

Mike Omer ~ Please Tell Me



Amazon First Read. Started on 1/15/24. I really like his style of writing so I think this may be a good one. 1/24/24 and I finished the book today. I couldn't put it down. It got to the sweet spot where everything started coming together and just WOW!

Robin, a single woman therapist, is helping a kidnapped victim. The doll house is giving her clues. Kathy, the victim, doesn't speak so all the clues have to come with how she plays with the doll house. Nathaniel, a cop, is helping Robin with finding the kidnapper. This one was pretty dark. I liked the book a LOT! Giving this one a **9/10**. **9 Days** to complete.

MRM ~ Nelson's Chocolate Orange



12/1/23 (Day 1)

2 lbs Golden Lake Honey
2 tsp Sweet orange peel
4 g Fermaid O
DV10 yeast

O.G. = 1.074 9.8% possible

Spring water up to (a little more) a gallon

Mixed all ingredients, shook the bejesus out of it and pitched yeast.

12/4/23 (Day 3)

I added 1/2 tsp yeast nutrient and shook.

12/22/23 (Day 21) Stabilized

1/2 tsp metabisulfite
1/2 tsp Sorbate
1/2 cup Nibs toasted at 350 for 10 minutes
1 campden tablet
Racked

12/28/23 (Day 27)

Chocolate comes through nice. Needs more orange flavor and sweetening. Added 1/2 oz more sweet orange peels.

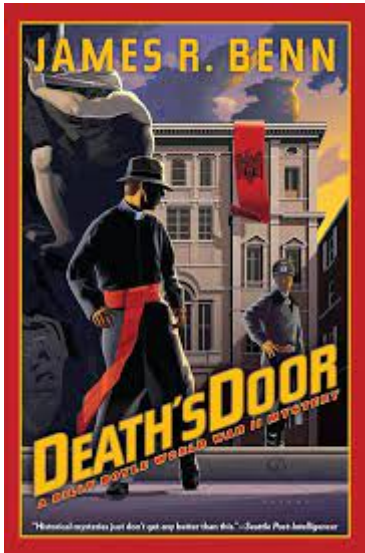
1/4/24 (Day 34)

Racked off orange peels and nibs. Added about 1 cup orange juice and 1 pound of Trader Joe's Organic Unfiltered Honey from Uruguay. Gonna let it oak for about a week. F.G. = 1.041 after back sweetening. **9.8% ABV.**

1/17/24 (Day 47)

Bottled today. I got 3 full bottles and 5/8 of a small bottle. Labels printing at work and will label tonight.

James R Benn ~ Death's Door (Book 7)



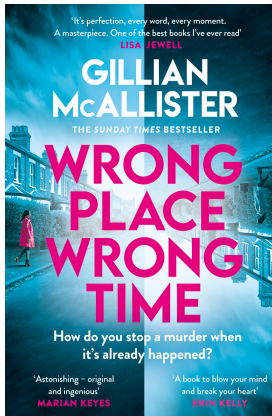
Started on 1/1/24. Back to an old friend.
1/14/24 I finished the book. 14 days.

Billy, Kaz and Big Mike are sent to the Vatican. There was a murder of a priest. Billy has to rescue Diana, find the killer and stay alive. He does a great job of all three of those. This was a really good book. There were a lot of names and priests and a lot of talk about Vatican City. I can't wait to start the next book.

Giving this a 8/10.

Gillian McAllister ~ Wrong

Place Wrong Time



Started this on 12/21/23. I think I should be able to finish this before the end of the year. I've only been reading one night and I'm already about 15% into the book. Is she having De Ja Vu or is she a time traveler?

I finished on 12/31/23. 10 Days. Not too shabby but the book was *really* (and I mean REALLY) good. Jen watches as her son commits a crime. Her and Kelly (her husband) are heartbroken. Jen wakes up the next morning....in the past. How far back will she go? What needs changed in order to save Todd (her son) from committing this crime? Well it's a long ways. Book is very well written. Had me guessing until the very end. Ending is great.

