

Itz Books

LEADER

What does it take to be a good leader?

For that matter, what does it take to be a good person, in general?

HONOR - dedicated to the Marines

COURAGE - dedicated to the Navy

RESPECT - dedicated to the Patriot Guard Riders

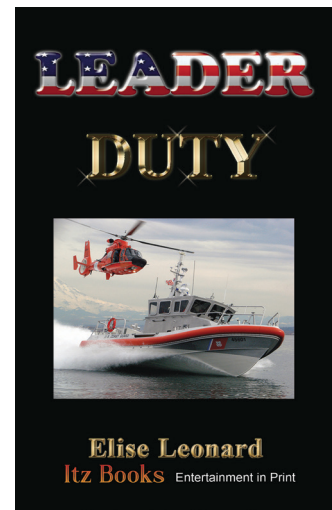
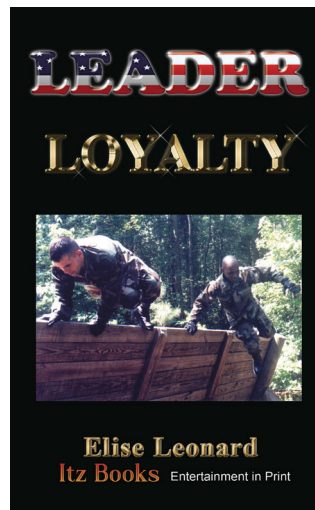
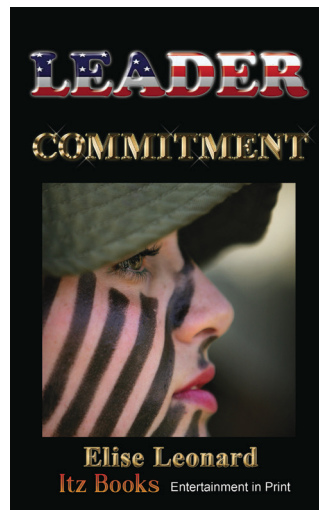
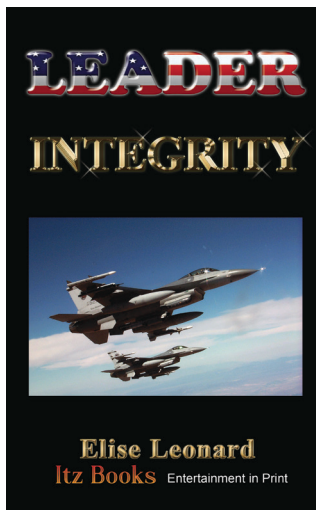
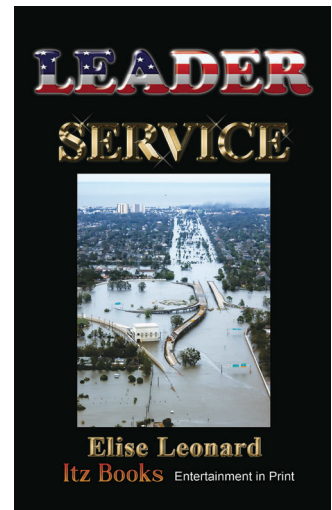
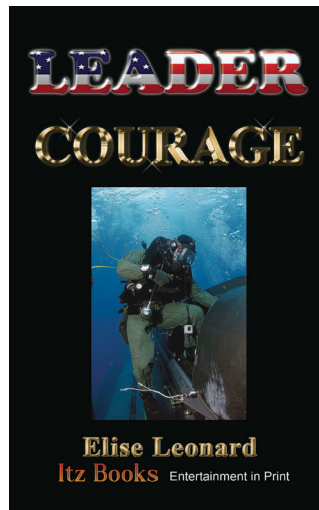
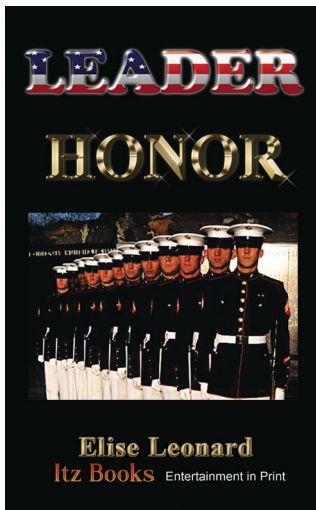
SERVICE - dedicated to the National Guard

