

PUBLISHING & FILM RIGHTS PROPOSAL

Original Bestseller Rights & New Manuscripts

by

JAMES MICHAEL PRATT

New York Times and *USA TODAY* Bestselling Author

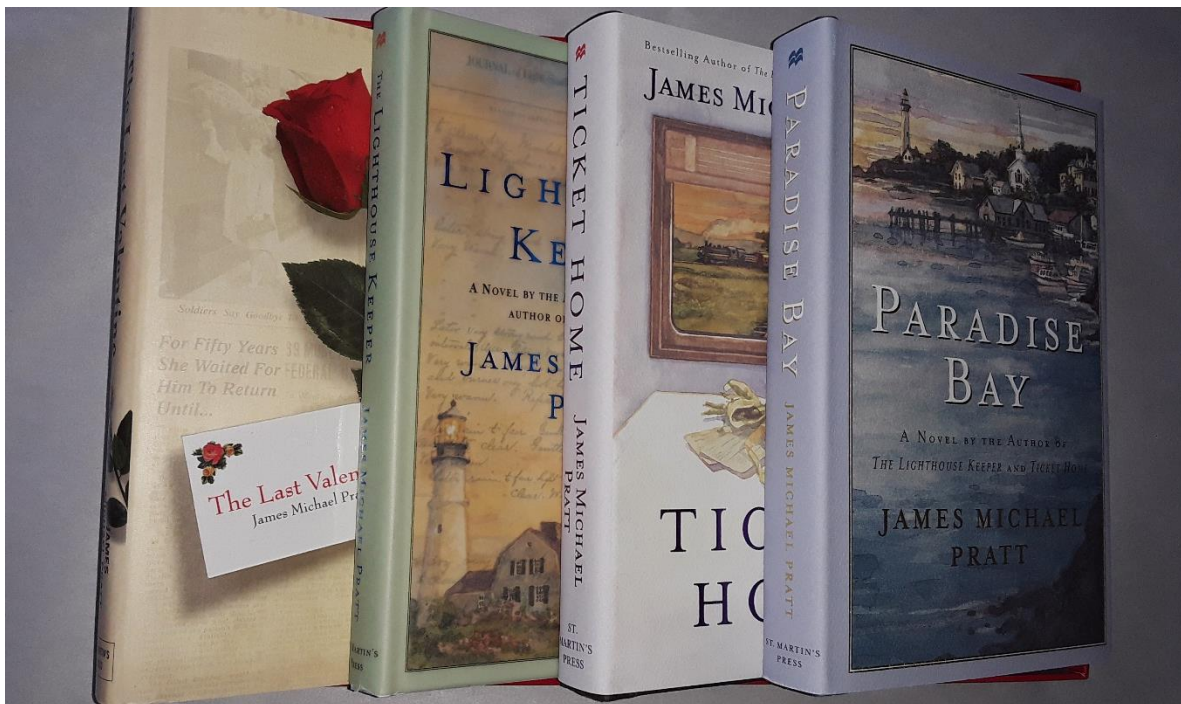


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JAMES MICHAEL PRATT



ORIGINAL BESTSELLER RIGHTS & NEW WORKS

A ten-book rights proposal should lead with what makes it promising for a publisher. Established brand name recognition, reader handselling, free publicity from a film company with ongoing showings of a major bestselling book-to-film project, new manuscripts, deep online roots for over two decades, a fan base asking for more; all support the value proposition presented in these pages.

Reversion of Valuable Rights

When an older voice becomes new, three things have likely happened: time has improved the communicator, a new audience hears him and his timeless messages for the first time, and patient devoted fans eagerly embrace new works.

For twenty-five years *THE LAST VALENTINE* has been selling worldwide to readers of historical romance. Now titled *The Lost Valentine*, since 2011 for the *Hallmark Hall of Fame*

and CBS *Movie of the Week* by the same name, millions of new story lovers have come to know of the author and his work.

When *The Lost Valentine* first premiered in 2011, *Hallmark* and CBS hit a record of 14.5 million viewers for the world event, performing 1st in viewership against all other televised broadcasts for the evening.

With regular replays many times each year since, millions more worldwide have come to adopt the Betty White main character and her story of love, loss, and final redemption as their favorite Valentine's Day love-story of all time. Movie fans began to seek copies of this and other Pratt titles.

From the *Hallmark* movie debut in 2011 to the present day the author did not have access to personally promote, autograph, or connect fans seeking affordable copies of the beloved story. With one 2011 mass-market printing of *The Lost Valentine* quickly selling out, passive interest in title printing, promotion, and sales followed from the publisher; to the surprise of many. Expensive print-on-demand trade paperbacks finally were made available on the publisher's website and at B&N online in 2014.

Fans of both the movie and the book continued to contact the author via his website seeking how to purchase copies of his novels. Pratt regularly answered inquiries from new and devoted fans seeking autographed copies of his backlist books with, "Coming soon."

Requests by the author to make *The Lost Valentine* and his other sought-after novels easily available for fans to find, resulted in the four original MacMillan novels to finally revert to the author in 2021. The author gratefully acknowledges St. Martin's Press' regards for his titles by making them available for global distribution once again.

Fans are passionately dedicated to this title. A reader expressed her devotion with:

“I just finished reading *The Last Valentine* for the 4th time and I love it! I am homebound and since Oct. 1990 I have read 1,215 books. It is #1 on my list! God bless you!” ~Vera Bradley

Print History

In the spirit of Pratt’s *New York Times* and *USA Today*’s bestselling novel, three additional historical romance novels in hard, soft, book club, international, audio and other rights followed *THE LAST VALENTINE* 1998 debut and have also reverted to the author. They are:

- THE LIGHTHOUSE KEEPER (2000)
- TICKET HOME (2001)
- PARADISE BAY (2002)

All four titles enjoyed Hardcover, Mass Market, Bookclub, Large Print, and Foreign Language printings. Audio and eBook editions followed.

BACKLIST VALUE & POTENTIAL

Because of the regular replay and ongoing future exposure to millions worldwide by the Hallmark Channel, *The Lost Valentine*, and accompanying history-romance backlist may yet experience hundreds of thousands in book sales through collaborative marketing and promotion of each title with the others in this proposal.

