

One Bark For Murder



By D. E. Poteet

PRESS KIT

ONE BARK FOR MURDER

BY D. E. POTEET

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Roo Silhouette Logo

Roo Cartoon Logo

Why Should *One Bark for Murder* Be Read?

There are many reasons:

Besides being a well-written mystery story, *One Bark for Murder* is an important Indie book because it tells the inside story to the political going-ons at a Texas environmental agency like no one else has done before. It is also an important story about equality. The underlying racial tensions due to slavery in the story are meant to highlight the facts that slavery existed in Texas and affected many lives.

One Bark for Murder is unique - a good mystery story with both a woman geologist who solves mysteries with her geologic skills and a talented dog that has a nose for finding bodies and contamination. This book should be recommended-reading for any geology student. The geology of the area and the details on how a groundwater investigation is conducted are both well described. I also wrote the book because I want to show a deep relationship between a woman and her dog.

All the women in *One Bark for Murder*, including the African-American women, are given the dignity they deserve. No one dresses like a hooker or acts one, which I dislike and see too often.

In *One Bark for Murder*, my main character, Dr. Ruby Stone, is straight while her identical twin sister is gay. This is very unusual, but in this instance, based on real life. My identical twin sister, Robby Robinson is a lesbian. Robby's pen name is Robby S. Witt and she is the author of "*Y Not,*" *She Meowed*. I believe that people will be interested in seeing new characters like these.



**CONTACT
INFORMATION**

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Bio

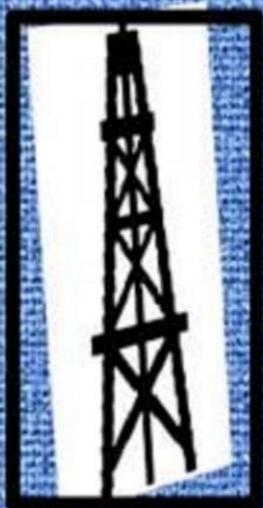
D. E. Poteet is a long-time Austinite and a Texas geologist whose career as an environmental investigator has spanned over thirty years and has included working for four different state entities. Because of her experience, Poteet gives the reader a unique insight into Texas politics. In addition, Poteet shares with the reader the love of dogs, sleuthing, geology, family, and the precarious, romantic, and sometimes dangerous life of a government geologist. To further delight the reader, Poteet weaves into her writing humor, sports, music, history, and science to create an artful and fun series.

Poteet has owned dogs all her life and most of her dogs have lived very long lives. The main character in the book, Dr. Ruby Stone, has a mixed-Border Collie named Roo. Roo has many traits of Poteet's mixed Border Collie, Dana (see photo above). Dana lived to sixteen and used to go on long walks with Poteet and was very smart.

Besides writing, Poteet likes to go on long urban bike rides with her husband, hang out with her two cats, play golf, make jewelry, and hike up the hills in her neighborhood. Her favorite TV shows are Glee, Miranda Hart, Ellen, Dexter, Midsummer Murders, Mr. and Mrs. Murder, Rosemary and Thyme, Sherlock Holmes, and other mysteries.

Poteet is the twins sister of Robby Robinson (aka Robby S. Witt, authored of "Y Not," She Meowed).

One Bark For Murder



By D. E. Poteet

Publishing Information

One Bark For Murder by D.E. Poteet

- *Self-published on January 9, 2017 as ebook*
- *Self-published on February 20, 2017 as paperback*
- *Available through Twinauthors.com and at Amazon (<https://www.amazon.com/D.E.-Poteet/e/B06XDJD6GV>)*
- *Paperbacks available in Austin, Texas, at Half Price Books on North Lamar*
- *ISBN-13: 978-1520376752 (paperback)*
- *\$10.95 for Paperback/353 pages*
- *\$9.95 for ebook/377 pages*
- *Mystery/Cozy Mystery*



Brief Synopsis

One Bark for Murder by D. E. Poteet

A young mixed-race couple are murdered in 1997 when gas exploration is booming in Texas. Fast forward to 2007, when Dr. Ruby Stone, a geologist working for the state of Texas, stumbles upon a red mix-Border Collie puppy named Roo. With her extra-ordinary nose, Roo finds the victims. This happens during Ruby's oversight of a removal action at an enormous trash site called the Barker Creek Recycling Site. This site is located in the fictitious town of Oak City, which is set in the Fort Worth-Dallas area.

