



# Warm on the Outside: Adding Humour to Your Writing

**Catriona McPherson**

Wednesday, September 22, 2021, 6:00 - 8:00 pm pacific via Zoom

**This talk first addresses the question of why we might use humour even if we're not writing comedy. It will offer a personal take on what is funny (and what is not) and will take an objective look at where to site the humour, a question not often covered and one that can cause enormous tonal problems if ignored. I will run through some tricks of the trade and also some ways that sentence structure can help a joke or kill it stone dead. Note: talking about humour isn't inherently funny, but the examples should make you chuckle. Here's one to be going on with: A man walks into a bar and says "ouch".**



**Catriona McPherson** National-bestselling and multi-award-winning author, Catriona McPherson, was born in Scotland and lived there until immigrating to the US in 2010, where she lives on Patwin ancestral lands. She writes historical detective stories set in the old country in the 1930s, featuring gently-born lady sleuth, Dandy Gilver. After eight years in the new country, she kicked off the comic Last Ditch Motel series, which takes a wry but affectionate look at California life from the POV of a displaced Scot (wherever do we get our ideas?). She also writes a strand of contemporary psychological thrillers. The latest of these is A GINGERBREAD HOUSE, which Kirkus called "a disturbing tale of madness and fortitude".

Catriona is a member of MWA, CWA, Society of Authors, and a proud lifetime member and former national president of Sisters in Crime. [www.catrionamcpherson.com](http://www.catrionamcpherson.com)

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