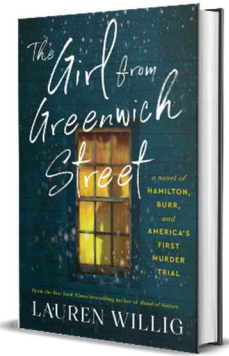




Lauren Willig



New York Times Bestselling Author

Welcome back to my newsletter! It's been a minute, but my goal is to get these heading your way monthly, with What's New, Tour Stops, my favorite book of the month (someone else's book, not mine!), a peek into my research, and a book-related recipe in each.

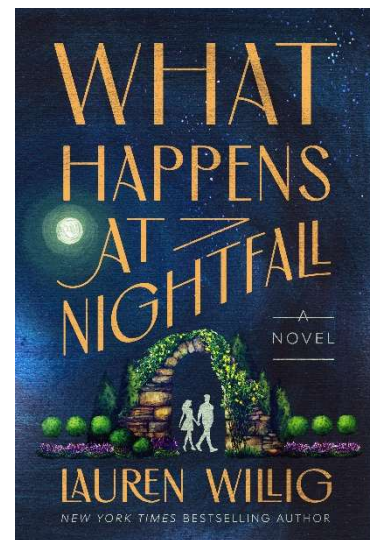
This is, as always, a work in progress. Do you have more topics you'd like to see here? Email me and let me know!

What's New!

My latest book, *What Happens at Nightfall*, is heading your way for Spooky Season 2026!

Unlike my last few books, which have all been very historical historicals, *What Happens at Nightfall* is a contemporary paranormal romance set at Brooklyn's historic Green-Wood cemetery.

I blame my editor, who, one spring day a couple of years ago, said, "Hey, I've got the family mausoleum keys! Want to meet me at Green-Wood? I'll bring coffee." One afternoon of wandering around tombs later I was hooked. I knew



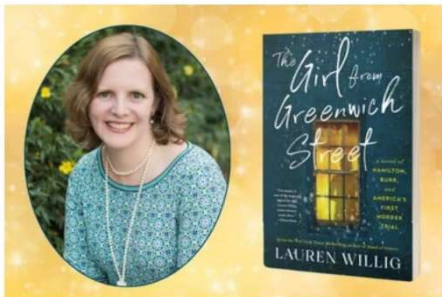
there was a story there, involving a demon unleashed from a mausoleum, snarky Gilded Age ghosts, a hot widower horticulturalist with two kids, and a heroine with hereditary powers who doesn't know she has hereditary powers.

You can learn more on the Books page of my website!

Upcoming Tour Stops

This October, I'll be hitting the road to celebrate the release of *What Happens at Nightfall*. In the meantime, I'm still hopping around talking about *The Girl from Greenwich Street*! (You know Hamilton; he just doesn't stop.)

Meet The Author: Lauren Willig



Discussing her latest novel, *The Girl from Greenwich Street: A Novel of Hamilton, Burr, and America's First Murder Trial*

In-Person & on Zoom:

Thursday, July 9 from 6:30 - 7:30 PM

Registration is required to attend In-Person.

[Register here](#)

Zoom link: [click here](#) at 6:30 PM on July 9

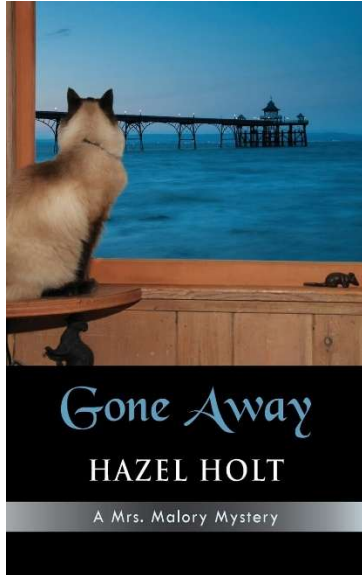
Join us for a special evening with author Lauren Willig!

- Thursday, July 9, 6:30pm
Oliver Wolcott Library
Litchfield, CT
Free, but registration required
(There's also a zoom option!)
- Friday, September 25, time TBA
Natchez Reads
Natchez, MS
- Saturday, September 26, time TBA
Mississippi Book Festival
Jackson, MS

Stay tuned for autumn *Nightfall* tour stops in Mississippi, Arizona, New York (city and upstate!), Pennsylvania, Indiana, South Carolina, Rhode Island, and more, to be announced soon!

Book of the Month

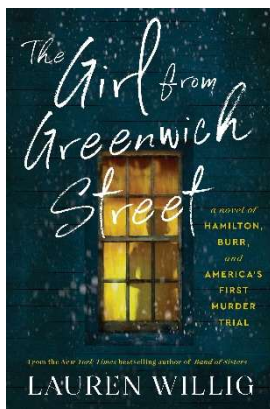
Those of you who follow my Weekly Reading Round Ups know that my happy place is a small English village—preferably with a dead body and some scones and tea at the vicarage.



This month, I fell in love with Hazel Holt's 1990s Mrs. Mallory mystery series, recommended to me by the brilliant Robin Agnew of Aunt Agatha's Books. The heroine, a widow in her fifties (and a celebrated literary critic, although she doesn't let that get in the way of making marmalade and baking cakes for the Bring and Buy) is basically Joyce from

Thursday Murder Club—so if you also loved Joyce, these might be the books for you! They are absolutely charming, and a wonderful return to a vanished world before cell phones and social media.