MRM ~ BlackBerry Jelly Roll Morton

Original creation day is 10/16/23. This is a split from John Handy Traditional

11/5/23 (Day 1 of split)

1 gallon yield

This is the split mead. I used Lahua honey for a traditional mead and separated a gallon off of it. I added 2lb frozen black berries and 1 oz American Oak and .5oz whiskey oak chips. I'm planning on letting the berries go clear.

11/10/23 (Day 6 of split)

I tasted this beast today. Needs more time on the oak and the berries. Giving it another couple weeks before racking and back sweetening. The blackberries really shine nicely though. It's gonna be a great one. Just like Jelly Roll Morton!

12/1/23 (Day 27 of split)

Racked off blackberries and **stabilized**.

1 crushed campden tablet added as well as 1/2 tsp Potassium Metabisulphite & 1/2 tsp Potassium Sorbate (for stabilization)
Now we just let it clear for a couple of weeks to bottle it.
It's not close to a full gallon

12/4/23 (Day 30 of split)

This is gonna need cold crashed. I'd like to bottle this on Friday. Still floaties and a lot of sediment.

12/22/23 (Day 47 of split)

Back sweetened with Eurthrotyl till I liked it. It's still not very sweet and blackberries don't come through much. This one will just be kind of OK.

Bottled and labeled.

MRM ~ Roland's Ancient Orange



10/26/23 (Day 1)

3lbs Menards Honey
3 lbs Sam's club Honey
2 Navel Oranges
2 Cinnamon Sticks
3/4 tsp Ginger
3/4 tsp Clove
2 tsp bread yeas
2 Gallons Spring water

I mixed all the ingredients. In the original JAOM recipe it says mix and let sit. No gravity, no swirling, nothing...That's what I did, but I'll estimate the gravity to 1.070. If it goes dry (which it might) it would be **around 9.2% ABV**.

11/30/29 (36 Days)

I'm entering this for Roland, but it wasn't created on Roland's week. I just needed to wait to get to a good artist to name this. I'm going to take a gravity reading and taste tomorrow 12/1/23.

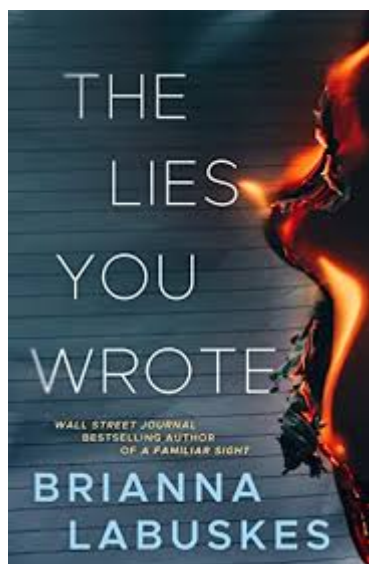
12/8/23 (44 Days)

This has been cold crashing outside for about 24 hours. It's only about 44 degrees outside. That should be cold enough.

12/22/23 (58 Days)

Racked into pitcher, back sweetened with 1/2 cup honey and bottled. There was 2 gallons so there was 2 pitchers full. Tasted great! Hope it was stable though. F.G. = .992 (actually 10.3% ABV)

Brianna Labuskes ~ The Lies you Wrote



I started this book on 12/7/23. Pretty sure this was an Amazon First Read. It's an FBI procedural. This isn't my first Labuskes book.

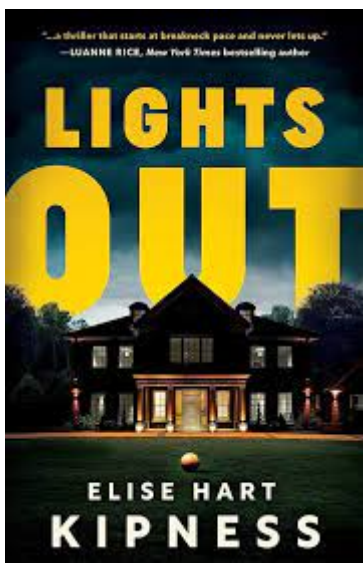
Raisa, an FBI linguist looks for patterns in the way people write to catch serial killers.

