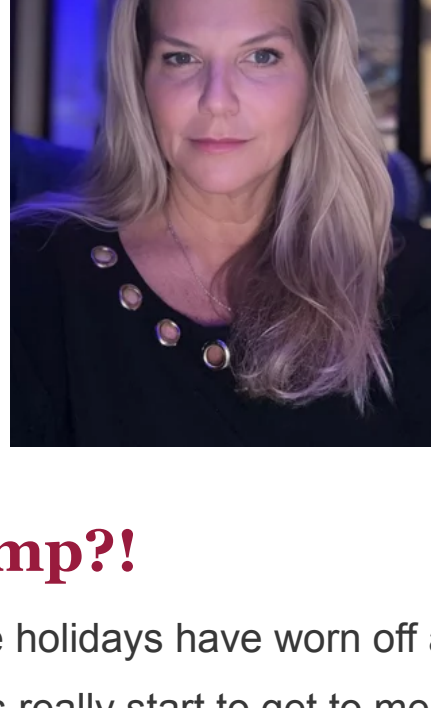


# WINTER MUSINGS

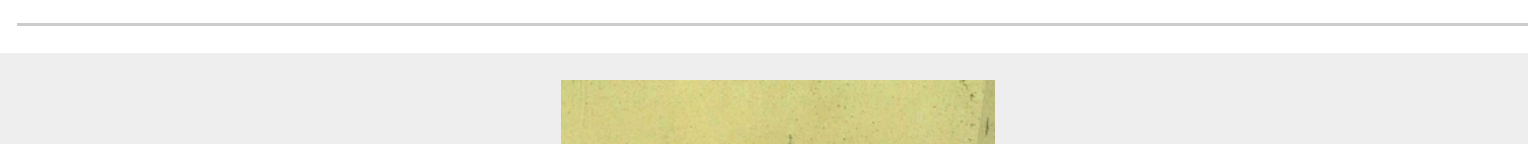
## SHARON VIRTS



### What Winter Slump?!

By mid-January, the joy of the holidays have worn off and by February, the shorter days and colder temperatures really start to get to me. And even though I have migrated to the Florida Keys for the winter months this year, it seems the cold, blustery storms of Virginia have followed me here. For weeks now, the days are mostly gray and rainy, but I refuse to let the disagreeable weather and pewter skies darken my mood. And neither should you, no matter where you live.

While I've been busy writing, I make certain to find time to employ strategies to brighten my day. Whether it is taking the dogs for a walk or heading into town, I make every effort to get outside for at least a half hour each day, rain or shine. Another way I free myself from the winter blues is through journaling. Join me in my journaling challenge this month (and every month) and you'll find out just how liberating writing can be. Reading is another great escape from the cold dark days of winter. There is nothing like curling up on your favorite chair with a good book and a snuggly blanket. No matter where you are or what might be holding you back, the clearest path is the one lined with positive thoughts. And remember, each day is getting a little longer and a little warmer. The winter thaw is on it's way!



### The GRAYS OF TRUTH

Coming October 29, 2024!

My new book *The Grays of Truth*, will be released on October 29, and I cannot wait to share this powerful story with you. Like all my books, this story was inspired by true events and is set in the 19th century. If you enjoyed *Veil of Doubt*, you're going to love *Grays of Truth*! (and stay tuned for the cover reveal on March 15!)

In 1868, members of the Wharton family keep turning up dead. Below the polished surface of Washington's and Baltimore's high society, there are illicit affairs, jilted lovers, financial hardships, and countless motives for murder, yet no one is suspicious. When Jane Gray Wharton's husband dies unexpectedly while overnighing at his brother's home, Jane has no reason to question the circumstances of his death. But on a visit to the same home a few weeks later, both Jane and her daughter fall gravely ill, and Jane begins to suspect foul play. Though a trained chemist and former nurse, Jane is haunted by a history of delusion, loss, and institutionalization. As the unexpected and devastating deaths begin to multiply, Jane's grip on reality starts to slip. When a respected army general falls terribly ill after visiting the same Baltimore residence, Jane's greatest fears become all too real. The time has come to act--but who will believe her? And can she even trust her own mind?

