

Pamela Taylor

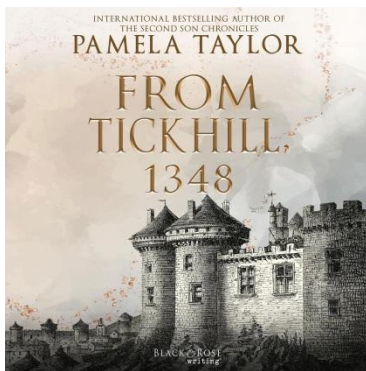
Oh, dear – how is it March already? I guess that's what happens when you're beavering away on a new book and are fully immersed in the lives of your characters. The good news is that I handed it over to my editor last night. Now for the nerve-wracking wait for her feedback. Despite the fact that we've worked together on all my books and I completely respect her ideas – or maybe because of that – with every new story, there's always that little voice nagging me, "What if she hates *this* one?" Fingers crossed, as always ☺

March is Giveaway Month at Goodreads, and my publisher is giving away 100 copies of the box set of the first three volumes of the Second Son Chronicles. The giveaway is for the e-book edition only. Entries close at the end of March and winners will receive their e-books then. To enter, just click on the image.



Other giveaway options from my publisher are listed at the end of this newsletter.

FROM TICKHILL, 1348



The audiobook is available! Actually, it has been since the beginning of the year, and some of you may have already found it. If so, thank you!

Want to win a listen? I've got a couple of promo codes. Just click on the image of the audiobook "cover" to enter. As always, winners will be selected randomly from all entries received.

Here's what some Amazon, Goodreads, and Bookbub reviewers have to say:

- "This story about an actual historical Duchess had action and emotion from beginning to end!"
- "A beautifully written and fun way to glimpse the French and British political intrigue of the 1340s."
- "When it ended it left me wanting more."
- "It's a roller coaster of a story, too, from setback to triumph to setback to triumph."
- "Amazing writing, a captivating story, and richly complex characters."

A CHILLY, RAINY DAY AT TINTAGEL

Seems like ages since I promised to tell you about the final bit of my September research trip. If you haven't had the opportunity to visit Tintagel, I recommend putting it on your list. Many people know its link to the King Arthur legends, but there was also an interesting medieval castle on the site. Built in the 13th century, it was unusual in that half the castle was on the mainland and the other half on the headland, which were, at some point connected by a narrow land bridge. Each half of the castle had a courtyard and significant structures.

Time and the constant pounding of the sea have deepened the ravine and collapsed some of the cliff walls so that the headland is now essentially an island. That erosion had begun even in the 14th century. The new visitors' bridge (opened in 2019) is in the same location as the ancient land bridge (and the later man-made bridge) that connected the two courtyards. This dramatic drone photo shows the ruins of the two halves and the new bridge. That's the



mainland on the right and the headland/island on the left. From this image, it's easy to imagine what the castle might have been like in the mid-14th century.

The day before I visited, it had poured rain all day and the site was closed to visitors for a time. It was still overcast and just starting to rain again when I was there. But perhaps that was a good thing. You'll find out why in the next book. More about that in coming issues.

WATCHING

Recently finished bingeing Season 2 of *The Diplomat* on Netflix – and am happy to know Season 3 is in the works. And of course, I couldn't miss the latest season of *All Creatures Great and Small* on PBS. Samuel West is absolutely perfect as Siegfried Farnon. I also like that this remake has given Mrs. Hall, the housekeeper, a more well-rounded role. Just started *Inside Man* on Netflix. David Tennant and Stanley Tucci. Only one episode under my belt so far, but I like the concept and am eager to see where the story is going. I'll let you know in the next issue.

READING

As you might imagine, there's not much time for reading-for-entertainment when you're on deadline to complete a manuscript, but I've at least gotten started on Alison Weir's fictional tale of Elizabeth of York – the one who married Henry VII to end the Wars of the Roses. It's entitled *The Last White Rose*. So far, a good read.

MAGGI SAYS



We had a week of **really** cold weather last month. Mom kept telling us it was too cold to go outside, but we had to try. See, we thought Mom was just being silly 'cause she doesn't have a nice fur coat like we do. But she was right, so we came back inside really fast. This is me wearing my red sweater. Mom says it looks good with my big white ruff. What do you think?

BEST-LAID PLANS – BUT HERE YOU GO ANYWAY

I was really looking forward to giving you a Valentine's day gift . . . and then I got so distracted by my writing that the whole month of February was gone before I could get out a newsletter. In any event, a bit belated but definitely an exclusive for subscribers. This is a short story I wrote a few years back for the Valentine's Day read at my writers' group. There's a 15-minute limitation on reads, so the story had to fit within that parameter. Click [here](#) to read online or download. I hope you like it.

THE CHRONICLES PREQUEL

A number of you have written to ask about the possibility of a whole book rather than just snippets here. That got me thinking. So I proposed the idea to my publisher earlier this week. I'll keep you posted. If they go for it, the release date would be sometime next year.

For now, wishing you happy reading!

Pamela

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OTHER GIVEAWAYS FROM BLACK ROSE WRITING

Thrillers: [Last Patient of the Night](#) [Duncan Hunter Thriller box set](#)
Historical Fiction: [The Daughter of the King](#)
Horror: [Doll House](#)
Crime Fiction: [Where the Hurt Is](#)
Mystery: [Miranda Writes](#)
Inspirational: [The Five Wishes of Mr. Murray McBride](#)