Serving as an anchor for all other offered works, the movie recognition creates an ongoing platform for new readership in the timeless historical, romance, and inspiration categories offered by James Michael Pratt.

Called “A master of moral fiction,” by *Booklist*, Pratt’s audience is worldwide with his top bestsellers translated into various languages. His fans have reached out from the United Kingdom, Scandinavia, the Netherlands, Italy, Germany, France, Hungary and other European

nations. Australia, the Philippines, Asia, India, Pakistan, the Middle East, Latin America, Africa, and of course from all over North America, fans have written to thank the author for his works, expressing a desire for more.

“Dear Mr. Pratt, I found your book *The Last Valentine* in an antique store here in Texas! It has touched my heart! God has truly given you a gift for feeling a woman’s desire to be totally and unconditionally loved by a man! Thank you!!!!” ~Debra Rodenburgh

“Mr. Pratt, I just finished reading *Paradise Bay*. I have never been so moved. I cried my eyes out the last three chapters. You are the newest author on my "must read" list of books. I can't wait to read your other books. Please keep writing these wonderful books. GOD BLESS YOU and your wonderful work!” ~Jenny Figueron

“Hi my name is Momi Tong. I'm 15 and live in Hawaii. Your book was the only book I couldn't put down. Your book was the only book I ever in my life finish with passion and love. I bought your book at a book sale. Not knowing that it would take me places that I’ve never dream of going, my happiness soon turned to sadness when my sister mistaken the book as trash. Now all I've got is a dream and hope to run into your book one day again. But I was hoping if you could send me a copy of it. If it's not a trouble. If you can't then I understand and just want you to know that down here in Hawaii in the middle of the sea I read your book; and so did my friends. Thank you for taking the time to read my letter...Sorry if I took up any of your time.”
Kindly yours ~ Momi Tong

Momi did get an autographed hardcover first edition from the author’s personal inventory for her sweet and touching email.

The Audience

The primary audience is the female reader. Fans reaching out have offered their ages including those from ages 11-90. Each novel, written with carefully researched historical

elements and settings, is portrayed through the eyes of present-day protagonists reaching back in time to deal with something lost. Combining love, loss, romance, and history has appealed to a wider readership as well, including males of military age from the present through seniors who have served. Reader's comments, found in the addendum to this proposal and at the author's website, attest to the wide audience demographics in age and gender. From a 31-year-old:

Facebook Message February 1, 2022

“Hi Mr. Pratt! When I was 11-years-old I won a copy of *The Lighthouse Keeper* from a radio station. That started my collection of getting all your books. I even got your Christmas cards in the mail at our apartment for years until we moved and your cards were lost when I was 20. I felt like I was so important because you would send me Christmas cards. I showed all my friends at school every year. I was always a someone to you even if you didn't know me and that helped me at multiple times. Thanks for the years of Christmas cards!” ~ S Marie Hawk

A professional counselor and new reader of *The Lost Valentine* wrote on April 7, 2022:

“I have just finished reading your book, *The Lost Valentine* and I was particularly moved as I work with our veterans, facilitating retreats for those who have been diagnosed with Post Traumatic Stress. On pages 92-94, you described perfectly what I teach the vets: *Moral Wounding*. In all the psych books and workshops, I've attended, I have not found such a poignant description.

“The reason I am writing you is to say “Thank You!” I will use your words during my teaching about moral wounding. I have a retreat starting in May and have already changed my format to include your words in my lecture, which of course reference to you.

“Again - just wanted to say thank you and that actually your words will help veterans to begin to understand and heal. I am curious - are you a veteran?”

Lin Daley, Director,
National Veterans Wellness and Healing Center
Angel Fire
New Mexico

Over the years veterans with wartime experience have praised Pratt's works for authenticity and thoroughness including asking if he had served in World War Two or Vietnam. Female readers have commented on understanding their husband, father, brother, or grandfather's military experiences for the first time. A World War Two veteran offered this at the release of *Ticket Home*:

"Mr. Pratt: I was in 6th Infantry Division, in Luzon in 1945, and met some of the men who were rescued from Cabanatuan POW camp. Their tales are similar to yours, about the Death March, and prison treatment. I was in Division Headquarters, G-2 section, so I got insights on the enemy cruelty. Thanks so much for the book!" ~Charles F. Hanks

A Coast Guard veteran offered:

"I just finished *The Lighthouse Keeper*. A wonderful story. The cover drew my attention away from Clancy, Koontz, K. Mills, Cobb, P. Robinson military, espionage-action-adventure novels I usually read. Being a former lighthouse technician, and instructor of automated lighthouse maintenance for the Coast Guard, I have a special fondness for lighthouses. I was surprised to find so much 'action' in the story. You did an outstanding job of capturing my interest from cover to cover. I will definitely recommend this book to friends and family. (I can't wait to watch my wife cry through the last chapters.) Keep up the good work." ~Brian Kelley USCG Retired.

Reigniting a Loyal Fan Base and Reaching out to New Readers

Now we have just gone through 20 years of a global war on terror. Even children have grown up in the shadow of military conflict and understand that it is a real part of many lives. Our country never experienced wars in which fathers were followed 20 years later by sons who served in their footsteps on foreign battlefields. With the combined emotions of family members, romances, and a yearning for peace that those experiences lead to, we now have a huge number

of aging and young veterans who continue to suffer from PTS-Post Traumatic Stress, including the author's brother, disabled from his Vietnam War years. Pratt's novels, intended to entertain and inspire, have offered compensative thoughts for those who have suffered.

Our world is in crisis. Timeless ideals of love, hope, and redemption offer the readers worldwide what they need in times of difficulty and danger. The author understands this intimately from his own crisis experiences in health, family, volunteer service in a desperately poor foreign country, and at home in California working in federal and local law enforcement.

Our world faces times of uncertainty, war, natural disasters, pandemics, and destruction of hope and love in ways no other generation has experienced. Now with more global connectivity than we have ever known, the author with good health and renewed commitment is reaching out with hard earned wisdom to make a difference in reader's lives.

Hearing from fans for 25 years now, the author has been made aware of reader desires to escape to other times and places; even if for just a few hours.

