**From the *Arizona Daily Star*, Sunday, Sept. 4: “History, mysteries and memoirs at top of mind for Tucson authors”**

**“The Law of Unintended Consequences”** By G. Davies Jandrey. Cortero Publishing. 302 pages. $19.59; Kindle $7.99.

Long-time Tucsonan G. Davies (Gayle) Jandrey clearly knows her way around the Old Pueblo. She displays this easy familiarity in her latest novel, set on the mean streets of Tucson and featuring a vividly rendered cast of characters.

Central to the drama is Tucson Police Department Det. Marie Stransky, who suspects a serial killer is behind a rash of murders in Santa Rita Park, a gathering place for the homeless. Having recently given birth to her fifth daughter, Stransky juggles her demanding job and her chaotic home life. It’s an uphill battle, what with her sadistic boss, her husband’s cooling affections, and the digital breast milk pump she wears under her uniform that hums loudly at inopportune times. She demands a lot of herself and makes self-defeating deals with God, but it all underscores her essential humanity; she’s a thoroughly realized and engaging character. Also notable are a trio of homeless women — Jandrey’s own version of “The Weird Sisters” — who are portrayed as real people with feelings, coping mechanisms and survival skills, rather than just symbols of society’s shortcomings; they round out a very authentic and satisfying read.

Jandrey, a retired educator, writes both prose and poetry. She is a coach at Literacy Connects’ Reading Seed program and a volunteer at Sister José Women’s Center. This is her sixth book.

— Helene Woodhams