

JAMES MICHAEL PRATT

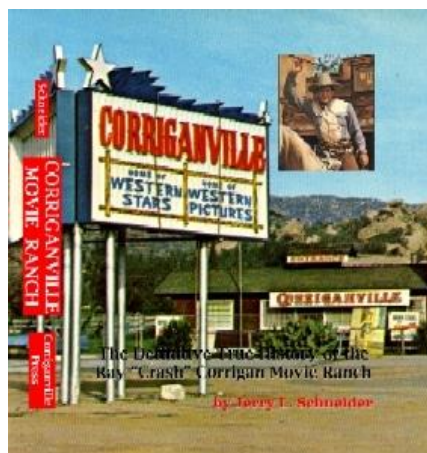
“From a master of moral fiction...” Booklist



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. Keep up the good work!
— Gerald Bolen, Oklahoma

James Michael Pratt returns to publishing in 2023 after a hiatus of more than a decade in which he attended to productive writing, healing life-long spinal disabilities, and for family time. He explains more of this period of time in his “About” page at his website.

Returning to the territory that earned him worldwide bestseller acclaim with *The Lost Valentine* along with three other published and two new war-romance titles, James likes to say he began his writing career as a boy at play in the wide-open back-lot fields of the Corriganville Western Movie Ranch—which helped launch so many film careers of Hollywood’s golden era. Located within one mile of his boyhood home in the Santa Susana Mountains, James spent many enjoyable days imagining heroics with playmates in scripted acts of war and historical exploration.



Admittedly a romantic, a boyhood love of reading and listening to the personal heroic tales of family and veterans of war blended well with his own sense of deeply rooted American heritage; a family tree reaching back to the first New England colony settlers with English Army officer-immigrant Lt. William Pratt, as well as Mayflower ancestors of the early 1600's Plymouth Colony.



Pratt's first professional writing experience came in the early 1980's, employed to combine technical and promotional narrative with back-stories for a Los Angeles based financial company representing projects to investors. Taking note, he was next hired by one of the country's foremost newsletter writers to run the editing of a financial home study course.

As time passed, Pratt found himself eager to explore the investment practices he had expounded upon and edited for. He rolled the dice and took the next ten years to work the home building business during boom periods in Southern California's growing defense contracting economy.

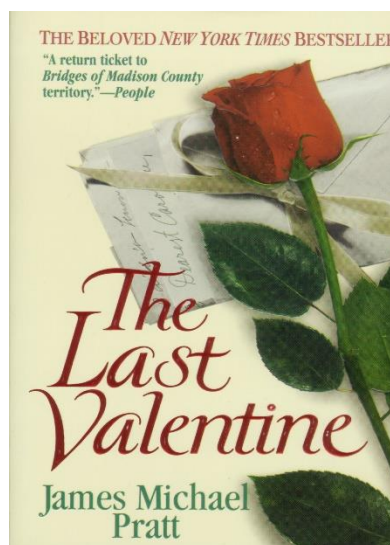


As many entrepreneurs can attest, they often work hard and long hours at creating success to find some elements of longevity out of their control. Such was the case when over one million dollars in Pratt's hard-earned real estate equity in the affordable home building industry, evaporated in California's saturated residential market with sudden and sustained downturn of the economy of the early 1990s. At this low point, James chose to become guided by a favorite author; James Allen and his 1904 worldwide bestseller, *As a Man Thinketh*. Given to him as a guide by his mother as a 19-year-old, he had memorized several passages that sustained him:

“You are the sum of your thoughts,” and “The mighty oak sleeps in the acorn,” and “The greatest achievements were at first, and for a time, dreams...” Allen promised.

The unexpected changes to life motivated Pratt to explore his dream of writing. Being newly relieved of hard-earned wealth, he asked his wife, “Where would you like to be broke at?” Her answer was to relocate north, to affordable, familiar, and friendly intermountain region of the West.

Pratt’s breakout title followed 36 months later with reflections of his father and mother’s romance during World War Two setting the tone for the 1998-99 *New York Times* and *USA TODAY* bestseller.



