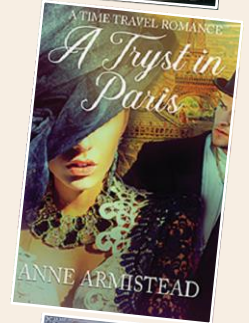


LOCAL AUTHOR SPOTLIGHT:

Anne Armistead



BY MIRANDA WILEY

Georgia is home to a number of outstanding authors. *Our Milton Neighbor* and Poe and Company Bookstore are excited to share these local authors and their published works with our readers.

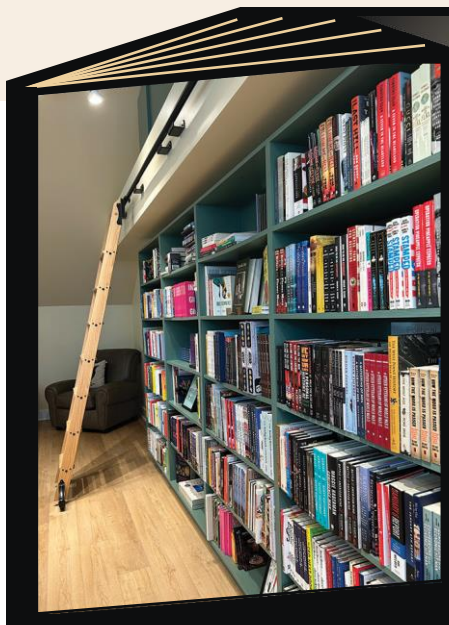
Anne Armistead is a native Georgian, moving to Atlanta on her 8th birthday. She attended Oak Grove Elementary and Lakeside High School in Decatur, before obtaining her English degree from the University of Georgia. While working for AT&T as a project manager, she met her husband John Havriluk, a Georgia Tech alumnus, resulting in a “house divided.” After the birth of their two daughters, Anne pivoted from corporate America to teaching English, which she did for three decades.

Anne has two adorable grandsons, along with four sweet “grandpup” rescue dogs. Anne and John live in Peachtree Corners, which gives off “Hallmark vibes” with its holiday festivals and quaint town center since its incorporation as a small town.

When she is not writing, Anne is reading stories conjured by others, participating in walks for charity, watching BBC television, and babysitting her human

and four legged “grands.” She serves on the Advisory Board for “The Feeny Legacy Project,” a non-profit organization founded by her sister-in-law Kathy Armistead in memory of her son—Anne’s nephew—who died of cardiac arrest. The Project’s mission is to advocate saving lives by calling 911 and administering CPR until help arrives. The 911 Amnesty and Good Samaritan Laws protect your good faith efforts to save someone’s life, so be someone’s second chance.

“My dad loved telling stories about his youth, and he kept me spellbound by his charismatic delivery. My mother loved reading, and she introduced me at a young age to *Nancy Drew*, *Anne of Green Gables*, and other classics she loved as a girl such as *The Yearling*, *Black Beauty*, and *Gone with the Wind*,” Anne shares. Her family enjoyed watching television together, which during her childhood meant one television set with three channels tuned to what her mom and dad chose to watch—a lot of Perry Mason, westerns, and cop shows, with a few popular situation comedies thrown into the mix. She continues, “With all the stories surrounding me, orally, visually, and written, the beats of story structure imprinted upon my imagination and inspired me to make up my own.” The first stories that



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Anne wrote would be what is now called “fan fiction,” continuing a storyline of a show she had seen or a book she had read by creating new plots for her favorite characters.

Anne decided to study creative writing more seriously after becoming an empty nester, earning her master’s degree in Creative Writing from Spalding University. She has since written multiple novels, four of which have been published including historical romances *Dangerous Conjurings* and *With Kisses from Cecile*, sweet contemporary romance *A Christmas Cannoli Kiss*, and time travel *A Tryst in Paris – Book One of The Carousel Time Traveler* historical-fantasy romance series. Anne shares, “I hope my stories help my readers believe in possibilities and that they can persevere through whatever difficulties they face and find happiness in life’s journey.”

For Anne, the worst part of writing is “losing your way in the ‘muddy middle’ when you fear you have lost your way.” The best part of writing is “typing the two, magical words: ‘THE END.’”

When she is not writing, Anne reads across genres: biographies; historical non-fiction and historical fiction; women’s fiction; literary fiction; thrillers; sweet contemporary romance; cozy mysteries. She says, “I can’t say my preference because I enjoy them all!” Some of her favorite authors include Hank Phillippi Ryan, Karen White, Jennifer Robson, Lisa Wingate, Heather Graham, Ann Patchett, Barbara Kingsolver, Ken Follett, Lee Child, and James Lee Burke. As a teenager, she devoured novels by Victoria

Holt, Colleen McCullough, Barbara Taylor Bradford, Daphne du Maurier, and Agatha Christie.

Anne is currently writing a Christmas trilogy set in a 55+ retirement community where those that live there and their family who visit all discover love and happily-ever-afters. She is also working on a sequel to her time travel *A Tryst in Paris*.

Learn more about Anne at annemisteadauthor.com, where you can find links to her social media.

Learn more about “The Feeney Legacy Project” at feeneylegacyproject.org.



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