Jane Ryland was a rising star in television news. Until she refused to reveal a source and lost everything. Now a disgraced newspaper reporter, Jane isn’t content to work on her assigned puff pieces, and finds herself tracking down a candidate’s secret mistress just days before a pivotal Senate election.

Detective Jake Brogan is investigating a possible serial killer. Twice, bodies of unidentified women have been found by a bridge, and Jake is plagued by a media swarm beginning to buzz about a ‘bridge killer’ hunting the young women of Boston.

As the body count rises and election looms closer, it becomes clear to Jane and Jake that their cases are connected, and that they may be facing a ruthless killer who will stop at nothing to silence a scandal.

Dirty politics, dirty tricks, and a barrage of final twists, The Other Woman is the first in an explosive new series by Hank Phillippi Ryan. Seduction, betrayal, and murder – it’ll take a lot more than votes to win this election.

For detective Jake Brogan and his partner, a young woman’s brutal murder seems a sadly predictable case of domestic violence, one that results in two toddlers being shuttled into the foster care system. Then Jake finds an empty cradle at the murder scene. Where is the baby who should have been sleeping there?

Jane and Jake are soon on a trail full of twists and turns that takes them deep into the heart of a foster care system in crisis and threatens to blow the lid off an adoption agency scandal. When the threatening phone calls start, Jane knows she is on the right track...but with both a killer at large and an infant missing, time is running out...

Truth Be Told, part of the bestselling Jane Ryland and Jake Brogan series by Agatha, Anthony, Mary Higgins Clark, and Macavity Award-winning author Hank Phillippi Ryan, begins with tragedy: a middle-class family evicted from their suburban home. In digging up the facts on this heartbreaking story – and on other foreclosures – reporter Ryland soon learns the truth behind a big-bucks scheme and the surprising players who will stop at nothing, including murder, to keep their goal a secret. Turns out, there’s more than one way to rob a bank.

Boston police detective Jake Brogan has a liar on his hands. A man has just confessed to the famous twenty-year-old Lilac Sunday killing, and while Jake’s colleagues take him at his word, Jake is not so sure. But he has personal reasons for hoping they’ve finally solved the cold case.

Financial manipulation, the terror of foreclosures, the power of numbers, the primal need for home and family and love. What happens when what you believe is true turns out to be a lie?
The Charlotte McNally mystery series

**Prime Time** [2007]  
[Agatha Award winner]

Could an innocent e-mail offer really result in murder, mayhem and a multimillion-dollar fraud ring? The last person to ask is dead – but that won’t keep Charlotte McNally from poking around. Face it – in the cutthroat world of television journalism, this seasoned reporter knows that she’d better pull out all the stops or kiss her cushy job (and that means her life) goodbye.

But all too soon her investigation leads her straight to Josh Gelston, who is a little too a lot too handsome. Could she trust a word he said? Charlie might have a nose for news, but men are a whole other story. Which means she is putting her job, life and heart on the line....

**Face Time** [2007]

It’s the scoop of a journalist’s dreams!

New evidence in an old murder case could set a convicted woman free. Who better to crack the story than Boston’s own version of Brenda Starr? Unfortunately, the prime source won’t talk, the attorney general is trying to block the investigation, and the more Charlotte snoops around, the more people turn up dead!

An extended visit from her persnickety mother isn’t helping. And Josh, the incredibly sexy new love of her life, may be the picture of perfection, but that includes a close-up of a prickly preteen who’s not keen on sharing her daddy with Charlotte.

What’s a star reporter to do? If anyone can pull it together it’s Charlotte, but she’d better hurry, because someone wants her nose out of their news-- for good.

**Air Time** [2009]

[Agatha Award nominee; Anthony Award nominee]

When savvy TV reporter Charlotte McNally enters the glamorous world of high fashion, she soon discovers that when the purses are fake – the danger is real. And no one can be trusted!

Now Charlotte can’t tell the real from the fake as she goes undercover to bring the couture counterfeiters to justice – and in her struggle to answer an all-important, life-changing question from a certain handsome professor. The one thing Charlotte knows for sure is that the wrong choice could be the last decision she ever makes!

**Drive Time** [2010]

[Agatha Award nominee; Anthony Award nominee]

Investigative reporter Charlotte McNally is an expert at keeping things confidential, but suddenly everyone has a secret – and it turns out it is possible to know too much.

Her latest scoop – an exposé of a dangerous car scam, complete with stakeouts, high-speed chases and hidden-camera footage - is ratings gold. But soon that leads her to a brand-new and diabolical scheme. Charlie's personal and professional lives are on a collision course, too. Her fiancé is privy to information about threats at an elite private school that have turned deadly.

Charlie has never counted on happy endings. But now, just as she’s finally starting to believe in second chances, she realizes revenge, extortion and murder may leave her alone again – or even dead.

*This handout prepared for the Just Desserts Mystery Fiction Discussion Group Lincoln City Libraries – Lincoln, NE 8/2014 SDC*