Homicide Detective Rollie Fourtier, who is part Cajun, has a word for Ruby, *couillon*, for always messing with his crime scenes and collecting dirt samples. But, with the help of Ruby's geologic evidence and sharp eyes, and Roo's nose, the police are able to solve the murders.

While trying to maintain her focus on the project, Ruby has to figure out what to do about her very fit ex-boyfriend, Jeb, and her budding new relationship with handsome but clumsy Rollie. Also, the racial issues in the case constantly remind Ruby of her own family's conflicts, and in the end, she has to re-assess her own biases.

Ruby's friends and colleagues support Ruby when they can, but her managers' impossible demands could cost Ruby her job. Even worse, Ruby and Roo risk their lives when they encounter explosives, fires, drug dealers, and a crazed murderer. Ruby carries a big knife, wears toe-stomping cowgirl boots, and knows how to fight. But being only five-foot tall, can she win?

Note: Besides having strong women characters in the story, each chapter is titled with a baseball slang word or phrase that is defined. The meaning of the slang can also literally be applied to the action in the chapter. Baseball in this case symbolizes the constant undertow of racism in the story.

Promotional Materials

Exciting new mystery book series! It has it all: sleuthing, fire, explosions, drug dealers, dogs, geology, slavery, romance and crazed murderers!

GOOD READS! - Ad was run in Chronicle, The Bark/on line, Austin Gem and Mineral Society Newsletter, Association of Women Geologist Quarterly GAIA, and The UT at Austin Travesty with Radio spots.

Postcard campaigns in Austin, Texas - downtown, Burnet Road, South Congress, The Grove at 2244 and 360.

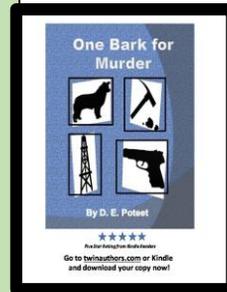
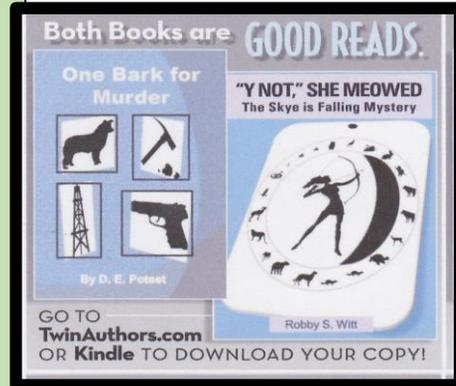
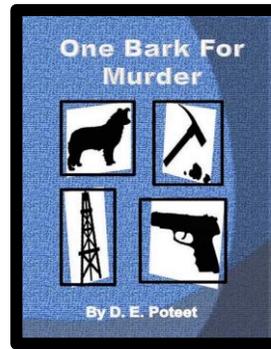
Bookstores: Half Price Books on North Lamar, Austin, Texas.

Internet: Blogging on Twinauthors.com, email sign up on same website, and posts on Gogplet, Tweeter, and Facebook.

Kindle Reviews: Five Stars and a great email from a fan.

Other: Tee-shirts, hand-made-by-Poteet wooden pendants for necklaces and fobs (examples are made for "Y Not," She Meowed I would make the one for One Bark for Murder using the dog image displayed), and bookmarks

Discounts for quantities and freebies provided.



Interview Resources/Question and Answers

What makes your book different and why should we read it?

My book, *One Bark For Murder*, is different because there has never been a good story about a woman geologist and her dog solving murder mysteries. If you love dogs, you will love my book because Roo is a very talented dog. I also show the reader what it is like to go to hazardous waste sites and all the fun of dealing with managers and politics at state agencies. I think people will learn in a fun way a lot about geology, Texas history, and that women can be strong characters.

What traits and other tidbits do you share with your main character?

My main character, Dr. Ruby Stone, is like me, in that she is short and is a geologist who works for the state. I always was a person who never gave up, possibly to a fault, and Ruby is like that, too.

Did any of your inspiration for this book originate in your real life experiences?

