

THE ALANSON POST

A Tradition of Excellence Since Last
Wednesday



AND BASS WRAPPER



February 2026 Edition

Serving the Alanson Bay Region



Established 2017



Stories, Notes, and Other Oddments

FROM THE EASEL



Out at a brewery in January, I fell for this mint-green guitar and just had to paint its portrait. Brian plays it well, too! - AJ Alanson

FIELD NOTES

FACTS OF FICTION - Chris Chiller

In the 2nd book of The Admiral Inn series, Ramone notices something off with a room's dimensions in the basement of the mansion, which leads to a secret door above, and this researcher diving down a rabbit hole of secret door mechanisms. ([more](#))

BACKSTORY

REALITY OF WRITING



In book #2, A Dragon in the Bookcase, I drew from my experience working a mile under underground in the former Homestake mine, now Sanford Lab. I walked the tunnels, drove the tiny trains, and picked through old memories.

THE POST CLASSIFIEDS

HELP WANTED: In the March installment of The Admiral, A Madam in the Walls, June questions: in order to fight great evil, does she turn to a greater devil? (<https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0BH1NFMC8>)



EDITOR'S DESK - AJ Alanson

February is proving to be the "snowy" to January's deep cold, but I'm focusing on the positives - the clean doormats before the spring mud season. I'm writing a lot and tidying up loose ends before starting seeds for the growing season as I fantasize about doubling the gardens.

WHAT'S NEWS

February seems to be stuffed with more than a couple yucky tasks but frankly, with all days of snow leading into a Calvin the Blizzard, and even more snow leading away, what else is there to do (when I'm not writing) but tax prep, rearranging my sock drawer, and restructuring the book business. I'm flirting with expanding my distribution channels in both the paperback and eBook formats of my series. For my readers, audiobooks, hardcover, large print, and even translations are further options. I don't think a day has gone by since 2026 began that I haven't learned something new, especially while tricking out my sound studio with the help of a great music friend (see Grace Notes). But mostly, growing my business in this day and age means navigating through scammers, fake sites, AI everything, and fast talkers. My go-to for planning book business growth comes from an interview with Brandon Sanderson: Building a Fiction Empire & Unbreakable Habits. Grab a cocoa and tuck in for three hours.

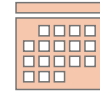
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wIgl_DiwZh4&t=767s



FROM THE VAULT

February seems to have the same effect regardless of the year. (<https://ajalanson.com/2025/02/17/uphill-both-ways/>)

THE ALMANAC Check out my website for updates, musings, and new projects! (<https://ajalanson.com>)



UPCOMING EVENTS

Come join me at The Velvet Mill for a 50-author book signing in Stonington, CT on March 21 from 11am to 4pm. I have swag! (<https://www.connecticutbookfestivals.com/event-details/the-velvet-mills-author-fair>)

THE WELL SEASONED DISPATCH

NEW FROM A WELL SEASONED STORY

- Chris Chiller



Wondering how we got to this divided now? Again? I explore the non-political reasons for the divisions, citing peer-review research in psychology, neurology and genetics and salting in my experiences, anecdotes, and interviews. Join me (<https://chrischiller.com>) for exploration and discussion.



THE GRACE NOTES

MUSIC IN THE EARBUDS

Recently, I've been playing in my neighbor's back yard because he's cool, has a recording studio, and long backlist of original songs. Check out Gordon Daring on Spotify. (<https://open.spotify.com/track/2SYJ2ERvF27j9n6rFOyTSC>)

QUOTES FROM THE CAST

"Det. Dan said I can't leave town, Ramone," June whined, pulling her long grey duster around her shoulders. "I don't know but what sailing away on a boat counts as 'leaving town.'" - June Faust, Book #11



ON THE BENCH FOR NEXT MONTH: Staying faithful to your writing when the world is waking up

