

YOU WOULD SAY THAT, WOULDN'T YOU?

Paul D Brazill's Gaff.



BRIT GRIT ALLEY BOOKS ANTHOLOGIES ABOUT HOME
INTERNATIONAL THRILLER WRITERS (ITW) I DIDN'T SAY THAT, DID I?
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WRITERS' INTERVIEWS

AUG 20 2012
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SHORT SHARP
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SHORT, SHARP INTERVIEW: MARY ANN BERNAL

PDB: Can you pitch THE BRITON AND THE DANE in 25 words or less?

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An epic adventure that runs the gamut of deception, treachery of war and conquest in Anglo-Saxon Britain.

PDB: Which books, films or television shows have floated

There are quite a few interesting things out there.

Films: "Prometheus" and "Total Recall."

TV: "Political Animals" and "The Newsroom."

Favorites on BBC America: "Whitechapel" and "Luther."

PDB: Is it possible for a writer to be an objective reader?

It is possible to be objective, but difficult at times. I do have to change gears, i.e. wearing the reader's cap vs. editor's or writer's cap, and I am successful for most of the time.

PDB: Do you have any interest in writing for films, theatre or television?

Funny you should ask. I have recently enrolled in an Introduction to Screenwriting course given by the local community college, which starts later this month. If all goes well, I'll continue with the courses and see where it leads me.

"The Briton and the Dane" trilogy is an epic adventure that would do well on the big screen. A mini-series also works or even a regular TV show such as BBC's "Robin Hood" and "Merlin."

PDB: How much research goes into each book?

Quite a bit of research went into the first book of the trilogy since I had to decide what year I wished the story to take place during the reign of Alfred the Great. I relied on the Anglo-Saxon chronicle for the specific events taking place during



my timeframe, such as when King Alfred defeated King Guthrum at Edington in 878.

My story picks up after the treaty was signed and King Guthrum was preparing to return to East Anglia. The second story in the trilogy is set in 880 and the final story is set in 882. For the second and third installments, additional research was needed regarding events on the European Continent, namely Rome, St. Gall and the Frankish kingdoms.

Of course, if one of my characters decides on pursuing a different path, then I might have to take a day off to further investigate the timeline, but I have a passion for history, so research is enjoyable.

PDB: How useful or important are social media for you as a writer?

It is important to have a presence on all social media sites, but I believe the jury is still out as to how useful these sites are when an author is promoting his/her work. There is a lot of competition out there and the reading public does become immune to advertising, especially if they are using the site to interact with friends and family.

It takes time to build a fan base, and if the writer remembers that they are in it for the long haul, they will eventually see results.

Research has shown that it takes anywhere from 5-10 years to establish oneself. Keep writing and keep publishing — the world needs to know you are serious about your craft.

PDB: What's on the cards in 2012?

"Murder in the First" is a short story that will be featured in an IAI Compilation that will be released next month. "The Ritual" is a short story that will be featured in an IAI Compilation scheduled to be released by the end of the year. "The Briton and the Dane: Concordia" will be launched in early 2013.

Webpage:

www.maryannbernal.com

Purchase links:

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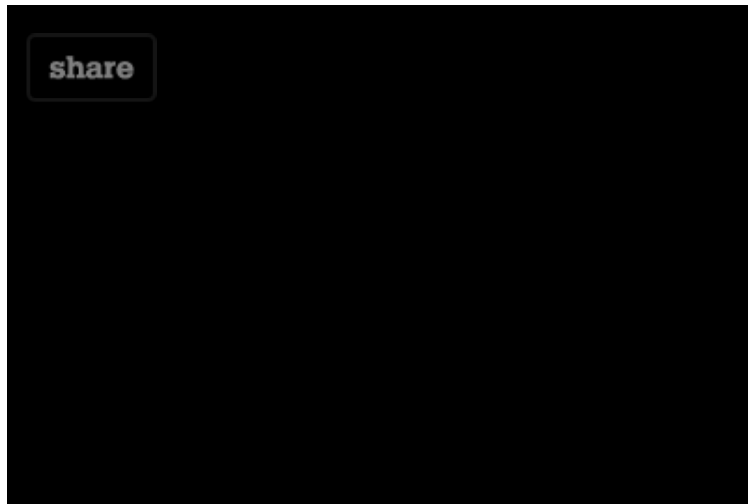
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