Yes, I rely heavily on my experiences as a government geologist. I used to work investigating and cleaning up hazardous waste sites like abandoned recycling facilities, refineries, and plating shops. In my imagination, I always thought that these places made really great places to bury bodies. Thus, most of the Ruby and Roo stories are and will be set at these type of sites. For example, this book is set around a giant abandoned recycling facility in the Fort Worth-Dallas area, which is similar to a site that I managed the cleanup of when I worked for the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Drawing upon my experiences as a geologist for the Edwards Underground Water District in the San Antonio area, the next book will be set in a cavernous limestone terrain. Plus, Dr. Ruby Stone's mixed-Border Collie, Roo, has many characteristics of my beloved mixed-Border Collie, Dana. Dana was not red like Roo, but was black, tan, and white.

Are there any specific authors whose writing styles or subject matter inspired your book?

I tried to be entertaining like Janet Evanovich and methodical like Sue Grafton. I also really loved the bond between dog and man that Jim Butcher setup in his Dresden Files series, so I took the bond between Roo and Ruby a step further.

Do you have another project in the works? If so, what is it?

Yes, I hope to have the second book in the Ruby and Roo series, *Two Barks for Tainted Water*, out by the end of the year or sooner. I am also working on a collection of romantic short stories with geologic themes. I have two already written. I am also working on a story with Miriam from the bible, but I want to take it in a magical direction. Last, I am working on some children's books with my twin sister, Robby Robinson. Her pen name is Robby S. Witt and she has written a fantastic science fiction book titled, *"Y Not," She Meowed*.

You and your twin are both authors. Did you plan it that way?

No, but we both have always loved to write. I took creative writing classes in college and I always got A's. I retired in 2010 and started writing a few years later. My sister got inspired by me and wrote her book while she worked full-time. She is Superman! Then, it just so happened that we published on the same date in January of this year. We have always been close. She is gay and I am straight. Her book was written with lesbians in mind while my book has a gay character - Ruby's identical twin sister, Copper. Like me, Ruby is a geologist and not gay. And, Copper is like my sister because she works in a lab and is gay.

When you self-published, did you do it all yourself?

Yes, I have done most of it myself, from writing, to publishing, to setting up the website, and PR work. My twin sister helped to design and provide content on the website. We both have blogs that compliment our books. Both my twin sister and my husband, Dewey, have helped with editing and with moral support. I designed and created my own book cover, too. Robby came up with her own book cover design, and I helped her make it electronically available. Robby and I often conferred with each other on ideas and on problems-solving.

Media Reactions

Kindle Reviews - Five Stars:

"Fantastic woman geologist Ruby Stone in the spirit of the Em Hansen forensic geologist series. Geology (Texas), mystery, intrigue, a little romance and a lovable dog. Poteet writes well, engages the reader and spins a great mystery, I cannot wait for the next book!!"

"A Must Read - geo-science, intrigue and mystery with great characters!"

"I saw this book on Kindle, and it surprised me. Turned a geological survey into an intellectually challenging and dangerous murder mystery. Not what I expected. Good job!"

"Pleasant Surprise!"

"Gotta read this one!"

"I loved this book! I have read a lot of mysteries and I would put this one up on top with my favorites. The author has a unique witty style of writing that I really enjoyed. The geologist is a strong female character. I also love the dog Roo. I can't wait to read the next one."

Email from a fan:

"Hello,

When the last AWG newsletter came out I saw the info for your One Bark for Murder. What a great read, there's been a vacuum in this area since Sarah Andrews stopped writing the Em Hansen series.

Truly enjoyed the character development, the geology, the mystery and cannot wait for the next installment.

Great job!!"

Followers and Subscribers:

106 Followers on Facebook

19 Subscribers to Website

Over 1,700 visitors to the website

1 Twitter follower

1 Goggle+ follower

PRESS RELEASE

February 20, 2017
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE LAUNCH OF A NEW EXCITING NOVEL ***ONE BARK FOR MURDER*** BY D. E. POTEET
Buy on Amazon or Twinauthors.com and at Half Price Books
on North Lamar Austin, Texas.

One Bark for Murder by D. E. Poteet has strong women characters with a Texas theme, and includes environmental issues, politics, and the oil and gas business. Besides being a murder mystery that uses geology to help solve the crime, *One Bark for Murder* has a message about race and class hatred.