The Last Valentine, was finished under those stresses and represented by a literary agent prior to his nearly succumbing from massive bleeding due to internal injuries in 1997. (See Website “ABOUT” page for: [“How Disability Became Ability”](#) Audio)

<https://www.jamesmichaelpratt.com/about>



Three novels by St. Martin's Press followed. *The Lighthouse Keeper*, *Ticket Home*, and *Paradise Bay* appeared in hard/soft editions nationwide with rights sales to major literary book clubs, as well as in audio book, and in foreign rights.

The Last Valentine was shepherded through the lengthy process of screenplay, then in 2011 it became one of the top viewed *Hallmark Hall of Fame* and *CBS Movie of the Week* films ever produced with over 14.5 million viewers in its debut. Renamed *The Lost Valentine*, it still plays monthly on the Hallmark Channel and *Feel'n* network; and always as an annual Valentine's Day classic.

Regarding his body of work, James Michael Pratt has been a guest over the years on hundreds of radio talk shows, and has appeared across the country on all major networks and cable television shows including FOX, CBS, NBC, and ABC.

Other Publishing Projects

In 2004 a well-respected publisher in the intermountain west—who had published the author's Great-Great Grandfather's pioneer memoirs for its entire one-hundred-year company history—contracted Pratt's two non-fiction parenting and success memoirs designed for their hardcover gift-book market and their fifty stores.

DAD, The Man Who Lied to Save the Planet and *MOM, The Woman Who Made Oatmeal Stick to My Ribs* struck a note with readers as traditional American values echoed through time, featuring the author with his parents – Grant and Virginia Pratt – and ordinary life experiences from the 1920's through 2005. Both titles became regional bestsellers under the Shadow Mountain imprint.

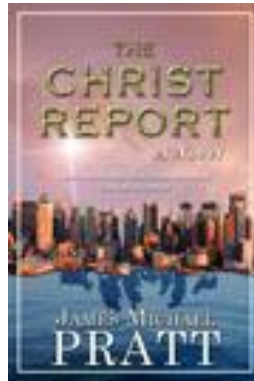
In 2005 Pratt added his fifth fiction manuscript, *The Good Heart*, a political-medical mystery category sold to the intermountain regional market by the same publisher. During this time, James co-wrote *The Good Heart* screenplay with Maryann Ridini Spencer, the gifted writer of the *Hallmark Hall of Fame* movie, *The Lost Valentine*. It has remained available for production interests along with Ridini-Spencer's film option and screenplay based upon Pratt's 2002 National Bestseller, *Ticket Home*.



In 2008 James was a producer for a war documentary examining two tours of duty in Iraq for a squad of Marines using their own footage from the experiences. In a touching reveal of emotions and raw nerve, the young Marines tell their story of lost innocence and PTS in *Between Iraq and a Hard Place* directed by talented brother Rex J. Pratt of Santa Barbara, CA. It went on to win several Film Festival awards and wide national acclaim. One didn't make it home and since then, two of their number have passed away.

[Between Iraq and a Hard Place - Documentary Film - YouTube](#)

Additionally, from 2005 to the present, Pratt produced four fiction manuscripts and one yet unpublished non-fiction. Two manuscripts he chose to self-publish, and two more – *When the Last Leaf Falls* and *In LOVE* – are available now for 2023 publishing, with portions of each novel presented to his online “*Once Upon a Time*” BookClub for free.



Written during disabling down years, *The Christ Report* and *As a Man Thinketh...In His Heart* offer inspirational and ghostly retreats into the historical past in ways his other novels have not as they explore questions about today’s world, what is at stake with the choices we make, and the reality of becoming what we fill our hearts with.

Faith, personal growth, inspiration, adventure, and life-affirming ethereal discoveries all combine to carry the reader to truths found in other times but common to mankind’s pursuits of peace, love, and well-being. Both titles will become introduced to the author’s book club beginning in 2023.

Maturing as a writer, and learning from the experiences over the years, James is at a new place in life but also a familiar one in his writing career as he introduces his latest romantic fiction manuscripts to the marketplace beginning with reader promotions in 2023, *When the Last Leaf Falls* and *In Love*.

Pratt lists additional book manuscripts in development found at the “BOOKS” page at his website.

Website — www.JamesMichaelPratt.com Contact: jmprattauthor@gmail.com