"Mr. Pratt – I am a Viet Nam Veteran. I just read and enjoyed your book *Paradise Bay*. The facts of history of that era seemed correct. Very nice story and was glad to see everybody win. Thanks for the excellent escape from the Atlanta, Ga. traffic to a sweet story in Paradise Bay, CA." ~Carl S. Jackson

"Mr. Pratt – I am a journalist writing news/sports/features for a small daily newspaper in Arizona. Just got through reading *Ticket Home*. An outstanding piece of work. It took me all of two days to finish. It was hard to put down. I'll be purchasing your first two books shortly. I am a fan of Nicholas Sparks' work and found through something written that you were compared to books written by him. His latest, *The Rescue* got a little sappy at times, but was good nevertheless. However, *Ticket Home* is in a league of its own. Thank you for writing such a wonderful book." Sincerely ~ Marty Shevelove

“Mr. Pratt – I have just finished reading *Paradise Bay*. I am stunned and amazed at the plot and joyous and teary-eyed at the ending. NO story has ever moved me such as this one. I am an avid reader, averaging 6 books a week...and YOU Mr. Pratt have topped ALL I’ve read in eighty years! I am looking forward to finding more of your books. Most sincerely...” ~ Rose A. Cragen

From a formerly suicidal 15-year-old in Indiana who wrote the author to thank him for the hope found in *The Lighthouse Keeper*, to a 17-year-old woman trapped in an aged 80-year-old body in Philadelphia, the novels all mean something different yet also carry a familiarity of common humanness that says to the heart, “I am not alone.”

From lands of civil unrest and turmoil, as a fan described her Yemen’s civil war-torn country, and grateful to be freed from the darkness for just a few hours reading *The Lighthouse Keeper*, to the heartbroken soul in Argentina whose boyfriend died in a military action with the UK decades ago, characters like Caroline Thomas of *The Lost Valentine* helped them heal wounds of the heart and memory.

The right books still find their way to readers willing to be lost in a journey they could not take otherwise.

“Dear Mr. Pratt, the waiting list at last count for *Ticket Home* is 182! Being such a small library and Utica such an old town we have a lot of elderly people that use the library. They are always looking for a nice clean book to read. So, I start them off with *The Last Valentine*, and they always come back and ask for more of your books so I give them *The Lighthouse Keeper*. Now they are waiting for *Ticket Home*! I just started reading *Ticket Home* again!! My son wants to read it after me so we can discuss it!” ~Debby Whittet

It is time to reengage with these wonderful readers and others who have similar tastes. The fans keep coming, continuing their contact with the author, and now with the books they

have enjoyed and continue to hand-sell to others, it is time to make them available through professionally managed publishing.

It is also fitting that the audience for so many of Pratt's former novels may be introduced to two new manuscripts at this time, which include military protagonists seeking love and peace, as found in this proposal: *IN LOVE* and *WHEN THE LAST LEAF FALLS*.

NEW NOVELS

Two titles held back from private publishing by Pratt for the present offer are included for the consideration of major publishing. They are, *IN LOVE* and *WHEN THE LAST LEAF FALLS*. A synopsis and pitch for each follow.



Titled *IN LOVE*, a present-day romance is set during Christmas holidays at an obscure Wyoming highway crossroads known by the locals as the Love Ranch.

Jake Monson, a 38-year-old recently retired Special Forces Army veteran, seeks answers and peace for his empty and traumatized life after 20 years of warfare. Nagging him are ghosts of

the many men he loved as brothers. One in particular, his best friend from youth and Army comrade since they were both 18-year-old recruits, lives with him daily.

He is now on his way to make the long overdue visit to Bill Dawes' grave and family in Star Valley, Wyoming; their boyhood hometown. Jake knows that events outside of his control are pushing him into uncharted territory, as war and the business of it have been all he has known since leaving Wyoming as a teenage Army recruit. He also senses that the healing he requires will come if he just pushes as hard as he did as a soldier. He can't explain it, but unseen hands seem to be reassuring him; just as real as his friend Bill's hand was in reaching out over a wall to save him in combat years ago.

When unexpected injury leaves him stranded in stranger's hands on a Christmas Eve like no other, he begins a journey of hope. What he discovers on a stormy Christmas Eve when blinding snow and an unforeseen accident stops him on a lonely stretch of rural highway, is Rachel Love Strong, a beautiful woman inheriting the three-generation owned Love Ranch who had—until then—no intention of rescuing anyone.

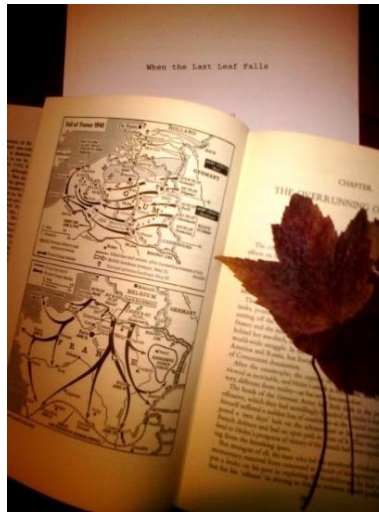
Rachel, a successful Los Angeles catering company owner, thinks she is home for Christmas to settle a ranch sale and final family affairs after her mother's death. Instead, she finds the real purpose of her companionless and unsatisfied life in Love as she rediscovers values she had tried to run from for years.

And there is an aged ranch manager, Daniel Echohawk, the voice and narrator of the Love story. With a terminal illness, Dan gradually becomes aware—with the help of a stranger simply known as "William" who appears suddenly onto the scene—that he holds the untold truths to the place's real history, the easing of pain in his heart, and the key to Jake and Rachel's future happiness.

Now Daniel Echohawk must keep a promise made to Rachel's deceased mother to share the Love Ranch long-held secrets kept from Rachel. With mere days to live, little does Dan know that his helping to rescue Jake from freezing temperatures in an over-turned vehicle near the ranch entrance, will not only help both Rachel and Jake find the one thing missing from their lives, but also help him to settle the traumas of his own life. And, while building the fires of love in his heart for Rachel's mother "Missy," even more than he ever could have imagined, Daniel Echohawk reveals elements of Rachel's family history in a surprising way neither could have known without this converging event of Jake's arrival.