A mixed-race couple are murdered in 1997. Fast forward to 2007, when Dr. Ruby Stone, a geologist working for the state of Texas, stumbles upon a red mix-Border Collie puppy named Roo while overseeing a removal action at an enormous trash site called the Barker Creek Recycling Site. The site is located in the fictitious town of Oak City, set in the Metroplex area of Dallas/Fort Worth. Roo, with her extraordinary nose, finds the first murder victim and the police are called in. Cajun-born Homicide Detective Rollie Fourtier is given the lead in the case. Ruby and Roo stay ahead of the police all along the way and provide strategic evidence for the police to solve the murders. Ruby has to balance her feelings between her ex-boyfriend and Rollie, while maintaining her professionalism. The racial issues in the case constantly remind Ruby of her own family's conflicts, and in the end, she has to re-assess her own biases. Ruby's friends and colleagues support Ruby when they can, but her managers' impossible demands could cost her job. Even worse, Ruby and Roo could lose their lives when they encounter explosions and fires, drug dealers, and a crazed murderer. Ruby carries a big knife, wears toe-stomping cowgirl boots, and knows how to fight. But being only five-feet tall, can she win?

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Book Excerpts

Detecting

Like archeologists at a dig site, the forensic team, wearing gloves, booties and other protective clothing, peeled away each layer of debris, bagged it, and then labeled it. Once everything had been removed, one of the members of the forensic team sprayed something on the floor and the walls. Another crew member quickly shone an ultraviolet light on the areas that had been sprayed. Nothing was found.

Danger

Having just been in bright daylight, the darkness was blinding. When the door was closed behind us, Star zipped past us, startling and causing Susan to reach out for my shoulder and Jeb to reach out for Susan's shoulder. We stood for a few seconds, waiting for our eyes to adjust. Star turned on a nightlight in the kitchen and motioned for us to join her. Like one big multi-headed centipede, we shuffled to the dimly lit kitchen. She told us to wait and then disappeared down a dark hallway. We all jumped when we heard a door open and close.

Explosions and Fire

CABOOM! A very loud explosion rocked our SUV. All the windows of our vehicle crumbled away, as well as the windows of nearby vehicles and neighboring houses. The policeman was knocked off his motorcycle and landed in the street on his back. Flames were flying everywhere. Adam's patched-together house was on fire!

Romance

Jeb started walking away, but then turned around. He came back at me like he had forgotten his favorite hat at a restaurant. I searched around to see what he was missing, but he caught me by surprise and gently grabbed me by the shoulders. Then, he planted his soft and active lips against mine. I always loved the way Jeb kissed and I melted upon impact.

Dogness

I stowed away the tools of my glamorous trade. As I was turning to go, a marvelous sound touched my ears. Whenever I heard it, I had to stop and listen. To me, it was pure music. I felt sorry for those who never heard the complex notes and various voices. At first it was a cacophony of ar-roos, woof-woof-aros, and baa-roos, similar to singers clearing their throats and practicing a scale until they found the right notes. It was quite a chorus. Perhaps, even a hundred dogs had joined in. Usually, there was a cause for such outbursts. The problem was that there was no ambulance or fire truck siren screaming in the background this time. Knowing full well there were boogey men out there waiting for me, I still had to find out what was going on anyway.

Geology

My thoughts faulted and slicken-slides formed on the cell walls of my brain. I was confused. It was not the modern day riverbed deposits of gravel, sand, and clay from the West Fork of the Trinity that blanketed the site. Instead, it was made mostly from rocks from an older formation, the Eagle Ford Shale, which consisted of organic-rich, pyritic, and fossiliferous marine grey shale. The Eagle Ford represented a deep water environment. There was also a little bit of Austin Chalk, which was a younger formation that overlaid the Eagle Ford. The Austin Chalk is also much older than the river deposits. The Austin Chalk represented shallower water than the Eagle Ford and consisted of recrystallized fossiliferous and interbedded chinks and marls.

Are you taking notes?



Notes

Robby Robinson (Robby S. Witt), author of "Y Not," She Meowed, and Diane Poteet (aka D.E. Poteet) are identical twins sisters, born in Fort Worth, Texas.

They both graduated from Paschal High School in Fort Worth and from the University of Texas at Austin.

The photograph above is of Robby (left) and Diane (right) enjoying the butterfly gardens adjacent to the Texas State Fair grounds in Dallas.

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