

To view this email with images [click here](#)



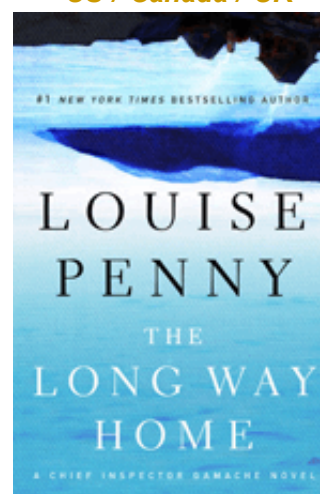
## Louise Penny's October Newsletter

*'I have decided many a stylistic problem first by head, then by heads or tails.'*

- Karl Kraus



### The Long Way Home US / Canada / UK



### The Long Way Home - Bestseller lists

I can't believe it's October already! September has flown by in a whirl of activity and news and excitement.

**THE LONG WAY HOME debuted at #1 on the New York Times Bestseller list!!!**

**It also debuted at #1 in Canada, which made it the top fiction book in North America.**



I have to admit, when I arrived in Vancouver, for the final event of the enormously successful book tour, and was told that THE LONG WAY HOME would be #1 in Canada (for the first time), I actually cried. Right there in the airport parking lot.

Later that day, in the offices of Raincoast Books, we got the phone call I'd been dreaming about, but afraid to expect - that it would hit the top of the NYTimes list.

This is absolutely incredible, astonishing, stunning. You might remember that we made it to #1 last year, with HOW THE LIGHT GETS IN, but you never think it'll happen twice in a row. Except in wild, untamed, dreams.

And thanks to you, it's happened!!

### Reviews - How The Light Gets In

Here's a small sampling of some of the major reviews for THE LONG WAY HOME:

#### Marilyn Stasio, The New York Times

*"Enchanting... remarkable... In another departure from genre convention, the murder that usually opens the narrative doesn't come until the end. But the execution of it is both creative and diabolical, a thematically satisfying finish for a story that sets out to probe the mysteries of the artistic process."*

**Click if you wish to order**

[Barnes & Noble.com](#)

[Amazon.com](#)

[Amazon.ca](#)

[Amazon.co.uk](#)

[iBookstore](#)

**ABA American Booksellers Association**

**(IMBA) The Independent Mystery Booksellers Association**

### How The Light Gets In

US / Canada / UK

**NPR's Weekend Edition***"Magical..."***USA Today***"A counterintuitive and absorbing mystery from a superb author."***Globe and Mail - Margaret Cannon - [click to view website](#)***"Louise Penny's new Inspector Gamache novel...is, in fact, the best story so far, thanks to strong characters, a deep and sophisticated plot, and just a soupçon of Joseph Conrad"***Book Tour - YouTube video**The amazing Linda Lyall, as a tribute to all your support, put together this [video from the book tour](#). Hope you like it!**The Team**

Now, as much as I'd love to take sole credit for the success of THE LONG WAY HOME, the fact is that no one reaches #1 without being simply one member of a wildly talented and creative and bold team. I'd like to introduce you to that team.

**Hope Dellon**, my longtime brilliant editor at St Martin's Press/Minotaur Books, who has been a ferocious champion of the books

**Andrew Martin**, who has published the Gamache books since STILL LIFE, and took a small, crime novel set in rural Canada and lifted it to the top

**Sarah Melnyk**, a remarkable publicist who has been creative and driven and passionate

**Paul Hochman**, who is, among other things, the father of the hugely successful Re-Read program, designing a book club around the Gamache series.

**Teresa Chris**, my literary agent whom I met at a cocktail party in London ten years ago and who has now seen the books published in 27 languages

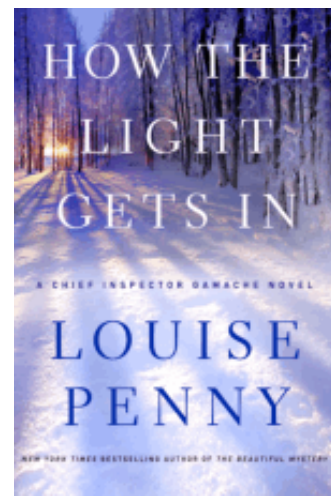
**Jamie Broadhurst**, who looks after the series in Canada, for Raincoast Books.

**Linda Lyall**, who designed the website in anticipation of the publication of STILL LIFE, who manages this newsletter, and does all sorts of amazing and creative things (like the video!)

There are lots of others, and I'm sorry I just can't list you all here, but there are two people I want to highlight.