And then there is William, the stranger. Who is he? And, does his quiet influence have a major role to play in the eventful Christmas week?

As Dan Echohawk wraps up his own final business of life, Rachel and Jake find the meaning for their lives as Dan reveals some things that allows his soul to be at peace. In what can only be described as a Christmas story of unexpected miracles, magic, and healing, there is a reader journey to begin, *IN LOVE*.



Just as those of us from the seventy-five million “baby boom” generation may recount our parent’s war histories, a son narrates the heartwarming story of loss, rebirth, and second chances for both himself and his aged father in *WHEN THE LAST LEAF FALLS*.

In a chance meeting with a veteran of World War Two at Normandy, France on June 6, 2004, James Michael Pratt became fast friends with the late Howie Beach, veteran of D-Day, and in 1944 an unexperienced eighteen-year-old soldier in the 9th Infantry Division. Pratt soon found himself editing the veteran’s war memoirs, *The Secret War of Howie Beach*. From it was born the idea for the fiction work — a final “Hoorah” for a beloved generation.

The reader follows an American father and son, and a French mother and daughter, on an unlikely journey when Shenandoah Valley, Virginia farmer, Howie Anderson comes to final grips with his World War Two losses and a secret he had been ashamed to reveal before and after the recent death of his wife Alice. Trauma that are both real and are of the mind, are visited as his widower son Steven takes him back to the places he knew as a teenage infantryman.

Both realize that wartime stress also plays a role in their dilemma to find mental and emotional peace. The final father and son trip should be epic, Steven realizes, as he plans an elaborate itinerary to help his aging hero father come to peace with the losses of war. He also hopes by doing so his own wounds of losing his wife, Mary Jean, may become healed as well.

An aged French woman Marie Alderette – once married to a young American soldier who had saved her during the war – kept the marriage secret from her children until now by order of her recently deceased and abusive husband, Pierre.

Pierre had created an elaborate ruse during the war to win Marie's hand by concocting a telegram announcing her American husband's death during the December 1944 "Battle of the Bulge." He also created a fictitious telegram to the American soldier telling her that Marie had died from American military mistakes as she traveled to Paris to look for him.

Marie now seeks to bury her love for the American with a visit to his grave, taking the tokens they once gave to each other—an oak leaf from under the tree where they married and a photo of brief happiness during the chaotic days of war—to leave upon it. Her daughter Jeannette discovers the love story and is determined to help her mother become the young woman from 1944 again, if only for a day.

What happens when the American and French lover's present and past lives collide unexpectedly at an American Military Cemetery in Belgium, becomes a magical story of second chances.

As Howie Anderson's son Steven narrates his reluctant father's hero journey, we discover that healing and love never come too late, and may blossom once again in the most mysterious ways *WHEN THE LAST LEAF FALLS*.

SELLING BESTSELLER BACKLISTS with NEW WORKS



Along with collaborative reprint sales of his widely sold bestsellers, *The Lost Valentine*, *The Lighthouse Keeper*, *Ticket Home*, and *Paradise Bay*, incentives to get to know additional James Michael Pratt works through new stories could be considered by a rights buyer.

New author works can synergistically be marketed to those global fans of not only the *Hallmark Hall of Fame* movie, but just as S. Marie Hawk remembers, the other Pratt books that touched fans lives in enduring ways these past two decades. In a short period of time the publisher may be able to cross promote Pratt’s four popular backlist novels with other new titles currently available for publishing.

Pratt not only contemplates special editions with notes and commentary to accompany each work re-offered to the world, but will be offering “free reads” at his website to engage readers curiosity and love for reading. Each new novel may highlight “Free Chapters” from each prior James Michael Pratt novel with special offers for their purchase.

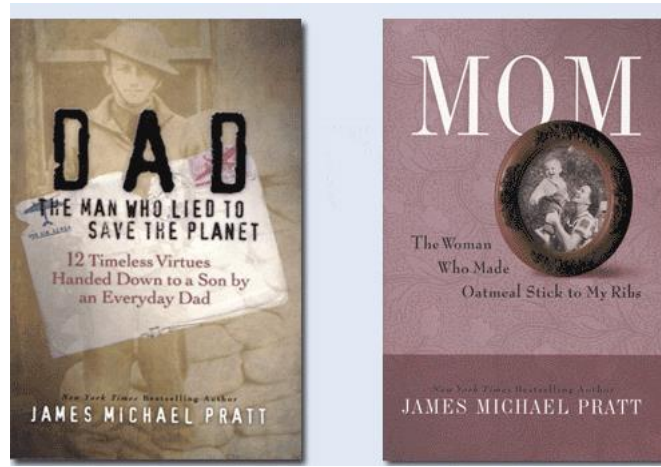
As his website will show, he has been busy creating new historical romance, inspirational fiction and non-fiction manuscripts for present and future publishing consideration.

It's a new world since Pratt's backlist were penned. The opportunity to creatively publish, distribute, create specials, link to appropriate holidays, and synergistically sell new stories and other category works we believe readers will like, has never been more promising.

INSPIRATION CATEGORY FICTION AND NON-FICTION

Along with the aforementioned major titles, two privately held James Michael Pratt titles not seen since the mid-2000's sold in limited 5,000 hardcover print runs respectively, and have become available for a return to the marketplace.

Memoirs & Inspiration Category Non-Fiction



Revised with additional material not seen since original limited hardcover publishing dates in 2003 and 2004, the author offers these evergreen non-fiction works in all formats.

When memoirs combine with actual storytelling that inspires personal growth, such as Mitch Albom's 23-week *New York Times* Bestseller List *Tuesdays with Morrie* (2000), readers

may find a pleasant and unexpected journey offering a view into a world of timeless traditions and values.

Pratt's regional bestselling memoirs by Shadow Mountain, a Deseret Book imprint, sold the 5000 hardcopy copies of each title in just 40 stores total in 2003 and 2004 respectively. Shared eBook rights have kept them listed by Deseret Book since 2014 (\$14.45 on Amazon and on their own site) without any promotion since. Pratt kept the paperback and audio rights in his original contract and now has not only the right to sell in eBook but in original hardcover and paperback for revised editions containing proprietary bonus material.

