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Paperback, 288 pages Publisher: Greenleaf Book Group Press (Sept. 1, 2010) ISBN: 978-1608320509 Price: \$14.95

IN THE BELLY OF JONAH INTRODUCES NEXT ADORED FEMALE CRIME-SOLVER

Mystery set at Colorado limestone mine, hopes to create better understanding of mining industry

MAY 20, 2010 – Stephanie Plum, Miss Jane Marple and Sookie Stackhouse have each solved some of the most fascinating mysteries over the years. But now it's Liv Bergen's turn.

In the Belly of Jonah, releasing Sept. 1, introduces the newest beloved female crime-solver – Liv Bergen – an amateur sleuth tracking down the murderer of a summer intern at the limestone mine she manages near Fort Collins, Co.

Liv Bergen discovers her knack to trace down terribly strange and sick serial killers, and through the chaos, takes her place alongside the best female sleuths. A fast-paced mystery about risk, intelligence and love, readers of *In the Belly of Jonah* can expect to get plenty chills and thrills as they work to solve the case with the heroine.

First in a series, author Sandra Brannan ultimately hopes the book will create more acceptance and appreciation of the need for and reliance on mining. Brannan, like her protagonist, has spent her career in the mining business. For 25 years, Brannan has worked in various jobs, including running a division, in the mining company that was founded by her grandfather, father and uncle in 1944.

“The animosity toward mining was founded on misinformation, old ideologies and broad generalizations,” Brannan says. “We just need a chance to welcome people into our world to give them a better understanding for the industry, to help them see most minors are incredibly concerned for the environment and the communities where they operate. I hope the book shows that.”



Brannan lives with her family in Rapid City, South Dakota. *In the Belly of Jonah* is her debut novel.

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