**Lise Desrosiers (My Assistant Lise)** who started as our gardener many years ago, but on chatting with her and wandering the gardens together it quickly became clear what a very extraordinary person she is. Intellectually, emotionally. Her skills, her heart, her smarts, her compassion, her discipline. Lise has become way more than an assistant, more than a friend. She's a sister.

And, at the very top, is **Michael**. My husband and partner and best friend. Who supported my dream of becoming a writer and never once mentioned it was unlikely to actually flourish. He never once flagged in his joy, his comfort, his patience. His support. He shares all the success. Genuinely.



**Click if you wish to order**

[Barnes & Noble.com](#)

[Amazon.com](#)

[Amazon.ca](#)

[Amazon.co.uk](#)

**ABA American Booksellers Association**

**(IMBA) The Independent Mystery Booksellers Association**

Here's the order of the **Chief Inspector Gamache books**, from the first to the most recent:

**STILL LIFE**

**A FATAL GRACE / DEAD COLD**

**THE CRUELEST MONTH**

**A RULE AGAINST MURDER / THE MURDER STONE**

**THE BRUTAL TELLING**

**BURY YOUR DEAD**

**A TRICK OF THE LIGHT**

**THE BEAUTIFUL MYSTERY**

**HOW THE LIGHT GETS IN**

**THE LONG WAY HOME**

He was the model for Armand Gamache, in all the qualities that make an extraordinary person.

No Michael, no books.

THE LONG WAY HOME has already gone into its second printing thanks to you spreading the word!

This is all so thrilling!!

## October Events

And, we have news for HOW THE LIGHT GETS IN. It has been shortlisted for the Gold Dagger, by the Crime Writer's Association in Britain, for Best Crime Novel in the UK.

Michael and I were hoping and planning to be in London for the awards gala on October 24th, but he's had some health issues and we decided (with the doctor's recommendation) that travel right now would not be the wisest thing we could do.

October is a busy month, nevertheless.



The art exhibition, *Ou est Three Pines?/Where is Three Pines*, continues in the story-book pretty Quebec village of Frelighsburg. A group of local artists used the books as inspirations for works of art. How perfect is that. I was inspired by local artists to write *STILL LIFE*, and have used art as a medium for the stories ever since. And now they're returning the favour. The photo here was taken at the party to open the exhibit. For more information [click here](#).

As well, I'll be heading to Minneapolis for this huge event called *Opus and Olives*, to support the local library system. [Here's the link for that](#).

And finally, the Knowlton Literary Festival will be held the weekend of October 17th to the 19th. There's a fabulous line-up of writers, and it is an enchanted village, one of the real inspirations for *Three Pines*. This would be a marvelous excuse to visit! [Here's the link](#).

I'm the Honourary Patron, and will have a conversation on the Saturday at 3pm with Johanne Seymour, the author of the Kate McDougall mystery series, also set in this area. Hope to see you there!

## Three Pines

Like those artists, readers ask, 'Where is Three Pines?' I tell them it's inspired by where Michael and I live in Quebec's Eastern Townships. It's a pastiche, a tribute, a thank you to a place that welcomed two strangers and gave us a home.

But, more than that, *Three Pines* exists in a way that is more powerful than any dot (or lack thereof) on a map.

*Three Pines* is a state of mind. When we choose to be kind instead of cutting, when we choose compassion over easy cruelty or cleverness, when we take that huge leap of faith and trust and choose to believe that goodness really does exist, starting within ourselves - then we're in *Three Pines*.

I do not, as friends will tell you, always live in *Three Pines*. But I know when I've wandered away.

Michael, on the other hand, does live permanently in the village. Not because he's a saint (and we all know what pains they can be), but because of his choices and character, and fate.

He has a seat in the bistro, by the fire. And I join him whenever I can.

Of course, the beauty of this is that we don't have to be in the same room, or home, or city or even country to be together in *Three Pines*. In the bistro, on the village green, on the bench above the village. In Clara's kitchen or Myrna's bookstore.

Three Pines is where brave souls meet. Noli timere. Be not afraid.

Thank you for giving Michael and me a time we will always cherish.

See you in the bistro.

Louise and Michael and Bishop

*(To see the photographs used in this newsletter in a larger size  
[click here to see them via my website.](#))*

© Louise Penny 2014. This entire newsletter and its content is copyright.

**BARNES & NOBLE**  
BOOKSELLERS



**amazon.com.**

**amazon.ca**

**amazon.de**

**amazon.co.uk**



**Louise Penny on Facebook**

**E-mail:** [contact@louispenny.com](mailto:contact@louispenny.com)  
**official website**