INTEGRITY - dedicated to the Air Force

COMMITMENT - dedicated to the Army

LOYALTY - dedicated to the family & friends of our service people

DUTY - dedicated to the Coast Guard



Readability for ALL 8 books: **Flesch-Kincaid 1.0**

THIS IS THE **ONLY SERIES** BY ELISE LEONARD
THAT **DOES NOT** HAVE TO BE READ IN ORDER.

ALL 8 BOOKS ARE SOLD AS A COMPLETE SET.



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LEADER

a series by **Elise Leonard**

ISBN #:

978-1-935366-34-8
978-1-935366-35-5
978-1-935366-36-2
978-1-935366-37-9
978-1-935366-38-6
978-1-935366-39-3
978-1-935366-40-9
978-1-935366-41-6

Title:

Loyalty
Honor
Respect
Service
Duty
Integrity
Commitment
Courage

FREE
COMPREHENSION TESTS
for books by Elise Leonard
Contact Elise at
Elise.ItzBooks@gmail.com

In the highly popular eight book **LEADER** series, each exciting, stand-alone book is exactly on a Flesch-Kincaid reading level of 1.0.

THE LEADER SERIES IS THE ONLY SERIES PUBLISHED BY ELISE LEONARD THAT DOES NOT HAVE TO BE READ IN ORDER.

This
8-book
series should
be purchased as
a complete
set!

The **LEADER** series is one of our most popular series!

Readability for ALL eight books in the Leader series: Flesch-Kincaid 1.0

Please note that we prefer that the learners NOT know the reading levels of the books. All they need to know is that the books are cool, they *like* them, they can *read* them, and they are **enjoying** reading!

Your learners have most likely struggled with or failed at reading up to this point, so please do not humiliate them further by sharing the books' reading levels.

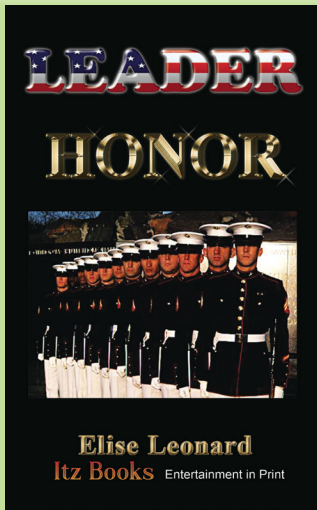
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LEADER



HONOR

This novel is dedicated to the Marines.

It is a story about honor and dedication.

This story spans many years, and through his tour of duty and through the subsequent lifetime of one man, this story exemplifies exactly what honor means.

Discussion Guide and Writing Prompts:

- What does “honor” mean to you?
- Have you ever been in a position to show great honor? Please explain.
- Do you think honor is important? Why or why not?
- Do you hope people think you have honor? Why or why not?
- Who has been honorable to you? Why? Please explain.
- What do you honor? Why? Please explain.
- Do you feel you need a reason to be honorable? Why or why not?

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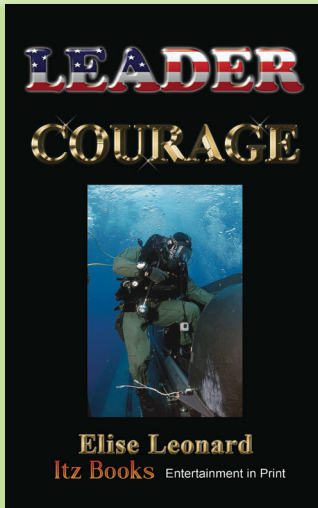
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LEADER



COURAGE

This novel is dedicated to the Navy.

This is a story about pure courage.

When chatter is heard that the safety of our country has been compromised, a group of elite, well-trained Navy SEALs does what it does best.

