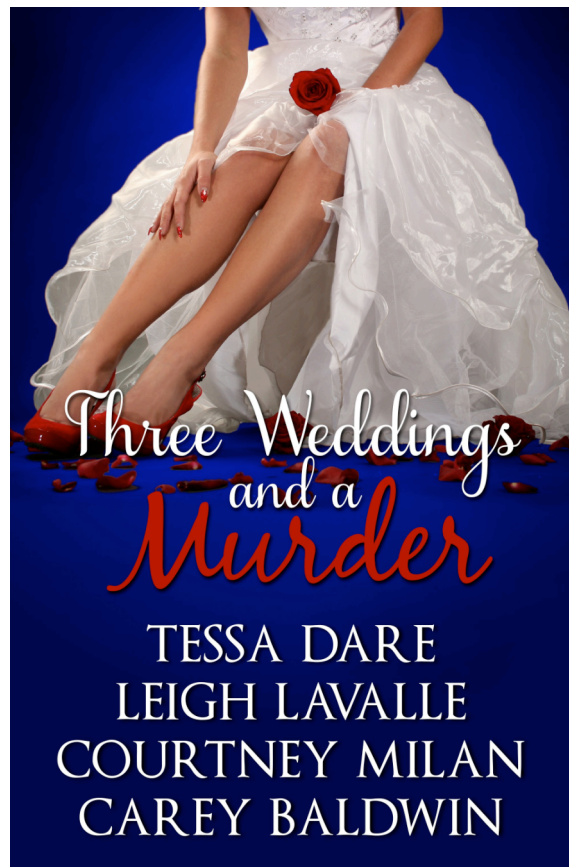


Three Weddings and a Murder

Press Kit, May 2012

The pleasure of your company is requested... at the most thrilling, sexy event of the year.



ISBN: 978-1-937248-07-9

Available late May 2012 from e-book retailers

**Four stories in four unique voices, all united for one cause
Anthology profits donated to the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer**

Press Kit contents:

- Official press release
- Story summaries
- Author bios
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Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact: Leigh LaValle, leigh@leighlavalle.com

Team “Bodice Rippers”: United to End Breast Cancer

Bestselling romance authors put their words, and their walking shoes, to a good cause.

One in eight women will develop invasive breast cancer over the course of her lifetime. Most everyone, male or female, has a family member or friend who has fought the disease. Four romance writers who care have teamed up to say they’re “In it to end it,” donating all profits from their new anthology, *THREE WEDDINGS AND A MURDER*, to the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer.

THREE WEDDINGS AND A MURDER is available from e-book retailers and includes four original novellas: historical romances by *USA Today* bestselling authors Tessa Dare and Courtney Milan and exciting newcomer Leigh LaValle, as well as a romantic thriller penned by debut author Carey Baldwin.

In addition to raising funds, the authors will participate in the two-day, 39-mile event this September, in Santa Barbara, CA.

Their team name? The Bodice Rippers, of course.

Says author Courtney Milan, “While the term ‘bodice rippers’ has been used as a derogatory way to refer to romance novels, we wanted to emphasize that what lies beneath the bodice is an important concern for every woman.”

Leigh LaValle, a participating author, says, “A friend of mine was recently diagnosed with invasive breast cancer at the age of 35. She has two small children and a lifetime ahead of her. Her mother died of the disease at the age of 36. Thanks to the improvements in detection and treatment, my friend just received her one-year clean scan. It feels like a miracle, but I know it is science.”

Romance writers are known for their warm-hearted, often philanthropic community. Citing the example of Brenda Novak’s annual auction to benefit diabetes research, author Carey Baldwin says, “Efforts like Brenda Novak’s inspired us, as romance writers, to make a difference where we can.”

Since 2003, Avon Walk participants have raised more than \$423 million, supporting research to find a cure or prevention, as well as programs that enable all patients to access quality care. Support for the medically underserved is a key priority — including low-income, elderly and minority individuals, and those who are under-insured.

The Stories

"The Scandalous, Dissolute, No-Good Mr. Wright" by Tessa Dare

Because of a foolish mistake in her youth, Miss Eliza Cade is not allowed "out" in Society until her three older sisters are wed. But while she's trying to be good, Eliza keeps bumping elbows—and lips—with the notorious rake Harry Wright. The passions he stirs in her are so wrong...but she just can't resist Mr. Wright.