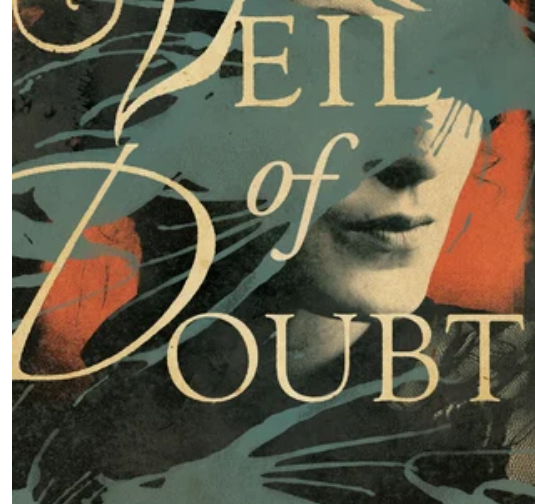
Set in Baltimore, Washington DC and Philadelphia, *The Grays of Truth* has ties to my hometown in Virginia. In real life, Jane Gray Wharton's mother and Lucinda Lee (*Masque of Honor*) were first cousins. And *The Grays of Truth* ends where *Veil of Doubt* starts, with the autopsy of little Maud Lloyd that was conducted by Professor Tony, the same chemist who testified in the Emily Lloyd trial. Preorder available soon!

### VEIL OF DOUBT

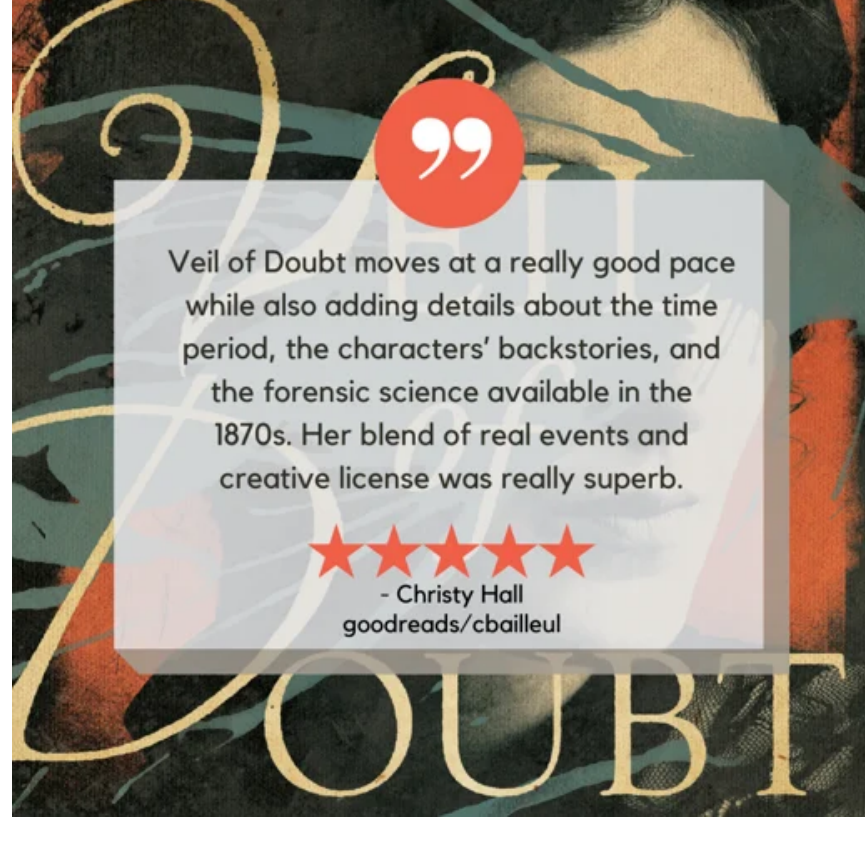
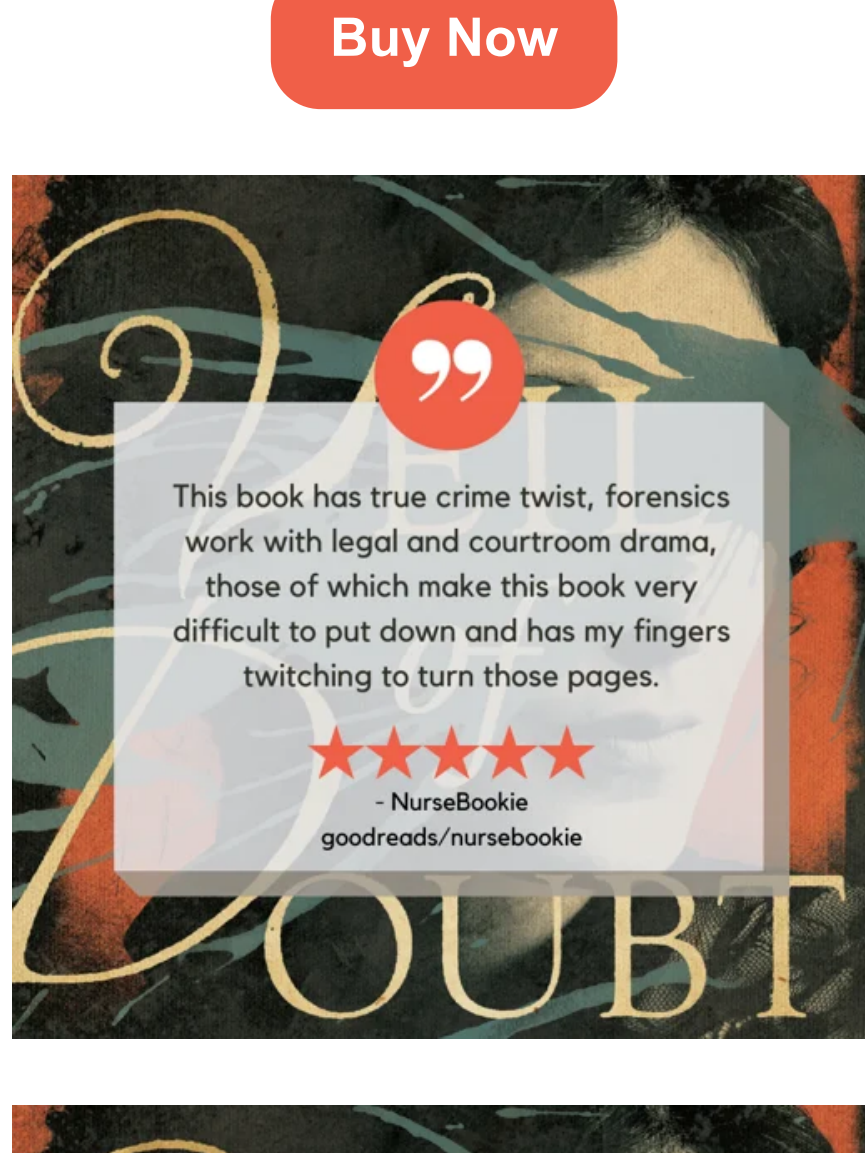
An Amazon Best Seller!