Paperbacks have never been sold nationwide, either online or in brick-and-mortar retail, and as such would be new to the reading world in 2022 and beyond. Limited Edition Hardcovers could be combined as a two-in-one, or sold for Mother's and Father's Day separately as gift copies. Expanding the audience for a novelist makes sense, especially if it is cost effective to do so as the author engages the public in podcast, blogs, and social media efforts.

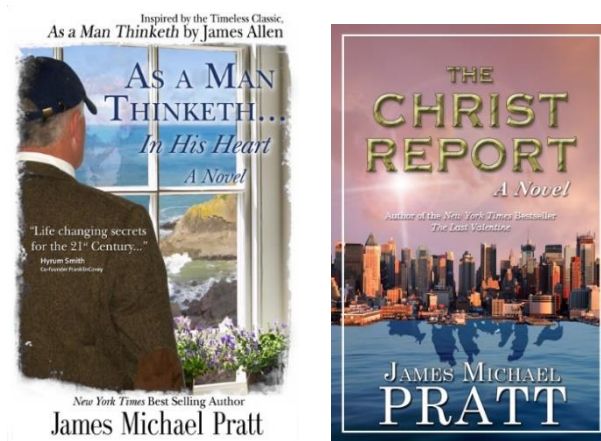
Offered as part of this proposal, the honor given to a great generation of parents include stories of humor, wisdom, faith, and touching moments of growing up in a household of nine children during the post-World War Two years in Southern California. Author and film producer Kenneth J. Atchity commented:

"For anyone who admits to having forgotten the important things in life, James Michael Pratt and his *DAD, The Man Who Lied to Save the Planet* are here to remind you."

Bestselling authors and family and marriage counselors Gary and Joy Lundberg offered:

“If you enjoyed *Tuesdays with Morrie* as we did years ago, you’re going to love, *MOM, The Woman Who Made Oatmeal Stick to My Ribs*, a book packed with wisdom, not just for mothers but for everyone.”

Inspiration Category Fiction



A Case for the Inspiration Genre

Author James Michael Pratt sees his historical based romance fiction as essentially inspirational in sweep and scope. Without hitting the reader over the head, he seeks to leave the booklover with a lasting impression about our common history, the values of the main characters, and all the vagaries of life including tragedy, loss, and dreams which finally bring redemption and resolution to lives dramatically portrayed.

Pratt was inspired by many novels and non-fiction works in his youth, which ultimately informed and influenced his writing style and way of thinking to this day. He has said, “What musical scores are to movies, inspiration genre writing may also be to books.” A bold statement, but imagine what the heart has to say of a touching movie without orchestral melody, harmony, and beat.

When Emerson said, “No tears in the writer, no tears in the reader,” he understood that words carry power and meaning. Pratt feels that for words to touch the reader’s heart they must also sing to it. Inspirational storytelling, though softer in style, is easy on the ears but does not need to be sappy. If a person sheds tears while reading something in words an author has crafted, the novel has touched the heart in a way carefully composed musical scores often do. A connection with the melody and words reminds the audience of their own lives, histories, loves, and losses. Emotion then, is heartfelt and natural.

The author was once told by an agent hoping to sell his titles to the film industry: “Jim Hollywood does not want soft love stories.” Pratt replied, “Love is *not* hard.” The eleven-year run of the Hallmark worldwide hit *The Lost Valentine*, with now tens of millions of fans, validates that simple claim.

Not everyone will enjoy “soft,” or what seems overly sentimental. That’s okay. But James Pratt does not shy away from including the truth of harder stuff in his novels; reality as palpable as the beating and broken heart resulting from difficulties found in life.

The Lost Valentine, *The Lighthouse Keeper*, *Ticket Home*, *Paradise Bay*, exposed the grittiness of war and the dark side of conflict in order to allow the character arc needed to make the protagonists real to us. Pratt’s new novels offered in this proposal do likewise. Real world intrigues, romance, historical accuracy depicting violence and the terrors that accompany it, may all be covered, just as the bestselling book of all time has done.

Inspiration category writing may be viewed as everything from that Gutenberg Press first run Bible in 1455 – from the mystical to adult content, wars, wisdom teachings, heroes, villains, dogma, and gentleness – to current day bestselling mainstream and faith-fiction, along with the ubiquitous personal growth and success non-fiction reads.

Influences

Pratt was heavily influenced in his early years by authors who combined fiction with personal growth. Og Mandino was a leader in this style, whose series of novels, beginning with *The Greatest Salesman in the World* (1968), sold over 50 million copies from the 1960s through the present.

Straight forward non-fiction authors such as early 20th century philosopher-thinker James Allen, offered the world a timeless fifty page multi-million copy selling masterpiece, *As a Man Thinketh* (1904). It spread around the world through self-published copies shipped from his basement on 33 Broad Park Ave. in Ilfracombe-Devonshire, England as depicted in this image of the author with the current homeowner giving him a tour. The book continues to sell well today.



In a break from straight historical romance fiction mixed inspiration qualities, James spent a couple years penning the following:

AS A MAN THINKETH...IN HIS HEART

“*As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he.*” ~*Book of Proverbs*

James Pratt will often state how his mother gave him a self-help book to read in his 18th year. His path was one of self-serving and unfocused directions; not at all out of sync with his contemporaries of that day.

The wisdom of that book, *As a Man Thinketh* by James Allen, carried Pratt through life to this day and marked a turning point in his young happy-go-lucky, California beach-going, and pleasure-seeking life. Allen’s metaphors of the mind as a garden, and assurance that “thoughts are things” are well known and widely read among all who have explored success, motivational, or personal growth literature.

In *As a Man Thinketh... In His Heart*, Pratt plays protagonist as one of his early literary influences, author Og Mandino did in three of his bestselling novels. He weaves a tale of traveling to England to research for his next romance novel not expecting to become the house guest of one of the most influential authors of personal growth and inspiration of all time, James Allen of Ilfracombe, in Devonshire.

In both USA and UK settings the author finds himself in a journey where time melts and where a literary ghost and his contemporaries from the past become determined to deliver to a noisy and distracted present-day world new information required for personal growth and happiness.