Discussion Guide and Writing Prompts:

- What does “courage” mean to you?
- Have you ever been in a position to show great courage? Please explain.
- Do you think courage is important? Why or why not?
- Do you hope people think you have courage? Why or why not?
- In your lifetime, who has done the most courageous thing? Why?
- What is one thing that you could do to show that you have courage? Why?
- Do you think you have what it takes to be courageous? Why or why not?

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LEADER



RESPECT

This novel is dedicated to the Patriot Guard Riders.

This is a story about respect.

Respect for others.

Others' beliefs, others' duties, others' choices.

Discussion Guide and Writing Prompts:

- What does “respect” mean to you?
- Before this book, had you ever heard of the Patriot Guard Riders?
- Research why the Patriot Guard Riders exist.
- Do you think respecting others is important? Why or why not?
- Do you have respect for other peoples' beliefs? Why or why not?
- How would you feel if other people didn't respect your beliefs? Why?
- What can you do, personally, to show respect for other peoples' beliefs?

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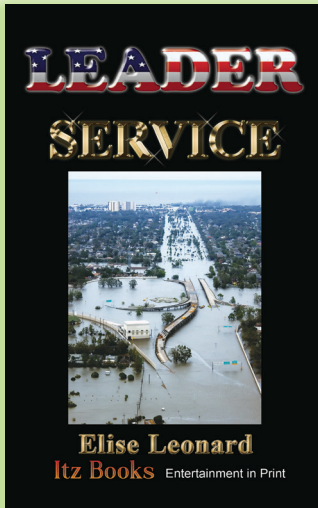
LEADER

SERVICE

This novel is dedicated to the National Guard.

This is a story about service.

In a story very much like the horrific events experienced by many during the aftermath of hurricane Katrina, two men in the National Guard show us exactly what service means!



Discussion Guide and Writing Prompts:

- What does “service” mean to you?
- Do you think that helping others shows a sign of weakness or strength? Please explain why you feel that way, and give examples.
- Do you think helping others is important? Why or why not?
- Do you hope people will help you when you need it? Why or why not?
- In your lifetime, has anyone helped you? Did you appreciate them? Do you still appreciate them?
- How can you, personally, help others?

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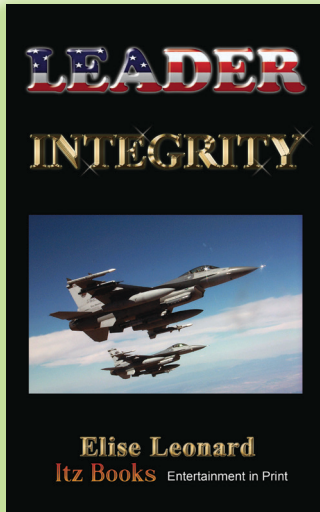
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LEADER



INTEGRITY

This novel is dedicated to the Air Force.

This is a story about integrity.

Integrity is a part of your character. It is something that is very important, but luckily is something that one can change for the better. It's an honesty. A moral soundness.

We, at Nox Press, hope that all of our readers have integrity... for the sake of the world and its future.

Discussion Guide and Writing Prompts:

- What does "integrity" mean to you?
- Have you ever been in a position to show integrity? Please explain.
- Do you think integrity is important? Why or why not?
- Do you hope people think you have integrity? Why or why not?
- Do you think it is important to have integrity even when people aren't looking? Why or why not?
- Who is a person in your life who has shown great integrity. Do you respect that person? Why or why not?

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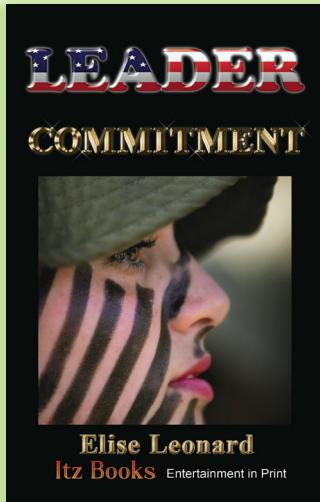
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COMMITMENT

This novel is dedicated to the Army

This is a story about commitment.