For the past two weeks, *Veil of Doubt* hit the Amazon Best Seller's list again, heralding the #2 spot in Historical Mysteries, and in Amazon's Kindle Store the ebook ranked #2 in Historical Thrillers and #4 in Historical Mysteries. I couldn't be more pleased!

If you have read the book, please leave a review on Amazon or Barnes and Noble (if you purchased the book there) and on GoodReads. The more reviews the book receives the more exposure (i.e. free marketing) the book will get. And if you haven't picked up your copy, you can purchase it [HERE](#)

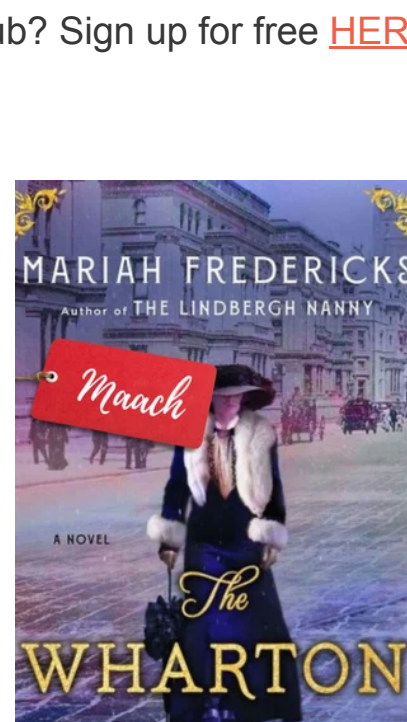


Buy Now



Upcoming selections are *The Wharton Plot* by Mariah Fredericks in March, *The Frozen River* by Ariel Lawhon in April, and *Unsinkable* by Jenni Walsh in May. For my #ReadWithSharon book club, I only select current releases and pre-read each title to make certain you'll love it. And most months, the author joins our discussion! [Mariah Fredericks is scheduled to join us next month].

Not a member of my book club? Sign up for free [HERE](#) and I'll send you the zoom link!



You can access our zoom discussions with the authors on my [YouTube Channel](#).

"History tells us what people do; historical fiction helps us imagine how they felt."

- Guy Vanderhaeghe



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