So I finished on 12/21/23. 14 days. Not too shabby. This book wasn't bad. There seemed to be a lot of characters. A family murdered in a small town. Three girls (sisters) survived. Then 25 years later another family is murdered along with several other people. The FBI is there looking into who did it. Turns out Alex (the son who was accused of the family murder 25 years ago and he committed suicide then) wasn't the one who did it.

Most chapters were short. Raisa's chapters were almost too long and I found myself stopping mid chapter some nights.

Overall I'll give this book a 7 out of 10.

Elise Hart Kipness ~ Lights Out

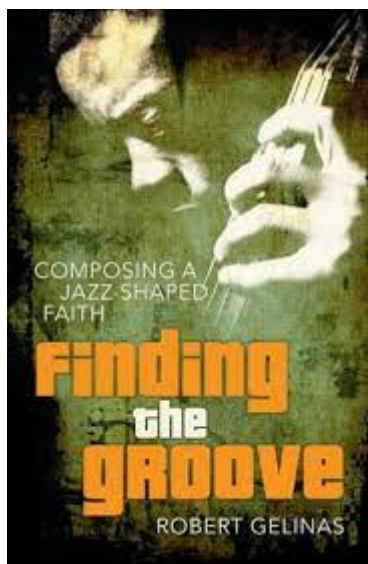


I'm starting this book on **11/21/23**. I'm also reading Art Pepper's book during this time so hopefully this is a good story.

This is an Amazon first read book. Didn't like it. I read it fast but the story was kind of bland.

A murder, a news anchor who was a sports star herself. Best friends husband gets murdered. He's a sports super star. It's a who done it and there's just too much going on. I'm giving this book a 6. Finished on **12/6/23**. **9 Days**.

Robert Gelinas ~ Finding the Groove



I started this book Saturday 11/25/23. Robert is a pastor of a church in Denver. He is also a Jazz fan. He is writing how you can live a jazz filled christian life. The way that Jesus “grooved”, “improvised” and led the band as a great band leader. I can’t put this book down. Finished 11/27/23. Yep 3 days.

MRM ~ John Handy Traditional

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10/16/23

2 Gallon recipe:

6 lbs Lehua Honey

1/2 tsp Fermaid O

2 Tsp Bentonite

Mangrove Jacks yeast

2 Gallons Crystal Glycer water from dollar tree

Mixed all ingredients. **O.G. = 1.102**

My plan is to split this batch and do 1 gallon traditional and 1 gallon blackberry. Blackberries will go into secondary for several weeks while the traditional will bulk age the same time before bottling.

***Self notes. It's got no acid or tannins. Those will have to be added in secondary. This is NOT the actual week we were studying John Handy, it's just the week I documented it. I actually didn't name this until I documented. It was the Lehua honey that should shine on this one so I will also be back sweetening with Lehua.*

11/5/23 (21 days)

Primary fermentation is complete. **S.G. = .994**. That's right, it went completely dry. I racked 1 gallon into glass carboy and put a mix of oak chips. 1oz American oak and .5oz whiskey barrel oak. Will let that set on the oak for a week before tasting. **14.3% ABV**

11/10/23 (26 days)

I tasted with the oak. Still needs more time. It's good even as dry as it is. A little back sweetening and clearing and this will be ready to go. Not going to do anything else with this today. Next week maybe rack off oak and use clearing agent. It needs some tannin too. I'll add that next week.

*****I'm going to start another post for the blackberry.**



11/20/23 (36 days)

1/2 tsp potassium metabisulphite

1/4 tsp potassium sorbate

1 campden tablet

It's clear. I haven't tasted it yet but tomorrow may be bottling day.

11/21/23 (37days)

1/4 tsp tannin

1/4 tsp acid blend

.5 lb honey for back sweetening

F.G. = 0.018

Bottled and labeled