**Commitment to those we love,
commitment to things we sign up for,
and commitment to the things we believe in.**

Discussion Guide and Writing Prompts:

- What does “commitment” mean to you?
- Have you ever shown commitment to a person, a task, a belief or a job? Please explain.
- Do you think being committed to something or someone is important? Why or why not?
- If you are in a committed relationship with someone, do you hope they are committed to you too? Why or why not?
- In your lifetime, have you come across someone who was totally committed to someone or something? Did you respect that person? Why or why not?

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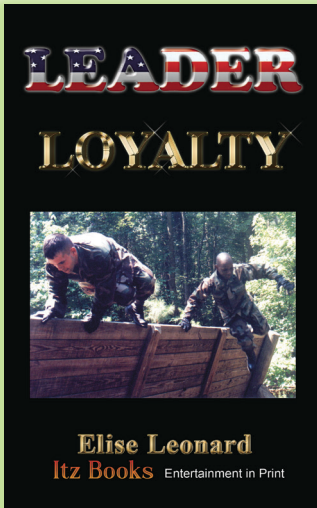
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LEADER

LOYALTY



Because they give up and sacrifice as much as our people in service, this novel is dedicated to the friends and family members of our people in service.

This is a story about loyalty and love.

This book spans 50 years, and is a perfect example of great friendship, intense loyalty and true love.

Discussion Guide and Writing Prompts:

- What does “loyalty” mean to you?
- Have you ever been in a position to show great loyalty to someone or something? Please explain.
- Do you think loyalty is important? Why or why not?
- Do you hope people think you are loyal? Why or why not?
- In your lifetime, to whom or to what have you been most loyal? Please explain.
- Has anyone ever shown you great loyalty? If someone **did** show you great loyalty, how would you treat them in return?

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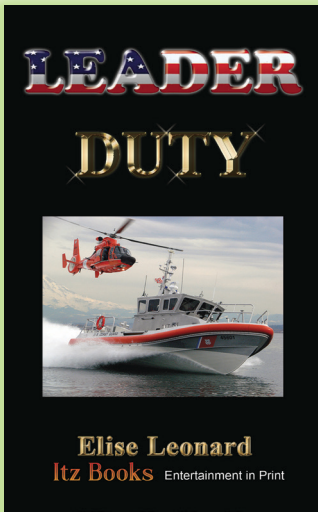
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LEADER



DUTY

This novel is dedicated to the Coast Guard.

This is a story about doing one's duty.

**Sometimes doing one's duty can be both
daunting and dangerous.**

**It is because of many great men and women doing
their duty that our country is so great!**

Discussion Guide and Writing Prompts:

- What does "duty" mean to you?
- Do you have certain duties that you are responsible for? Please explain.
- Do you think doing one's duty is important? Why or why not?
- Do you think having responsibilities is a good thing or a bad thing? Please explain.
- Do you look at it as an honor that people have enough respect for you to believe that you can take on certain responsibilities? Why or why not?
- In everyday life or in times of great need, are you dependable enough to do your duty? Do others think so? Why or why not?

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About the “freaky” punctuation:

Yes, I realize that I take a lot of poetic license with the punctuation in my books. Please understand that that is done ON PURPOSE and with a very good (and logical) reason. My books are written for the struggling, emergent and ESL reader. They are 100-page books written on a first- to second-grade reading level, so this target learnership can find immediate success and enjoyment while still being able to read them! [If your students were reading on a 4th- to 8th-grade reading level, they would not NEED books written on a 1st- to 2nd-grade reading level. They need small, concise sentences that are easy for them to read and understand.]

As with sports or playing an instrument, all the instruction and lessons are fine and dandy, but if you don’t actually DO it, you will not increase your skill or fluency! Reading is exactly the same, and, unfortunately, there’s not much out there for the emergent, struggling or ESL reader to read that’s ON an emergent 1st- and 2nd-grade reading level. Particularly anything these readers WANT to read. :-) My **Junkyard Dan** series and my **LEADER** series address that need and are all written by me - a former inner-city educator who had a 100% success rate with NYC inner-city kids and the NY State Regents exams (which are on par with an SAT). All of my books are something these students CAN read and are something they WANT to read.

