The results of the Kiss of Death Chapter’s Daphne Du Maurier Award for Excellence in Mystery/Suspense are in. On behalf of KOD and the Daphne Committee, I am pleased to announce the winners of our 2017 Unpublished Contest:

**Category (Series) Romantic Mystery/Suspense**

**First:** *Smash & Grab* by Lori Matthews  
**Second:** *Reid’s Diamond* by Cheryl Rabin  
**Third:** *Blood Rights* by A.L.R. Court  
**Honorable Mention:** *Confide In Me* by Kathryn Denman  
**Honorable Mention:** *Villa Marco Polo* by H. S. Stavropoulos

**Historical Romantic Mystery/Suspense**

**First:** *Lovely Digits* by Jeanine Englert  
**Second:** *The Secrets Within the Towers* by Abigail Wilson  
**Third:** *Hidden Depths* by Pamala Knight  
**Honorable Mention:** *Whitecliff* by Valen Cox

**Inspirational Romantic Mystery/Suspense**

**First:** *Fair Haven* by Laura Conner Kestner  
**Second:** *Incentives* by Sharee Stover  
**Third:** *Stolen Vows* by Darlene L. Turner  
**Honorable Mention:** *Breathing Shadows* by Loretta Eidson  
**Honorable Mention:** *Fatal Assignment* by Loretta Eidson

**Paranormal (Fantasy/Time Travel/Futuristic) Romantic Mystery/Suspense**

**First:** *The Transformation of Alexis Doe* by Jilly Wood  
**Second:** *Haunted* by Shani Lynne  
**Third:** *The Last Descendent* by Kristina Kairn  
**Honorable Mention:** *Goldilocks Nine* by Christine Gunderson  
**Honorable Mention:** *Affliction* by Pamela Varnado
Single Title Romantic Mystery/Suspense

First: Voice for the Dead by SB Woodson
Second: The Hustler by Angie Hockman
Third: Shadowplay by Shannyn Jordan w/ a Jordyn Jacobs
Honorable Mention: Shot Down by Tracy Brody
Honorable Mention: Criminal Heat by Jan Jackson

Mainstream Mystery/Suspense

First: Stosh and the Devil by Michele Reed
Second: Inherent Lies by Alicia Anthony
Third: The End of Youth by Tammy Euliano
Honorable Mention: Emerald Drone by Alan Chaput
Honorable Mention: Ghosts of Harvard by Jeff Cooper
Honorable Mention: It Hurts by Robbin Luckett

THE OVERALL DAPHNE WINNER FOR THE 2017 UNPUBLISHED CONTEST IS:

Fair Haven by Laura Conner Kestner

Congratulations to all!
Brooke Wills
2017 Daphne Contest Chair