

Question and Answer with Rachel Amphlett, author of *Bridge to Burn*

1. What can you tell us about *Bridge to Burn*?

When a mummified body is discovered in a renovated building, the gruesome discovery leads Detective Kay Hunter and her team into a complex murder investigation.

The subsequent police inquiry exposes corruption, lies, and organized crime within the tight-knit community – and Kay’s determination to seek justice for the young murder victim could ruin the reputations of men who will do anything to protect their business interests.

But as Kay closes in on the killer, tragedy strikes closer to home in an event that will send a shockwave through her personal life and make her question everything she values.

Can Kay keep her private and professional life under control while she tries to unravel one of the strangest murder cases of her career?

2. Which took shape first: plot, character, or setting?

The opening scene was the first thing that emerged after I saw a news story about a mummified monkey dropping through the ceiling of a New York department store – from there, my imagination went into overload!

3. Was there anything new you discovered, or that surprised you, as you wrote this book?

The antagonist always surprises me—I’m never really sure who it is until I get to the end, despite planning a good 20 percent of the structure before I start writing.

4. What was the biggest challenge this book presented? What about the biggest opportunity?

The biggest challenge was trying to write this book while emigrating back to the UK from Australia and juggling a deadline in amongst getting my dog on a plane and my household possessions into a 20-foot container!

The biggest opportunity was learning from experts about mummification and whether my original idea was even possible.