And as we all know, if you want to teach the struggling reader how to read... they actually have to READ!

When your learners are reading on age or grade level, THEN you can be more precise with them about punctuation and sentence structure; but until they are able to perform at that level, educators will only frustrate their learners and make them feel inadequate by insisting that they read on a reading level these struggling learners are not yet able to comprehend or absorb.

That is why the punctuation is as it is in some of my books. It is for the struggling learners’ ultimate success.

Bottom line... my books **work**, and struggling readers **love** them! ~Elise

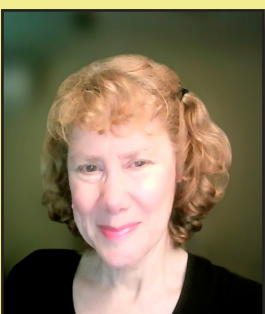
Elise Leonard’s Mission:

Elise Leonard believes that reading shouldn’t be a privilege, it should be a right! That’s why she writes cool, fun, interesting books for struggling, emergent and English as a second language (ESL) adolescent and adult learners.

Elise believes that literacy gives us power and a voice. So she wants your students to read up and speak out! She also thinks that *everyone* deserves a bright future, and she believes that one can’t *have* a very bright future when one is illiterate or low-literate. Her mission is to foster a love for reading and learning in every individual, one book at a time.

Empowering older struggling readers is her passion. She believes in the transformative power of literacy and strives to provide engaging, accessible books for all. That is why she has written a diverse collection of high-interest titles to foster a love for reading in adolescent and adult emergent, struggling, and ESL readers.

About Elise Leonard:



Elise Leonard has been educating adolescents and adults for the past 30+ years.

She has a 100% success rate, and has been able to teach *every single person* who crossed her path how to read! It didn’t matter if they had Dyslexia, were learning English as a second language or were just under-educated. *Every* student learned how to read with Elise. You will hear her often say: “Teaching reading is not rocket science. Just teach your students the alphabet, the sounds each letter makes, and then get them reading right away!” Her books, although written for adolescents and adults, are written on an emergent reading level so your learners can find immediate success and enjoyment! She also says: “Give students something they WANT to read, on a reading level they CAN read, and they’ll READ!” 😊

A personal message to the educators, teachers, tutors, media specialists, administrators and librarians who use my books:

First and foremost, thank you. Thank you for caring about the many struggling learners across our great nation. I've dedicated my entire lifetime to serving our nation's adolescent and adult low-literate, illiterate and ESL learners, and besides loving what I do, I love the people I do it for! I know you're not doing what you do for the money or the glamour, because as we all know... there's not much of either of those things associated with what we do. ☺ You are most likely doing what you do because you firmly believe that literacy is important. Literacy IS important. The lives you are impacting through helping your learners find literacy are many. Besides the learner, you are helping their spouses, their children (present or future), their neighbors, their employers, and all citizens of this country. For that alone, I thank you. I also feel the need to personally thank each and every one of you for helping me with my quest to end low-literacy and illiteracy in America. I hope that my books will help you with your honorable and worthy endeavor. I also hope that my books will help you have fun while teaching this target learnership. I firmly believe that learning should be fun and exciting, and have tried to make books and materials for you and your learners that spark laughter, thought and a sense of wonder.

Please help me help your learners realize that reading *can* be fun and exciting.

And please have fun with my books, remembering that every series, with the exception of the **LEADER** series, has to be read in order so your learners follow and comprehend the intricate story line and so your learners keep building their reading muscles, since the books get increasingly more difficult as each series progresses.