Inspired by Og Mandino’s page turning and entertaining approach found in *The Greatest Secret in the World* Pratt becomes the protagonist-storyteller in similar first-person voice. The bonus included in Pratt’s novel is the public domain book, *As a Man Thinketh*, by James Allen.

In an entertaining way to bring old and simple truths to life, the reader must determine if Pratt is right about his mystical journey and the secrets for a better life found in Ilfracombe,

England. By the end, the reader will at least smile at a playful approach to basic personal growth truths brought to life in *As a Man Thinketh... In His Heart*.

THE CHRIST REPORT

The Christ Report offers two love stories running simultaneous; one ancient as seen through the eyes of a 2,000-year-old Bethlehem businessman – the most vilified innkeeper of all time – and the other in the present day; a stress-filled New York radio and television personality. Both are in love with women who want to help them but aren't sure how to do so. When time blends past with the present, for their sakes and for love to save them from disastrous destinies, they must meet seemingly impossible tasks from a 1st Century Roman known as Cornelius.

Each must report back to a present-day world – one exploding with chaos and dissent from ancient wisdom – what they experience as time dissolves, and each needs the other to pull it off. How they do this will become known to the world of the present day as *The Christ Report*.

The Christ Report is entertainment. It is not meant to be a moralizing tome nor must it be represented through a Christian only perspective. It is a love story meant for all. It is a tale of two destinies and two roads; one from Jerusalem in 33 A.D. to a village called Emmaus, and one from Central Park to Midtown Manhattan in the present. It is a timeless and magical tale of finding hope and redemption appealing to the fan base for two of the greatest stories of all time, as delivered in the principal bestseller of all time; the Bible.

As such, the story is evergreen, fresh, and timely for an audience in the billions worldwide who love their faiths, and revere the protagonist of their two main joy-filled holidays; Christmas and Easter.

AUTHOR HISTORY



James Michael Pratt enjoys twenty-five years of deeply embedded search engine results for his name, author brand, sales, reader comments, and professional title reviews. All results of book sales, other data, as well as reviews, are available online through industry resources.

At a pre-launch of the official *Grand Opening* version of www.jamesmichaelpratt.com, the [ABOUT](#) page explores the author's life in a conversational, authentic, and transparent manner. James Michael Pratt's writing and personal history is also delivered in PDF Press Release style at the same page.

Influences, interests, his youth, and even physical disability challenges which created an unexpected pause in publishing are transparently explored at his website to offer inspiration to readers. An audio link titled [BACKSTORY](#) gives a glimpse into Pratt's recent decade-long absence from publishing but also offers a preview of coming podcast delivery style and voice.

During down time for family and personal wellness issues, Pratt wrote four additional novels. With his film-maker brother Rex J. Pratt, he also produced a war documentary starring actual US Marines during two tours on the front lines, titled *Between Iraq and a Hard Place*.

With three of those Marines now deceased after suffering from PTS, it makes the case for all of Pratt's novels being even more poignant and timely.

Pratt's "normal" of fifty years drove him to continually create; this despite taking some years off from promoting for personal family, spinal health, and healing issues. He did not cease writing or connecting with fans during what he says may appear to some as a 'disappearing act' as he cites in the "About" page at his website. Even while healing with home fires lit, readers continued to find his works and relate what occurred as they read them. Recent fan acclaim includes these:

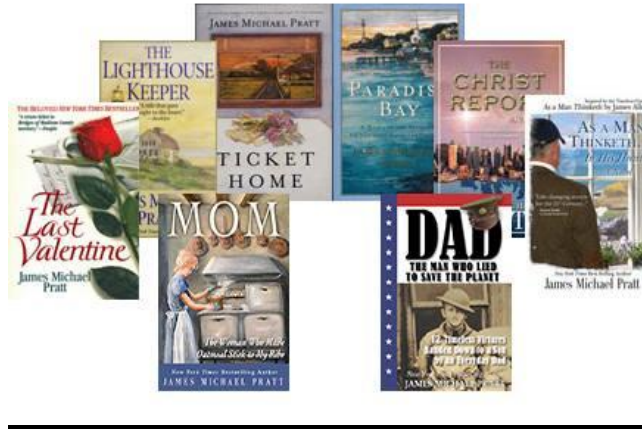
"Dear Mr. Pratt: Wow!!! I have read both *The Last Valentine* and *Paradise Bay* in one day each. I cried, I laughed, and I prayed...I have recommended them to many people for encouragement. Thank you for your wonderful books!" -Linda Peraldo

"Mr. Pratt, I just wanted to write and tell you how much our book club here in Webster SD enjoyed your book *The Last Valentine* after watching the Hallmark movie. We followed it with *The Lighthouse Keeper*. After reviewing both books there was not a dry eye in the room. Thank you so much for your writing. How may we obtain copies of your work? ~Sincerely Joy Kragen

Joy and her book club received gift copies of four of Pratt's works from his personal inventory, also directing them to his new website, where a limited number of original out-of-print hardcovers kept in reserve for 20 years by the author can be purchased.

A synopsis of each book published to date and author works in progress is available at the [BOOKS](#) page. Each book now listed will be re-directed to the sales and stores of a future rights purchaser. The author's ongoing personal touch with fans and their generous comments can also be found at his website at [READER COMMENTS](#) pages.

RIGHTS OFFER & MARKETABILITY



James Michael Pratt represents his own titles in this first promotion of four book rights to major publishing since reversion of the MacMillan's SMP imprint bestsellers to the author in late 2021. In addition to these, four privately held works along with two new manuscripts are immediately available, making 10 books in total offered for consideration.

Pratt is developing additional fiction and non-fiction titles in anticipation of future publishing between 2022 and 2030's as displayed at the BOOKS page of his website.

It is the author's opinion that a purchaser of backlist rights may anticipate immediate sales due to demand which world familiarity with the widely broadcast *Hallmark Hall of Fame* story of *The Last Valentine* offers.

Coordinated backlist promotion of Pratt's reverted titles may also create immediate and sustained sales for new published titles. In all, 6 seasoned works for reprint and 4 new titles offer the relaunch of well-regarded and established author presence in the marketplace a considerable and ready-made value proposition for a major publisher.

