

Questionnaire

Name: J. J. Partridge
John J. Partridge

Address: (City/state etc.): 9 John Street, Providence, RI 02906

Consider yourself from: (Ex. New England, Freetown, etc.): A Rhode Island guy

How long have you been writing: Serious writing. In 2004, wrote *Carom Shot* as a Christmas gift for my three children. David, my youngest, did the editing, made it predictable and the rest was good luck in finding a publisher and the rest is history!

Why do you write: For my enjoyment in creating believable characters faced with the emotional and intellectual challenges of crime. My locales are Rhode Island—Providence, Pawtucket, Westerly, and Italy (Rome, Cuomo, and the Boot), places that interest me and which are familiar to me and my readers. Pool is an interesting metaphor for a crime story—from the opening shot—a mysterious death to the last ball in a pocket—a satisfying conclusion.

What do you write the most (fiction, nonfiction, [poetry, etc.): Fiction

How many publications do you have overall:

<i>Carom Shot</i>	2006
<i>Straight Pool</i>	2008
<i>Scratched</i>	2014

Education: St. Raphael Academy, Pawtucket, RI
Providence College, AB, '61, Honorary Doctor of Laws 2012
Harvard Law School '64

Title of primary book/publication you wish to promote/focus on only one): *Scratched*

Publishing details; publisher/ date etc.: Köehler Books 2014

What is the book/poem/article/short story about (briefly 3-4 sentences):

As Algy Temple, the deft pool player, sleuth and Ivy League university lawyer, investigates the suspicious death of a retired professor, it coincides with his involvement in a high stakes pool tournament in Providence, where old world shadows hang heavily in the air. Unexpectedly, he finds himself on a path that leads him to Rome and the Boot of Italy where he confronts the dreaded 'Ndrangheta crime family and discovers a past haunted by vendetta and conspiracy. Mobsters and shylocks, a Ponzi scheme, an outraged Italo-American community locked in a culture war with the University, a pool hustler's last gambit for recognition, and his fiancé's, the sassy and beautiful Nadie Winokur, focus on their upcoming wedding add complexity to the suspenseful tension. Algy picks his way through dark alleys of moral corruption and the murky world of big time pool where the match becomes a wager of life and death.

Anything unique about this publication (sold movie rights, turned into a play, reprinted etc.)

Only pool playing amateur sleuth. Unique despite a million pool players in the country. Third in a series, fourth is underway.

Brief quote from the publication (one or two sentences): "Am I stabbed? Is blood rushing out of my belly? Is this how I die?"

Any review quotes (what and appearing where):

Publisher's weekly—*Scratched* "adroitly weaves together different plot lines in a witty and well written whodunit? "

Tom Shaw, Pool and Billiards—"A solid mystery, pool and all..., a good read.... will keep you up late....".

Stephanie Hainsfurther, Albuquerque Free Press—The Algy Temple mystery stands out because it "mixes politics, academia, and the Mob in a high stakes corrupt brew?"

Edwin Hill, L A Review of Books—Algy Temple crime novels explore " the themes of class...and the schisms that divide people,... the rich and the poor, the connected and the forgotten, the law abiding and the criminal." "Thoroughly enjoyable."

Other activities as they relate to your writing career (lectures, travel, etc.):

Legal practice

Politics, civic and community activities (see attached)

Army service in Vietnam

Love of things Italian—food, language, locales

Quote about writing/ advice to writers (1-2 sentences)

Simply have to start somewhere!

Elmore Leonard: “What are the bad guys doing?”
 “Will the reader turn the page?”

List other important publications (books, poems short stories): See above.

Newest publication: *Scratched*—see attached press release

Other comments writing or publishing related: My books follow the PD James prescription.
Opportunity, means and motive, a believable detective, a villain who is unearthed in the last chapter.
The classic “cozy.”

Send: Photo of self (JPEG); photo of book cover or cover of publication (JPEG). See attached.