And yes, I know. I *do* take quite a bit of poetic license with the punctuation (particularly in the beginning books of each series) to GET the books on these easy-to-read, emergent reading levels, but THESE BOOKS WORK, and the struggling reader LOVES them. The reading levels for each series increase at a rate where the reader can't even tell. Yet, the reader WILL notice that their reading scores and fluency are increasing - but have no idea why! ☺

As a fun (FREE) suggestion of something great to do with this target learner, I would like to suggest a project that was introduced to me a long time ago by Laura Brainard, a media specialist at Lakeview Middle School in Orlando, FL. She does "digital booktalks" (like movie trailers for books) with her school's struggling and ESL learners. Digital booktalks are a GREAT (FREE!) thing to do with your learners. They have to read the books, come up with a 1- to 4-minute script, do the story-boarding, use a video camera to film it, then they have to use computers to edit it, add music and titles and all sorts of OTHER fun stuff using Microsoft's Movie Maker (which most teachers don't realize comes FREE with Windows), and then they can use the computer to burn their digital booktalk to a 10-cent CD and keep it for life, and show it off to their friends! It's a great project that includes reading, writing, filming, editing, graphic art design, computer skills (both software and hardware), etc. ☺ And they'll not only do it willingly, they'll totally enjoy doing it! [School and learning will never have been so much fun for your struggling learners!]

I have spent my lifetime fully dedicated to breaking down barriers to reading and fostering a love for books in all individuals, regardless of their reading level or language proficiency. I sincerely thank you, from the bottom of my heart, for joining me in this exciting literary adventure!

~Elise Leonard

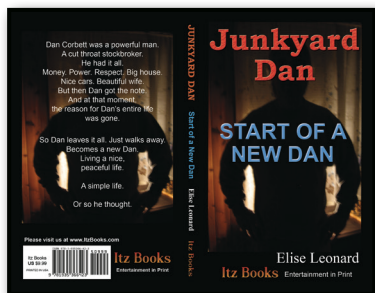
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More books by Elise Leonard:

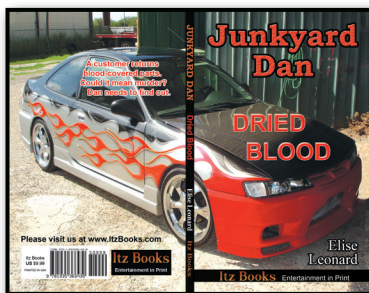
Junkyard Dan

The easy-to-read **Junkyard Dan** series is designed for older struggling, emergent and ESL readers. These books are perfect for middle-grade and high-school students, GED students and adult literacy programs. Although these books are written on a 1st- to 2nd-grade reading level, they are not babyish, boring or condescending.

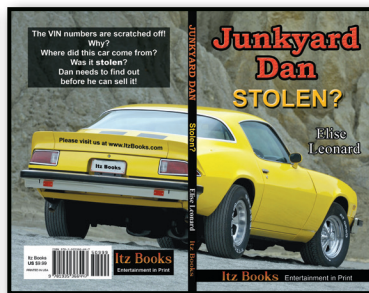
They are stories with *adult* characters, written *specifically* for the older struggling reader. All of the books by Nox Press are designed to help the older struggling reader find ease and immediate success while offering something of interest to this target learner.



