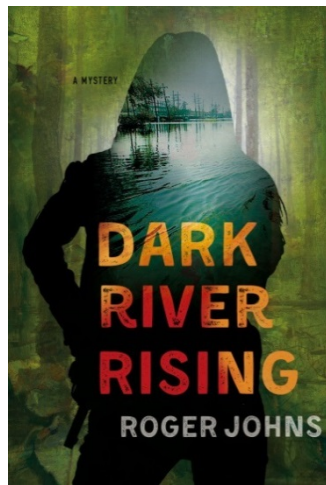


## PRESS KIT: Roger Johns

### Head Shot:



### Cover Art:



**Website:** [www.rogerjohnsbooks.com](http://www.rogerjohnsbooks.com)

**Blog:** [murderbooks.wordpress.com](http://murderbooks.wordpress.com)

**Titles:** *Dark River Rising* (police procedural, female protagonist, southern setting, drug violence)  
ISBN-10: 1250110092 ISBN-13: 978-1250110091

**Release Date:** August 29, 2017

**Publisher:** Minotaur Books (an imprint of St. Martin's Press, which is a division of Macmillan Publishers 175 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10010)

**Agent:** Paula Munier (Talcott Notch Literary, 31 Cherry Street, Suite 104, Milford, CT 06460)

**Publicist:** Hector DeJean (Minotaur Books)

**Email:** [rogerjohns22@hotmail.com](mailto:rogerjohns22@hotmail.com) and [roger.johns@rogerjohnsbooks.com](mailto:roger.johns@rogerjohnsbooks.com)

**Bio:** Roger Johns is a former corporate lawyer and retired college professor. He is a native of Louisiana, and a resident of Georgia since 2004. *Dark River Rising* is his debut novel.

**Synopsis:** Baton Rouge Police Detective Wallace Hartman is investigating the gruesome murder of a local drug kingpin when a DEA agent with his own interest in the homicide threatens Wallace's control of her case. After a government scientist with ties to the victim goes missing, Wallace finds she needs the agent's federal connections as much as he needs her local insight, so they form an uneasy alliance. Meanwhile, the killer lurks in the shadows with an agenda no one saw coming, and as Wallace closes in he proves ready, willing, and able to shatter her world—not once but twice—in order to get what he wants.

**Author Blurbs:** "A finely crafted ensemble and a balanced grace makes this debut novel as hard to resist as blue ribbon gumbo."

**CRAIG JOHNSON**, *New York Times* bestselling author of the Walt Longmire Mysteries, the basis for the Netflix hit drama Longmire

"Roger Johns paints a beautiful and dangerous picture of Baton Rouge. . . . *Dark River Rising* is crime fiction at its finest, a fascinating blend of atmosphere, a compelling mystery, and a protagonist you won't soon forget."

**LINDA CASTILLO**, *New York Times* bestselling author of *Among the Wicked*

"Detective Wallace Hartman is irresistible—damaged, authentic and relentless. In this compelling ripped-from-the-headlines debut, a killer's grisly trademark pulls the Louisiana detective to the dangerous dark center of everything she fears."

**HANK PHILLIPPI RYAN**, Anthony, Agatha, and Mary Higgins Clark award-winning author of *Say No More*

"Riveting detail and a clever detective duo make *Dark River Rising* a fast-paced and compelling read. Johns skillfully weaves police procedure, romantic tension, and unexpected twists into a plot that had me turning pages late into the night and checking to make sure I'd locked my doors. This is a debut you don't want to miss!"

**SUSAN CRAWFORD**, bestselling author of *The Pocket Wife* and *The Other Widow*

"With a lead character that seems destined for an important place in detective fiction, *Dark River Rising* takes an extremely fresh slant, first on murder, and then on the investigation. I couldn't wait to find out 'who done it!'"