The following venues have already experienced positive sales and continue to seek seasoned works as solicited by readers:

Public and Private Libraries

Libraries have exhausted their original copies of Pratt-SMP works and have relied upon POD at retail since original printings ceased. Pratt's private label printings ceased to be available since 2007. Libraries have shown enthusiasm over the years for Pratt's titles as contact with the author and reader comments indicate. The brand has been deeply established in public and private libraries and should be easily welcomed back with available copies of Pratt's novels and non-fiction.

Book Clubs

Doubleday, as well as other large commercial book clubs, offered the author's titles as "Main Selections" and succeeded well with all original James Michael Pratt book releases. Those book clubs still active today, may also wish to reintroduce the reprint titles to their loyal audience. In addition, private community book clubs across America have shown an interest in romance, history, and inspiration category works. Many have connected with the author, and have become hand-selling fans.

Online Stores & Brick and Mortar Opportunity

Because MacMillan imprint SMP, made just one mass market reprint of *The Lost Valentine* in 2011 to coordinate with the *Hallmark Hall of Fame* and CBS movie event, a relaunch of combined titles for catalogue purposes may be made with freshness and updates.

Because of fan and author encouragement, POD copies of each Pratt-SMP title were finally created for the publisher's website with a Kindle eBook format by 2014 at Amazon. B&N online was later added as a source for POD sales.

This tepid past interest may be exploited in a positive way with Pratt titles given a well-announced rebirth and marketed in coordination with distribution of new works in the many high profile store locations now available across the web.

Accenting "free reads" in promotions, may also encourage the past and a present reader base to consider the ten-book offering Pratt and his publisher makes.

Retail stores may be offered soft cover titles in mass market, trade, through POD or traditional print runs, with special Book Bin display packages using *The Lost Valentine* as the anchor book for the re-introduction of the author and his collection of historical, romantic and inspirational works to the marketplace.

Well placed internet web pages offering "*Free Book Chapters from Bestselling Author James Michael Pratt*" may also be located throughout the search engines to ensure new readership are led to sites where they may purchase Pratt's backlist and new novels and non-fiction.

PROPOSAL SUMMATION

The James Michael Pratt author brand carries an intrinsic value through decades of established online name recognition. His works continue to show strong appeal and are sought out by readers thanks in part to *Hallmark Hall of Fame's* ongoing support for *The Lost Valentine*. A newness applied in promotions, attached to this story beloved by millions, is capable of producing sales for years to come.

The author begins engaging the public from his website Book Club, the *Straight from the Heart* Podcast recordings, and social media outreaches in the Fall of 2022, with a **Grand Opening** of his website in October. The relaunch effort will be multi-year in scope. Any announcement of a major publishing alliance in this relaunch will allow the author to direct the public to sales sites accordingly.

Specials, appearances, and interviews may be woven in the fabric of publicity using a tie-in to *The Lost Valentine* Hallmark movie and book fame. An amplifying effect on profitability due to an evergreen book-to-film association may occur by having seasoned bestseller reprints available over the course of several years, as new James Michael Pratt novels are announced.

With a positive view toward the future, author James Michael Pratt now offers rights past and present, not only to his bestselling books, but also included are the Film Rights, as listed at his website. Any original contracts and reversion rights documentation for legal and publishing requirements are available for review by interested parties. The author invites the proposal reader to visit www.jamesmichaelpratt.com for a comprehensive look at his life, seasoned literary works and present offers.

ADDENDUM

Contact Information:

James Michael Pratt

jamesmpratt@gmail.com

Reader Comments Sample

Dear Mr. Pratt -- It is now mid-night, the witching-hour, and I just finished reading *The Last Valentine* for the 6th time! Yes, I cried my eyes out again, at the most beautiful love story I have ever read! Everyone from 16 years old and up should read this story! ~Helen Mulholland

I have read a few hundred books over the years, including the Pulitzer Prize Winning "Lonesome Dove." In my mind, *Ticket Home* should win a Pulitzer as well. Now it's time to pass this book along to others who will love it too. Thanks Again! ~Mike Riley

There are a few authors who can create characters that make you feel like you know them personally. Charles Martin and James Michael Pratt are two of those. ~Larry J. McGarr

Dear Mr. Pratt - I first wrote to you when I was a 12-year-old in middle school to tell you how much *The Last Valentine* had affected my way of thinking about love and life. It is the first and only book that's brought tears of sadness and joy. Thank you for your masterpiece! I read it 7 times! I'm now at Boston College and will be graduating next year. I see that *The Last Valentine* will finally be made into a movie. I just wanted to congratulate you. I can't wait for the movie! ~Grace Huang

As a big Nicholas Sparks fan, I posted a message on a board asking for author suggestions of similar stories. Your name was the response I received. I just finished *The Lighthouse Keeper* a few moments ago! I am still tearing up at what a great story that was. Thank you for the hours of enjoyment added to my life. ~Jennifer Goldstein

Dear Mr. Pratt - We have the habit of finding good authors and reading everything they write. You have joined a special club at our house with your three novels. Tom Clancy, Dale Brown, and John Grisham are three of the modern-day writers in this category. My wife hopes you are working on book #4 and that it is not too long in coming. Keep up the good work! ~Gerald Bolen

Just wanted you to know that I gave an oral review of *The Last Valentine* the other day at our book club and there wasn't a dry eye in the room by the time I finished. You sure do have a way of telling a love story. Thanks for writing as you do. ~Georgina Tacconi

Dear Mr. Pratt, I just finished reading *Ticket Home*. You are one of my favorite authors, some of the others being John Grisham, Richard Paul Evans, and Nicholas Sparks. Thank you for your wonderful books. ~Robert Paddock

Hi Mr. Pratt - I just wanted to tell you, that I just finished reading *Ticket Home* with tears in my eyes. It was wonderful! Keep up the good work. Can't wait for your next novel. God bless you! ~Joey Bravo

Just finished *Ticket Home*. Beautiful, moving, sensitive, human, moral! Out tomorrow to purchase *The Last Valentine* and *The Lighthouse Keeper*. Don't stop now! We need more writers like yourself. God bless and 'Keep the faith.' ~Gloria Smith