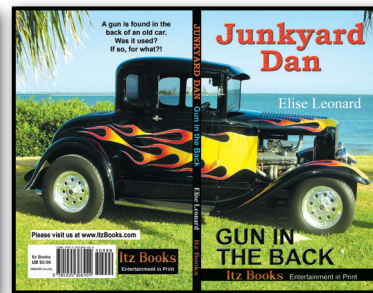
1 Start of a New Dan



2 Dried Blood

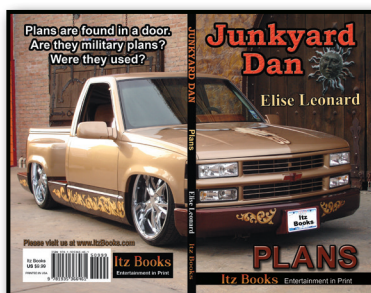


3 Stolen?

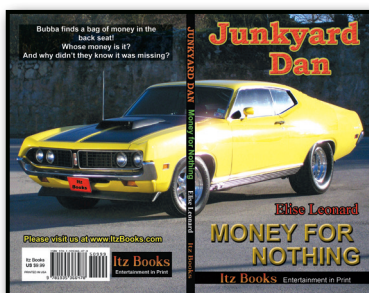


4 Gun in the Back

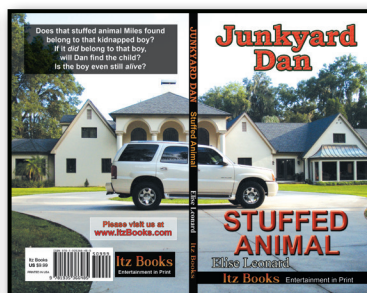
Readability for books 1 through 4: **Flesch-Kincaid 0.9**



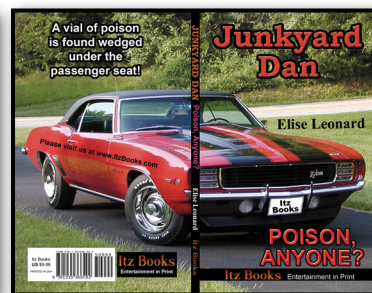
5 Plans



6 Money for Nothing

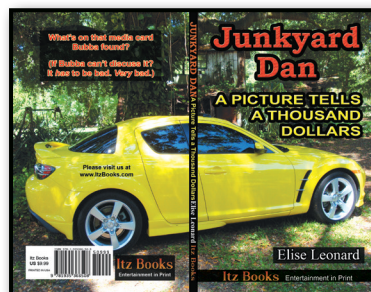


7 Stuffed Animal

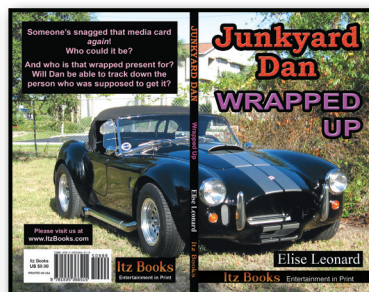


8 Poison, Anyone?

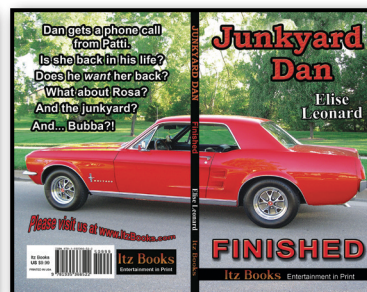
Readability for books 5 through 8: **Flesch-Kincaid 1.3 to 1.4**



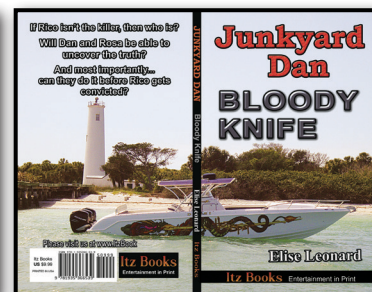
9 A Picture Tells a Thousand Dollars



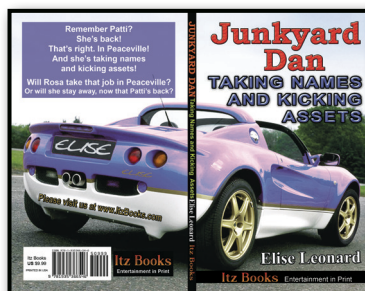
10 Wrapped Up



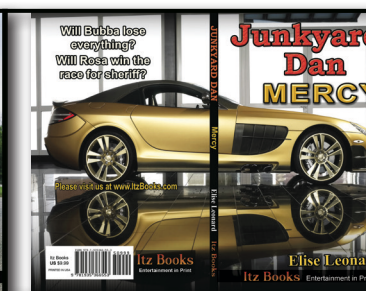
11 Finished



12 Bloody Knife



13 Taking Names and Kicking Assets



14 Mercy

Readability for books 9 through 14: **Flesch-Kincaid 1.6 to 1.8**

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