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October 2026 Edition

Greetings from the "Cultural Center of the Universe" - Camden, Delaware!

1. *OLD PEOPLE AIN'T ALWAYS OLD.* Volume Three of The Chianti Chronicles is off to a strong start. Thanks to all of you who provided early Reviews (90 as I type this!). Here's an example: *"A beautifully crafted human anthology that gently reminds us that desire, adventure, love, and reinvention have no expiry date."*

- To order your own copy (Kindle or Paperback), just CLICK HERE.

2. QUOTE OF THE MONTH. *"Books are the liberated spirits of men."* - Mark Twain

3. UNIQUE WORD OF THE MONTH. *Formication:* Not a word for fear itself, but a creepy sensation like ants crawling on the skin that often accompanies fright.

4. LITERATURE TRIVIA. Please try your hand at this fun 5-question Literature Trivia Quiz - just CLICK HERE. Please let me know how you did. Good luck!

5. DID YOU KNOW that **e**xactly one century after Edgar Allen Poe's death, a secret tradition began? Starting in 1949 and lasting for precisely 60 years until 2009, a mysterious figure dressed in black, wearing a wide-brimmed hat and a white scarf, visited Poe's original grave in Baltimore every year on January 19th (his birthday).

6. MONTHLY BOOK RECOMMENDATION: New Australia by Joseph Helensky. CLICK HERE TO ORDER.

- ***Review:*** *"This is a political drama/thriller with a very atmospheric feel - sort of a blend between Red Rising and Divergent. This book stands as a good reminder as to how fragile our democracy really is. It's pretty alarming with how easily this could happen today and may very well be happening already."*

7. WHAT ARE *YOU* READING NOW? I'd love to hear what book you are reading (or listening to). **Please reply and let me know.** I'm currently doing a light read called *Mets Stories I Only Tell My Friends* by Art Shamsky and Matthew Silverman. I'm an insanely loyal Mets fan, and have been since their first game on April 11, 1962 when I was eight years old. Simply stated, I can't get enough of Mets' folklore, and (so far) this book is "delivering the goods."

8. FREE SAMPLES. Please check out three of my short stories: CLICK HERE TO READ:

- From Volume One: *The Magnificent Japanese Zamboni Driver*
- From Volume Two: *The Ghostwriter of Christmas Past*
- From Volume Three: *Old People Ain't Always Old*

9. THE CHIANTI CHRONICLES SERIES. If you haven't yet checked out the first two Volumes of The Chianti Chronicles, here are the Amazon links (below):

- Volume One: Fictional Tales of Vietnam Vets
- Volume Two: Life's a Comedy, That's Not Always Funny

Until next month, thanks for your support.

KC



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"Make a positive difference every day."

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