**TRUDY NAN BOYCE**, 2017 Georgia Author of the Year, Atlanta Homicide Detective [retired], and author of *Out of the Blues* and *Old Bones*

**Reviews:** **RT Book Reviews** [July 25, 2017] "This debut novel is [a] . . . compelling fast-paced mystery" with "an impressive crime-solving duo with explosive chemistry".

**LIBRARY JOURNAL: Reviews** [July 10, 2017] "Featuring a fine ensemble cast, this solid debut is strong on atmosphere and tension. Readers who enjoy Louisiana settings, tough but sensitive female detectives, and who can handle graphic violence will want more from this author."

**KIRKUS REVIEWS:** [July 1, 2017] "Johns' first novel is an exciting police procedural rolled into a romantic thriller that hints of more to come."

**Media:** **CriminalElement.com:** Start With Setting [August 3, 2017]

**WRITERS DIGEST:** *Breaking In* [Vol. 97, No. 6, p.22, September 2017]

**Atlanta Writers Club:** *eQuill* [interview] [July 2017]

**Appearances:** April 7, 2018

**Dave Robicheaux's Hometown Literary Festival: Main Street Book Fair**  
Main Street  
New Iberia, LA 70560

February 24, 2018

**Rose Glen Literary Festival**  
Sevierville Convention Center  
202 Gists Creek Road  
Sevierville, TN 37876

February 11, 2018

**Murder on the Menu**  
Wetumpka Civic Center  
410 S. Main Street  
Wetumpka, AL 36092

February 10, 2018

**Murder in the Magic City**  
Homewood Public Library  
1721 Oxmoor Rd.  
Homewood, AL 35209

November 18, 2017

**Dog River Library**  
6100 Highway 5  
Douglasville, GA 30135

November 4, 2017

**Auburn Public Library**  
24 Fifth Street  
Auburn, GA 30011

October 28, 2017

**Louisiana Book Festival**  
Louisiana State Capitol and State Library  
900 North Third Street  
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

October 21, 2017

**Atlanta Writers Club: Member Spotlight**  
Georgia State University–Dunwoody Campus  
2101 Womack Road (Building NC, Room 1100)  
Atlanta GA 30338

October 18, 2017

**A Novel Idea**  
The Snug Gastro Pub

190 E. Main Street  
Canton, GA 30114

October 11-15, 2017

**Bouchercon 2017**

Sheraton Hotel Toronto  
123 Queen Street West  
Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5H 2M9

October 7, 2017

**Book House of Stuyvesant Plaza**

1475 Western Avenue  
Albany, NY 12203

September 30, 2017

**Briarcliff Manor Book Club**

Briarcliff, NY 10510

September 24, 2017

**Book Carnival**

348 S. Tustin Street  
Orange, CA 92866

September 23, 2017

**Book Star**

12136 Ventura Boulevard  
Studio City, CA 91604

September 16, 2017

**FoxTale Book Shoppe**

105 E. Main Street  
Woodstock, GA 30188

September 9, 2017

**Fiction Addiction**

1175 Woods Crossing Rd, No. 5  
Greenville, SC 29607

September 1-3, 2017

**Decatur Book Festival**

101 E. Court Square  
Decatur, GA 30030

June 10, 2017

**The Business Side of Book Publishing**

Decatur Library  
215 Sycamore St  
Decatur, GA 30030

November 12, 2016 – 3:00pm to 4:30pm EST

**Milton Literary Festival: The Book Club Hookup**

Crabapple Government Center  
12624 Broadwell Road  
Alpharetta, GA 30004

October 6, 2016 - 4:30pm to 6:00pm EDT

**Georgia Library Association-Council of Media Organizations: Author Appreciation Reception**

The Atrium at the Classic Center  
300 N Thomas St  
Athens, GA 30601

September 15-18, 2016

**Bouchercon: The World Mystery Convention**

New Orleans Marriot  
555 Canal Street  
New Orleans, LA 70130

April 23, 2016 - 2:00pm EDT

**Romance Saturdays: Romantic Suspense**

Auburn Public Library  
24 Fifth Street  
Auburn, GA 30011