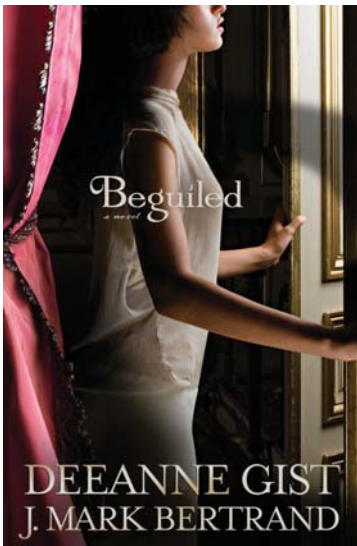


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Light-Hearted Romance Meets Gritty Crime When Unlikely Duo Teams Up for a Riveting Romantic Suspense Novel

Beguiled

by Deeanne Gist and J. Mark Bertrand



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by Deeanne Gist and J. Mark Bertrand
ISBN: 978-0-7642-0628-3
Trade Paper; \$14.99; 336 pp.
Release Date: February 2010

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Available From J. Mark Bertrand July 2010:

Back On Murder
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Minneapolis, MN—When novelists Deeanne Gist and J. Mark Bertrand first met in a Houston critique group, they never expected where friendship would take them—because it’s hard to imagine two authors more different.

Deeanne is a regular on the bestseller charts; Mark is a debut novelist. Deeanne’s witty historical romances are infused with humor; Mark comes from a hard-boiled crime thriller background. Deeanne is warm and open; Mark is more reserved, but always ready with a quick quip.

Despite the differences, Deeanne asked Mark over coffee one day if he wanted to collaborate on a “crime fiction novel with a small romantic element.”

“That was the idea at *first*,” said Mark. “Then it was a romantic suspense—she’d bring the romance, I’d bring the action—and finally, after I’d enthusiastically agreed, she started talking about what I should wear to the RWA [Romance Writers of America] conference.”

“We’ve been reading and critiquing each other’s work for years now. By the time I approached Mark with the idea of doing a novel together, it seemed inevitable,” said Deeanne. “The fact that we’re a creative odd couple coming from two very different genres only adds to the fun!”

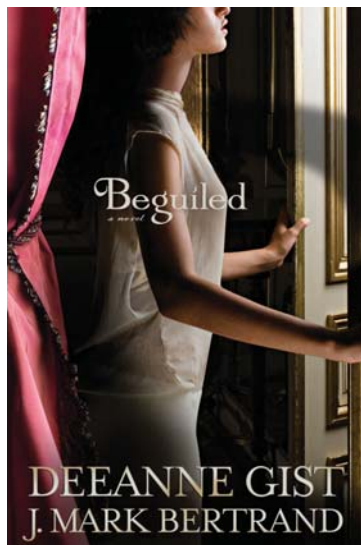
And it’s true. Part romance, part suspense, *Beguiled* is infused with mystery, action, and the authors’ subtle humor.

“*Beguiled* is a balance between humor and seriousness, light and dark,” said Mark. “But it’s also a suspenseful, adrenaline-charged romp through one of America’s most engaging cities.”

“Loyal Gist readers will be treated to the fun and quirky heroine who’s paired alongside a hero that has a definite Bertrand stamp on him,” adds Deeanne. “Something old, something new, something not to be missed.”

Continued on next page

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Rylee Monroe, a dogwalker in Charleston's wealthiest neighborhood, never feared the streets at night. But now a thief is terrorizing the area and worse, someone seems to be targeting her.

Reporter Logan Woods is covering the break-ins with the hope of publishing them as a true-crime book. The more he digs, the more he realizes this beguiling dogwalker seems to be at the center of everything.

As danger draws ever closer, Logan must choose: Chase the girl, the story, or plunge into the shadows after the villain who threatens everything?

Packed with thrills and Deeanne's trademark romance, *Beguiled* is a wonderfully engaging story readers won't put down.

ABOUT THE AUTHORS:



Deeanne Gist, the bestselling author of *A Bride Most Begrudging* and *The Measure of a Lady*, has a background in education and journalism. Her credits include *People* magazine, *Parents*, and *Parenting*. With a line of parenting products called "I Did It!® Productions" and a degree from Texas A&M, she continues her writing and speaking. She and her family live in Houston, Texas. For more information, visit www.IWantHerBook.com.

J. Mark Bertrand is the author of *Rethinking Worldview: Learning to Think, Live, and Speak in This World* and has an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Houston. His debut solo suspense novel will be published in summer 2010 by Bethany House. He grew up in Louisiana, spent fifteen years in Houston, and now lives with his wife in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. For more information, visit www.jmarkbertrand.com.

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