Mr. Pratt, I am an avid reader who lauds outstanding writers – especially you, Nicholas Sparks, Richard Paul Evans, Francine Rivers, and Jan Karon – to my small circle of friends, but I have been remiss in letting the authors know. This is my first letter in an attempt to correct that. I do consider you a blessing to readers and humanity as you personify 'love, kindness, and the gentle nature of true manhood.' I hope that you will be able to inspire us with many more books. You have made a great contribution to mankind. ~Betty Boynton

Greetings Mr. Pratt, Last week I visited my favorite book shop. It has a selection of fine literary fiction. My goal is to discover a good writer who also is a gifted storyteller. I found *Ticket Home*

and fulfilled that wish. I finished it last night in the wee hours with the fireplace glowing, classical music playing, and my kitten asleep on my lap. Life just doesn't get any better except it was hard to stay awake in my clinic today. Thanks for a wonderful novel! ~Dr. John McCord

Just sending you my highest praise to the "best author" I've read this year and for as far back as I can remember. I'm a retiree in Florida for 21 years and enjoy reading as my #1 pastime. God bless you, James Michael Pratt, for pulling off the "Best Writer of the Year Award" from me. And please put out more in the near future, or I shall be sad and will be spending some time praying for more inspiration to come through from you to me and others in the same boat. Sincerely ~Dorothy Baseheart, Port Richey, Fl.

I have just finished your truly wonderful book, "*Ticket Home.*" It is hard to believe that you were not there with us in that horrible War, your verbal picture is nearly perfect. I am 80 years old and the memories were beginning to fade. However, the book allows me to live it all again, as if it were only yesterday. ~Kay Penrod

I just got through reading *The Lighthouse Keeper* and I was so touched by it that I am going out tonight and buy the books that you have written. I thought you'd like to know this is coming from the other side of the world, Guam.... Keep writing!" ~Fe Mendiola

Dear Mr. Pratt -- Well, I've been reading for over 35 years (ever since a little girl) and I have never been compelled to write to an author before now. I just finished your book entitled, *The Lighthouse Keeper* and just wanted you to know how much I enjoyed it. It was so full of hope and life. Thank you so much for sharing this beautiful book. I will definitely pass it along. We all have tragedies in our life, but if we maintain steadfast in His love, there is always hope. Thanks again! ~Kay Jensen

I bought *The Last Valentine* and read it in one sitting. Thank you for writing books with so much meaning and emotion in them. After reading your books I think about the characters and their lives for days afterwards. *The Lighthouse Keeper* made me want to go stand on the shores of the Atlantic and look out to sea. Please write another book! ~Maureen Bankes

Mr. Pratt – Hello. My name is Samantha Silva. I live in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. You are my favorite author. I am right now awaiting your next book *Paradise Bay*. I think you are a very inspirational writer and you make people like me take a realistic look at life. I am truly grateful that we have you to inspire and make people feel good about themselves when reading your novels. As a young poetry writer, I thank you for being my inspiration and I hope you will continue to write more meaningful novels. ~Samantha Silva

I have recently read *The Lighthouse Keeper* for the second time. I loved it and am eagerly awaiting *Ticket Home*. I have read *The Last Valentine* now three times in two different copies, the hardcover and the mass market paperback. I completely enjoy reading all of your books! ~Diana Law

I just finished reading *Ticket Home*. WOW! I had tears streaming down my face. So moving! It was very hard to put down. Keep on writing. I am one of your biggest fans. ~Nancy Millsap

Mr. Pratt; I just finished the final page of *Ticket Home*. What a work of art! I could not put it down for anything. I have read *The Last Valentine* as well and was once again mesmerized. You capture a beautiful love like no other author! God has surely given you a gift. No wonder your books are on the 'Bestsellers lists.' God bless you, Mr. Pratt. ~Karla Hobbs

Dear Jim – I just finished reading *Paradise Bay* and it was great. It was such a beautiful story of love and several times brought tears to my eyes. This book would make a terrific movie. Is there any chance of that? ~Bill Bilger

Dear Mr. Pratt -- I am not a reader of books. I went to purchase the new John Grisham book for my husband as a gift and *The Lighthouse Keeper* caught my eye. I bought it. I read it in 4 days. A big thing for me to even finish a book. I then went out and purchased *The Last Valentine*. This one I read in 24 hours' time! This is very different for me. I am now anticipating *Ticket Home* as soon as it comes out in paperback. Thank you again and please keep writing. ~Pam Milioto

Hello Mr. Pratt—I have just finished reading *Ticket Home*. It was one of the best books I have ever read. I can relate to this story as I was in the Philippines during the war. I got there after the fall of Bataan as a replacement in the 32nd Infantry Division. You are now on my “MUST READ” author’s list. Sincerely ~Duane from Michigan

Dear Jim: I read your blogs and love stories. I cried, I laughed, I thought, I pondered, I loved more. You are indeed an amazing writer. Thank you so much for sharing with me!

~Pat Sheranian, Radio Host

Youth

I bet I am your youngest fan! I am eleven years old and my mom gave me *The Lighthouse Keeper* to read. It’s much better than Harry Potter. I’m in chapter nineteen now. It’s so sad. Bye for now.” ~Caitlin Kudlow

I am fifteen years old and was considering suicide. I just picked up *The Lighthouse Keeper* and after finishing it I want to thank Peter O’Banyon and you for helping me change my mind! *Reader’s name withheld (James Pratt’s request)*

Dear Mr. James Michael Pratt -- I absolutely loved your novel *Ticket Home*! This novel was definitely one of the best I have ever read! I live on a small island in the Azores with my Air Force father, mother and five sisters. My sister, Kimberly, heard about your book and I managed to borrow it from a friend. I finished it in two hours! I could not put it down! Although I am only a 14-year-old in high school, I really appreciate your talent! I hope you will never stop writing and write another book soon! ~Julie Andersen

Thanks for such a wonderful book -- *The Last Valentine*! I loved it! I learned a lot about love, commitment and faith. I bought a copy for my cousin. Could you autograph it for her? Thanks again! ~Katy Graham, 17-year-old high school student.