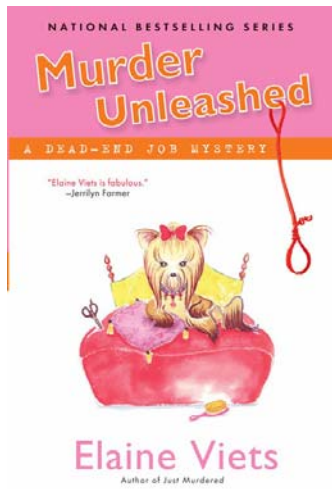


**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **Elaine Viets goes to the dogs!**

**Author's special offer with Pets Are Worth Saving  
(PAWS) helps save animals**



In honor of her hardcover debut, **MURDER UNLEASHED: A Dead-End Job Mystery** (NAL Hardcover Original; May 2, 2006; \$19.95), national bestselling author Elaine Viets has generously offered to personally donate \$1 to PAWS for every copy of **MURDER UNLEASHED** sold between now and May 20<sup>th</sup> on the Barnes & Noble website (bn.com) and at select Independent Mystery Booksellers Association (IMBA) stores.

The \$1-a-book offer has special meaning for Viets, who worked at the Bone Appetit Dog Boutique and Posh Paws Grooming Salon in Fort Lauderdale as research for her forthcoming mystery novel, which takes place at an upscale boutique for dogs. Viets has actually worked all the dead-end jobs featured in her acclaimed mystery series, just like her character Helen Hawthorne, the part-time sleuth who's always struggling to pay the bills. Over the years, Viets has worked as a dress store clerk, phone book proofreader, telemarketer, babysitter, bookseller, and weed-puller at 50 cents a bucket. While researching her latest *Dead-End Job* mystery, Viets befriended a real life rescue dog-turned-supermodel named Lulu (pictured with Viets above) who helped inspire the story of **MURDER UNLEASHED**.

Another one of Viets' former jobs is Barnes & Noble employee—she once worked as a bookseller at her local Barnes & Noble in Hollywood, Florida. Now, Barnes & Noble is

participating in Viets' special \$1-a-book offer through bn.com, with all the money going to PAWS (pre-orders are accepted).

A number of IMBA stores are also participating—and continue to sign on board—with the option of donating Viets' hard-earned cash to either PAWS or the local animal charity of their choice:

- Mystery Lovers Bookshop (Oakmont, PA)
- Creatures 'n Crooks (Richmond, VA)
- Murder by the Book (Houston, TX)
- Raven Bookstore (Lawrence, KS)
- Murder on the Beach (Delray Beach, FL)
- Mystery Bookstore (Los Angeles, CA)
- Aunt Agatha's (Ann Arbor, MI)
- Clues Unlimited (Tucson, AZ)
- Mysterious Galaxy (San Diego, CA)
- Aliens and Alibis (Columbia, SC)
- Jim Huang's Mystery Company (Carmel, IN)

“Animals and bookstores naturally go together,” says Viets, a true animal lover, to bookseller participants, “I know many of you have bookstore cats or other animal companions.”

With the support of Barnes & Noble, a selection of IMBA stores, and her fast-growing fan base, Viets will unleash her donation to PAWS (along with various local animal charities) upon receipt of her first royalty check.

To learn more about Pets Are Worth Saving (PAWS), go to <http://www.browardhumane.com/get%20involved/paws/index.asp>