"The Misbehaving Marquess" by Leigh LaValle

Having awaited the return of her husband for half a decade, Catherine Raybourne, the Marchioness of Foster, has no intention of reconciling with her misbehaving marquess. But when he insists he needs an heir—immediately—she must confront her own lingering desires. Can she protect her heart while attempting to win his once again?

"The Lady Always Wins" by Courtney Milan

Railway financier Simon Davenant has waited seven years for a second chance with his childhood sweetheart and best friend. He isn't about to let his impending financial ruin destroy the opportunity. This time, he'll do anything he can to secure her hand in marriage—even if it means losing her heart for good.

"Solomon's Wisdom" by Carey Baldwin

Bad-boy-turned-pediatrician Charlie "Drex" Drexler returns to Tangleheart, Texas hoping to reconnect with his old flame - but Anna won't cooperate, his dark past resurfaces, and his best friend's baby disappears. How will Drex and Anna mend their broken hearts while dodging bullets and racing to bring baby home safely?

The Authors



Tessa Dare is the *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author of eight novels and three novellas. *Booklist* magazine named her one of the “new stars of historical romance.” A librarian by training and a booklover at heart, Tessa takes great pride and pleasure in continuing to work part-part-time at her local public library. She makes her home in Southern California, where she shares a cozy, cluttered bungalow with her husband, their two children, and a big brown dog.

Leigh LaValle recently released her Golden Heart®-nominated novel, *The Runaway Countess*, to high acclaim. When she is not writing, mommying, or reading, she is rarely seen cleaning, and more often found hiking or, when she is really lucky, in the white powder of the ski slopes. Leigh is also a devoted yoga practitioner and instructor. She currently lives in the Pacific Northwest with her family, and is hard at work on her next novel.



Courtney Milan is a *New York Times* and a *USA Today* bestselling author. Her books have received starred reviews in *Publishers Weekly* and *Booklist*. She's twice been a RITA® finalist, and her second book was chosen as a *Publishers Weekly* Best Book of 2010. Courtney lives in the Rocky Mountains with her husband, a medium-sized dog, and an attack cat. She's working on a garden, an older house, and her next book.

Carey Baldwin is a mild-mannered doctor (still practicing full time) who happens to write edgy romantic thrillers. When you are a former clinical psychologist, writing about psychopaths comes easily, and when you are a hopeless romantic, well, you do the math! Carey has been a finalist in numerous writing contests, including Avon FanLit and the prestigious *Maggies*. Her first manuscript won the Golden Gateway award for best single title romance. Her debut novel, *FIRST DO NO EVIL*, releases June 26, 2012 from Samhain Publishing.



The Cause

Why the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer?

Carey lost her mother to breast cancer, and all of us have family or close friends who are currently battling breast cancer. Since one in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer, this is not surprising. Breast cancer affects all of our lives. We chose the Avon Walk because we were impressed by the open information provided about programs funded, and because we love the emphasis on underserved populations.

Why an anthology?

In addition to soliciting donations to meet our fundraising commitment, we decided we'd like to earn money for the cause by pooling our talents and producing this anthology. Each of us wrote an all-new, original story, and we published the book ourselves. *Three Weddings and a Murder* is a limited edition! The anthology will only be available during Summer 2012.

Where is the money going?

All the profits from sales of this anthology will be donated by the authors to the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer. To learn more about where the money goes from there, please see:
<http://www.avonwalk.org/why-we-walk/where-the-money-goes.html>

Can people donate directly to your Avon Walk team?

Absolutely! We want to raise as much money as possible, and to that end, we encourage and appreciate direct donations to the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer via our team page:
<http://bit.ly/bodicerippers>

For more information

Tessa Dare: <http://www.tessadare.com/>

Leigh LaValle: <http://www.leighlavallo.com/>

Courtney Milan: <http://www.courtneymilan.com/>

Carey Baldwin: <http://www.careybaldwin.com/>

Avon Walk for Breast Cancer: <http://www.avonwalk.org/>

“Bodice Rippers” team page: <http://bit.ly/bodicerippers>