

MEET *I'LL NEVER LET YOU GO* AUTHOR MARY BURTON . . .

Mary Burton enjoys hunting serial killers. A *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling novelist, she's tracked them down in her hometown of Richmond, Alexandria, Austin and Nashville in books that have brought her acclaim and a loyal, ever growing readership.

Mary's been intrigued by investigative work and the people who do it since Virginia was stung by a string of serial killings spanning more than twenty years. So, it's not surprising that many of her novels, for which she's been compared to Steig Larson*, Lisa Gardner**, and Lisa Jackson***, are propelled by the acts of multiple killers and those who pursue them. *I'll Never Let You Go*, Mary's latest, follows suit and is the third of her stories set in Nashville featuring the Morgans, Music City's preeminent law enforcement family. The first, *Cover Your Eyes*, became a *USA Today* bestseller in its first week on sale, followed by the *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling success of *Be Afraid*. *Vulnerable* is next up, completing the Nashville quartet in April 2016.



Mary's admiration for real life police and investigative work and the skills, insights and tools they require, is evidenced in her books and by her commitment to researching procedures and forensic details. She is a graduate of the Richmond FBI Citizen's Academy and the Henrico County Citizens Police Academy. She has attended Sisters in Crime's Forensic University program and, annually, the nationally recognized Writers Police Academy, where the curriculum has included undercover work, autopsies, and theories exploring the motivation to kill.

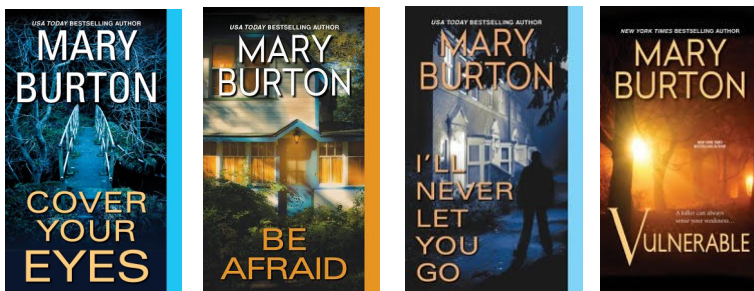
Despite her emphasis on hard facts in the crimes she portrays, Mary's approach to each new novel is psychological. To begin her story she needs answers to three questions about her killers—Why do they kill? What demons drive them? And how do they choose their victims? The answers are as critical to her plot, she says, as they are to detectives solving a murder.

A Richmond native with family roots as deep as the nation's, Mary has made her home there for most of her life. She is a graduate of Virginia's Hollins University and worked in marketing before committing to write full time. Her first book was published in 2000.

Mary is the author of twenty-seven published novels and five novellas. In addition to her books featuring the Morgan family, Mary's other "connected" books include *The Seventh Victim*, *No Escape* and *You're Not Safe*, featuring investigators from the Texas Rangers, and *Senseless*, *Merciless* and *Before She Dies*, all set in Alexandria. The protagonist of her new short story, *The Keepsake*, is Georgia from her Morgan family novels. It's featured along with contributions from Jeffrey Deaver, Anne Perry and others in the 2015 anthology *Killer Nashville Noir: Cold Blooded*.

Mary is a member of Mystery Writers of America, International Thriller Writers, Sisters in Crime, Novelists Inc. and Romance Writers of America.

She travels frequently for signings, book club visits, and speaking engagements at conferences, book festivals, bookstores and libraries. She is also known for her highly regarded "Unraveling Romantic Suspense" workshop and her day-long program "Writing Your Book . . . The First Step."



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An avid baker and an accomplished cook, Mary's discovered that the creativity of the kitchen entwines with her professional routine in unanticipated ways. It's her ideal retreat when the writing hits a rough spot. Once there, she's working out dialogue, untangling plot lines and figuring out how to trap a killer before the oven has a chance to preheat.

When not committing murder, Mary, who has completed her Baking & Pastry Arts Certificate at the University of Richmond's Culinary Arts Program, is now pursuing her Culinary Arts Certificate. Mary, whose daughter and grandmother were both adopted, is also involved in issues facing adoptees and their families and has made appearances on behalf of Coordinators2inc, a lifetime adoption resource organization. She and her husband spend time alternately enjoying and lamenting their newly empty nest and spoiling their miniature dachshunds Buddy, Bella and Tiki.

Mary has just finished work on Vulnerable and has started her next suspense novel. Meanwhile, she's also celebrating the publication of her third work of contemporary women's fiction, At the Corner of King Street, and looking forward to 2016's The View from Prince Street, both written as Mary Ellen Taylor.

Publishers Weekly **Library Journal *Library Journal*

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I'LL NEVER LET YOU GO

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