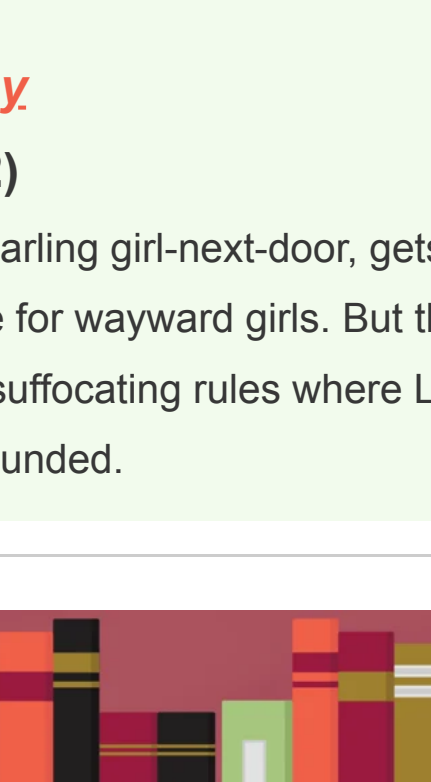
The stories of the families that have lived at Selma and in the surrounding community have been the subjects of much of my writing. Lalla White, the daughter of attorney Powell Harrison in *Veil of Doubt*, resided at Selma from 1902 until her death in 1945. In my upcoming book, *the Grays of Truth*, my protagonist Jane Gray Wharton, in real life was related to the Lee's of Loudoun County and Leesburg's namesake, Thomas Lee. Professor Tronry in *Veil of Doubt* also performed the post-mortem analysis in *The Grays of Truth*. The book I am currently writing is also based on another true story of the area and there are two others (I call them "projects") waiting in the wings.

[Follow this link](#) to find out more about the families who have lived at Selma. To learn more about the restoration project, you can go to our [Selma website](#) or [SELMA MANSION REBIRTH page on Facebook](#) where you can scroll through literally thousands of photos and videos of the two year project.

Journaling Challenge

If you follow me on Facebook or Instagram, you know that on March 1, we began a six month journaling challenge focused on writing YOUR STORY!

Every Friday, I provide prompts to help you write a different facet of your life, from your early childhood and school years through your adult life. Currently we are writing about our "firsts" from our earliest memories. Each week, we strive to document our impressions of people from our past, our favorite stories, and most treasured memories as we walk through the decades of our lives and the people, places and events that have influenced us. We're only three chapters in so if you're up for the challenge, simply like my page and follow me on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#).



Notable New Releases in Historical Fiction (March 2024)

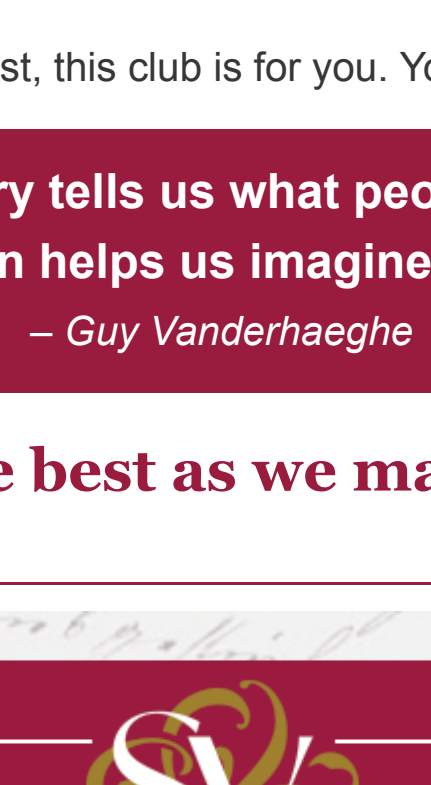
Each of the new books featured this month has been awarded a 4-star-plus rating on GoodReads and are all in my #TBR (To Be Read) pile. Let me know what you think should you get to them before I do!



Becoming Madam President

by Stephanie Dray (4.5)

Stephanie's latest novel delves into the life of American heroine Frances Perkins, who, armed with determination and surrounded by a diverse group of friends in early 20th-century New York City, embarks on a journey to make a difference. Perfect for lovers of biographies of strong women that history often overlooks. Stephanie will join us in August to discuss her book in my #ReadWithSharon bookclub.



In the Shadow of the Greenbrier

by Emily Matchar (4.3)

A multigenerational Jewish family saga set around the iconic Greenbrier hotel, inspired by the remarkable yet little-known true events that shaped America's history. Perfect for fans of Diane Chamberlain (and folks like me with a long history of family gatherings at the Greenbrier in West Virginia).

The Berlin Letters

by Katherine Reay (4.5)

Luisa Voekler, a brilliant codebreaker at the CIA, is stuck decoding messages from World War II while her colleagues tackle thrilling Cold War assignments. Meanwhile, her Berlin father finds himself separated from his family in East Berlin after the Berlin Wall goes up, relying on coded letters to communicate with them. When Luisa decodes the letters, she embarks on a risky journey to Berlin to reunite with him. Perfect for fans of WWII fiction.

The Girls We Sent Away

by Meagan Church (4.2)

When Lorraine Dellford, the darling girl-next-door, gets pregnant, her parents send her away to a maternity home for wayward girls. But this is no safe haven – it's a house with dark secrets and suffocating rules where Lorraine learns firsthand the realities that keep women grounded.

#ReadWithSharon

Historical Fiction Book Club

Get ready for an awesome line up in my #ReadWithSharon book club. On March 28 at 7pm eastern, we will discuss our March read, *The Wharton Plot*, with author Mariah Fredericks.

For those #ReadWithSharon book club members who want to get a head start on your reading (or want to reserve books at the library in advance), here are the book club selections for the next six months. Mark Sullivan's and Amy Harmon's books have not yet been released, so you'll want to get your pre-order in for those right away. Both Mark and Amy along with Mariah Fredericks, Stephanie Dray and Jenni Walsh will be joining us to discuss their books.

The #ReadWithSharon book club only reads current release (within the last year) historical fiction and I do my best to pre-read every selection before making the pick. Most months, the author joins us via zoom and you are able to ask questions during the discussion. Meetings are the fourth Thursday of the month at 7pm eastern, and never go longer than an hour. For meetings you miss, you can access our zoom discussions with the authors on my [YouTube Channel](#).

If you love stories from the past, this club is for you. You can sign up for free [HERE](#)

Wishing you the best as we march into spring!

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