

Susan McDuffie Bio

A fan of historical fiction since childhood, Susan McDuffie spent such vast amounts of time reading stories set in the past that she wondered if she had mistakenly been born in the wrong century. As an adult her discovery that Clorox was not marketed prior to 1922 reconciled her to life in this era.

Susan grew up in Washington, Pennsylvania, and Binghamton, New York, where her father worked as a professor of Analytical Chemistry. She later lived in Rochester NY and attended graduate school in Boston before moving to Santa Fe, NM in 1982.

Susan's childhood interest in Scotland, fueled by a great-uncle's stories of the McDuffie clan's ancestral lands on [Colonsay](#), led eventually to her Scottish mystery series. Her clan's traditional role as "Keeper of the Records" for the Lords of the Isles may in actuality have been a somewhat tedious position, but it all sounded incredibly mysterious and intriguing to Susan. On her first visit to Scotland she hitchhiked her way through the Hebrides and the visit planted the initial seeds for her medieval mysteries.

These have grown into the Muirteach MacPhee series, set in medieval Scotland during the Celtic Lordship of the Isles. The mysteries include A MASS FOR THE DEAD, THE FAERIE HILLS (2011 [New Mexico Book Awards](#) "Best Historical Novel") and THE STUDY OF MURDER ([New Mexico Book Awards Finalist 2014](#) in both Historical Fiction and Mystery categories). Susan is currently editing DEATH OF A FALCON, Muirteach's next adventure, which takes him to the Edinburgh court of Robert II in the company of Prince Henry Sinclair.

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Susan belongs to the [Historical Novel Society](#) and regularly reviews historical fiction books for their "[Historical Novels Review](#)". She also belongs to [Mystery Writers of America](#) , [Sisters in Crime](#), [Romance Writers of America](#) , the [Beau Monde](#), [LERA](#) and [CHRWA](#).

Susan's first published works were two Regency short stories in Regency Press anthologies, and she maintains her membership. Susan has participated in panels at numerous conferences including the [Historical Novel Society Conference](#), [Magna Cum Murder](#) and [Left Coast Crime](#).

Susan lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico and shares her life with a Native American artist from Cochiti Pueblo and four unruly cats. She worked as an occupational therapist in the Santa Fe Public Schools before retiring in 2007 and has also worked as a potter. She enjoys taking flamenco dance classes in her spare time.

Susan loves to hear from readers and can be contacted via Facebook, her website, or email.