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Alice Ott mystery author brings Raging Granny sleuth out of retirement

Popular author, Dusty J. Miller, has decided that a worldwide pandemic and racial injustice everywhere was no time for her feisty Raging Granny sleuth to go into retirement.

Miller, a Florida resident who summers in Massachusetts, has written four books in the Alice Ott mystery series beginning in 2012 with *Danger in the Air*, followed in 2014 with *Danger at the Gates*, 2017 *Danger Under Ground* and 2019 *Danger in the House*, which earned a four-star rating from bookclubonline.com – the club’s highest ranking. *Danger in the House* also received a positive review from Publisher’s Weekly in January 2020.

The character, Alice Ott, is an elderly sleuth who grew out of Miller’s real-life friendships with social justice activist Frances Crowe, Ann Wilson and her favorite troublemakers, the Raging Grannies. Both Crowe and Wilson are now deceased but live on in Miller’s Alice Ott character.

“As I first began to create Alice Ott, I felt like I really knew her,” Miller said. “It was my good fortune to have superb role models for this feisty elder.”

The Alice Ott mystery series was transformed into Reader’s Theater productions, gaining fans up and down the East Coast of the United States. But when Crowe passed in August 2019 at the age of 100, Miller announced the fourth Alice Ott book would end the series. She believed the character had run her course and began developing another mystery novel that was to take place in Florida.

Miller’s fans wanted more and current events dictated the series must go on.

The series began catching on among Raging Grannies gaggles in the U.S. and Canada, and then COVID-19 erupted around the globe in early 2020, causing Miller to rethink her strategy.

“Yes, I miss Ann and Frances, but here’s a very cool thing,” she explained, “I can hold these two friends close to my heart by continuing to write stories about Alice Ott! Truth be told, I realized I would miss Alice too much if I ended the mystery series.”

So, Miller is hard at work on the fifth Alice Ott book. “And we’re on the riskiest adventure yet,” she teases.

Miller has published five nonfiction books generated by her work as a trauma and addiction specialist. Best seller, *Women Who Hurt Themselves*, launched her writing career in mainstream publishing. Although she is grateful for the success of her nonfiction books, Miller’s passion is in mystery writing.

An exact launch date is several months away, however, Miller expects to publish her fifth book in the Alice Ott series later this year. Watch her website, dustymiller.com, for announcements.