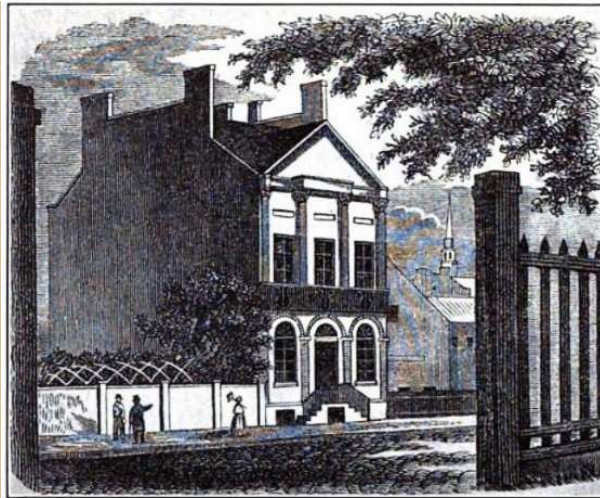
A Peek into the Research Files....



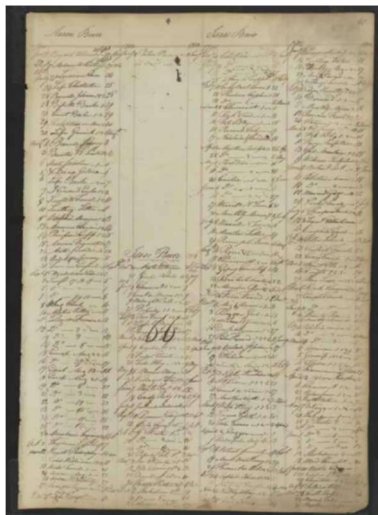
With July 4th right around the corner, it seemed appropriate to dig into my *Girl from Greenwich Street* files for this one!

Did you know our founding fathers borrowed books from the New York Society Library, which is still in operation today? Up until 1795, the library was housed in Federal Hall, the same place George Washington was inaugurated and where the Levi Weeks trial was held in 1800 (below, left). By 1800, when Hamilton, Burr, and

Brockholst Livingston were trying to save Levi Weeks from the gallows in the courtroom in Federal Hall, the library had moved into a new building all its own at 33 Nassau Street (below, right).



The coolest thing? The Society Library saved their ledgers, so we can see just what these gentlemen were reading....



In 1800, the year of the Levi Weeks trial, Burr borrowed Bryant's *Astronomy*, Lavoisier's *Chemistry*, and *A Modern Universal History*. I strongly suspect that these were intended, not for Burr's leisure reading (which, based on earlier records, featured a lot of Voltaire), but the edification of his daughter, Theodosia....

Meanwhile, it should not surprise anyone to know that Hamilton appears to have enjoyed wallowing in Goethe's *Eleonora*, or that Brockholst Livingston, in 1800, was reading David Hume's *History of England from the Invasion of Julius Caesar to the Revolution in 1688*.

Nothing tells you more about a person than a glance at their bookshelves....

Recipe of the Month

Who doesn't love a doughnut?

(Actually, me. I don't love a doughnut. They're the one baked good that poses no threat to me. My whole family finds this very strange, although since it means more doughnuts for them, they don't tend to object.)

In keeping with the *Girl from Greenwich Street* theme, this month's recipe is oily cakes, the Dutch New York precursor to the modern doughnut.

"Rachel is with them," said Hope soothingly. "I've finished the hats Peggy left to trim and I've fried the oil cakes thee asked me to make. I thought I would bring a basket of oil cakes to the Widow Broad—they are always saying what a sad thing it is she gets so few visitors and her son never takes any notice of her."

Those oil cakes Hope brings to the Widow Broad are a Dutch New York staple. Oil cake—or oily cake—is an anglicization of the Dutch *oly koek*, a ball of deep fried dough, sometimes stuffed with apples, almonds, or brandy-soaked dried fruit.

Susannah Carter's 1803 *The Frugal Housewife* contains the following recipe: *To one pound of flour, put one quarter of a pound of butter, one quarter of a pound of sugar, and two spoonfuls of yeast; mix them all together in warm milk or water, of the thickness of bread, let it raise, and make them in what form you please, boil your fat (consisting of hog's lard), and put them in.*

For modern adaptations, visit Max Miller's [Tasting History](https://www.tastinghistory.com/recipes/doughnuts) at <https://www.tastinghistory.com/recipes/doughnuts> or go to <https://inliterature.net/sleepy-hollow/traditional-dutch-1800s-olykoek-recipe/> for [Inliterature.net](https://inliterature.net)'s 1800s Sleepy Holly oly koek recipe.

Goodbye Until Next Month!

For more in the meantime, visit www.laurenwillig.com.

You can find up to date tour schedules on the Events page, Weekly Reading Round Up and other news of the moment on the News page, and links to all of my books on the Books page.

If you have questions, comments, or suggestions for this Newsletter going forward, pop by the Contact page and send me a message!

(If you're wondering why none of these are clickable, it's because I haven't figured out how to embed links in this Newsletter yet! Hopefully by next month....)

You can also find me on Instagram at @laurenwillig and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/LaurenWillig/>

And now back to work....

