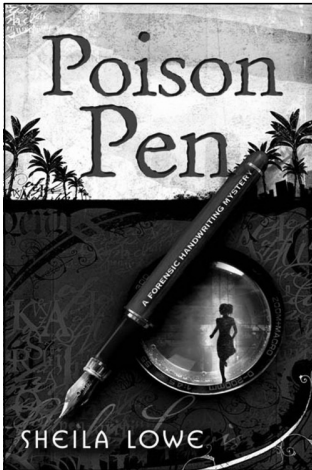


## New Books



### *Poison Pen*

Sheila Lowe

Publisher: Penguin Books

Release Date: April 2008

### Reviewed by Darlene Randolph, CG

It does not matter if you are relatively new to handwriting analysis, or you have been involved in graphology for decades, you have certainly heard of Shelia

Lowe. Many of you have enjoyed her seminars, subscribed to the Vanguard, purchased her monographs at conferences, own her handwriting analyzer software and may even have collaborated with her in some capacity. If however, you think you know all there is to know about Ms. Lowe, think again. Sheila has now written a book. Wait a minute, what's that you say, you've got an autographed copy of *Idiot's Guide* and her book featuring the handwritings of the famous and infamous? Well...Ms. Lowe has a surprise for the handwriting community and the reading public at large. She has successfully broken into the literary genre of the murder mystery.

Sheila's new book is titled *Poison Pen* and is due for release in Spring 2008. Let me introduce you to Claudia Rose, the heroine of *Poison Pen*. Claudia, an accomplished handwriting analyst, is flung into a dangerous vortex of deceit following the sensational suicide of her estranged friend Lindsey Alexander, a controversial publicist and promoter of Hollywood luminaries. Claudia's knowledge of handwriting analysis draws her closer to the center of her former friend's shocking and violent secrets. As Claudia becomes more enmeshed in the investigation, she fears her own network of acquaintances might also hold a list of suspects. Perhaps police detective Joel Jovanich can help Claudia separate the trustworthy from the felonious, or will he only add to her confusion?

Claudia's character doesn't reside in one dimension. Her talent, intelligence and mixture of bravado versus self-doubt is shored up by a healthy temper (and vocabulary) that make her believable and real. Many of the other characters in this book aren't just flawed, they are downright broken in their humanity, which makes *Poison Pen* highly readable and keeps you interested clear to the end and beyond. You want to know what will hap-

pen to them next. Luckily you will get to know them even better in Sheila's next book, *Written in Blood*, scheduled for release in the Fall of 2009. Visit her website at: <http://www.claudiaroseseries.com> to read sample chapters.

*Poison Pen* is an ambitious first book that tackles a complicated plot and diverse personalities with agility and well-woven prose. I can see the name of Lowe taking its place on the shelves along with Coulter, Mott, Paretsky, and other contemporary mystery writers.

### *Crime Scene Investigation*

Editors: Jackie Fish, Larry S. Miller, Michael C. Braswell

Publisher: Anderson Publishing/LexisNexis

Pages: 350 (includes CD and study guide)

Price: \$59.95

ISBN: 9781593453251

Release Date: June 2007



Description: This text offers an innovative approach to learning about crime scene investigation. It takes the reader from the first response on the crime scene to documenting crime scene evidence and preparing evidence for courtroom presentation.

*Crime Scene Investigation* includes topics not normally covered in other texts, such as forensic anthropology and pathology, arson and explosives, and the electronic crime scene. Numerous photographs and illustrations complement text material. A chapter-by-chapter fictional narrative also provides the reader with a qualitative dimension of the crime scene experience. *Crime Scene Investigation* is further enhanced by the contributions of such recognized forensic scholars as William Bass and Arthur Bohannon.

### Reviewed by Graziella Pettinati

Chapter 11, *Documentary Evidence*, of the book was written by Heidi Harralson. This chapter is excellent. It has several academic references that give more credibility to document examination and graphology. Plus this new book will be used as a textbook in many universities in the U.S. Not only will this book help students studying criminology; it's also a useful study aid for graphologists and document examiners.