## JULIA KELLER'S **BELL ELKINS**

Her life in shambles, prosecuting attorney Bell Elkins leaves her husband and highpaying job in Washington, D.C.to return with her teenage daughter Carla to povertyplagued Acker's Gap, her Appalachian hometown in West Virginia.

Aided by her best friend and childhood savior, Sheriff Nick Fogelsong, Bell fights against the growing illegal traffic in prescription drugs and the violence it spawns in her community. Her dreadful childhood and savage past uniquely qualify her to investigate the vicious local crimes; it is her point of view, coupled with a strong sense of place that makes these tales compelling.

- □ 01 Killing in the hills
- □ 02 Bitter river
- □ 03 Summer of the dead
- □ 04 Last ragged breath
- □ 05 Sorrow road
- □ 06 Fast falls the night

## **JULIA KELLER**



Julia Keller is a Pulitzer Prize-winning American writer and former journalist who has written a nonfiction book that detailed the cultural impact of the Gatling gun, and a mystery series set in the hills of Appalachian West Virginia.

Keller was born in Huntington, West Virginia and lived there throughout her early life. She graduated from Marshall University in Huntington, and earned a doctoral degree in English Literature from Ohio State University. She has taught at Princeton University, the University of Notre Dame, and the University of Chicago. Her reviews and commentary air on National Public Radio and on The PBS Newshour.

Keller worked for over 25 years as a journalist for many major newspapers, including the Columbus Dispatch and the Chicago Tribune. Keller won the 2005 Pulitzer Prize for Feature Writing for her narrative account of the deadly Utica, IL tornado, published by the Chicago Tribune in April 2004. She left her position at the Tribune, in 2012 to write full-time.

She currently lives in both Chicago and rural Ohio.