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## **Approaching #MeToo in Fiction—A Mystery Solved**

*A conversation with bestselling authors Nancy Boyarsky and Amy Stewart*

**New Orleans, LA, June 13, 2018**—International bestselling mystery writer Nancy Boyarsky and *New York Times* bestselling author Amy Stewart expose how crime fiction hosts an ideal place to continue the discussion around the #MeToo movement.

Though the #MeToo movement has been around since 2006, this sexual assault and abuse awareness campaign flooded the news in October 2017. This movement has brought to light over 17 million victims of sexual crimes and encourages women to tell their stories and create a new culture of empowered women.

Boyarsky—author of the internationally bestselling *Nicole Graves Mysteries* series (Light Messages Publishing)—and Stewart—author of the *New York Times* bestselling *Kopp Sisters* series (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt)—saw how the topic of gender roles and female power breached fiction long before the #MeToo movement hit the headlines. Over the past 10 years, female crime writers have dominated the mystery genre, bringing a more nuanced approach to the idea of the female victim or the male villain.

Boyarsky embraces the need for discussion through fiction in her newest addition to the *Nicole Graves Mysteries*, *Liar Liar*. In the book, Boyarsky’s character Nicole Graves supervises a witness to a high-profile rape case. When lies surface and the star witness goes missing, Nicole realizes just how elusive the truth is.

Using their upcoming books as discussion tools, Boyarsky and Stewart will open a conversation on the PopTop stage during the ALA Conference titled “Women-Driven Mysteries in a Post #MeToo World.” The conversation will be moderated by Elizabeth Turnbull, Senior Editor of Light Messages Publishing on Monday at 9:15a.m. These women will discuss topics such as how women-driven mysteries can continue to lead the discussion on sexual crime long after #MeToo fades. All are invited to attend this Q&A session. Audience participation is encouraged, as time allows.

Boyarsky will also be available for book signings on Saturday from 1:00p.m.–2:00p.m. and on Sunday from 9:00a.m.–10:00a.m at the Light Messages booth, #3549.

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