

Coming: IN THE KEY OF DEATH



The BOB LEVINSON AFFAIR
An Occasional Newsletter

IN THE KEY OF DEATH, my seventh book and third stand-alone thriller, is months away from release, but here's how I've been describing the story: *The ugly underbelly of the record industry is exposed in this behind-the-scenes, below-the-belt account of deceit, treachery, revenge and retribution that pits ex-LAPD detective Josh Wainwright against Clyde ("Mr. Magic") Davenport, the rich, eccentric, legendary relic of the Golden Age of Rock-and-Roll Wainwright blames for the murder of his wife, international singing idol Katie Sunshine, and at least ten other recording artists who quit Davenport after he turned them into superstars...*

"(An) ever-surprising, character-rich thriller."
—Baltimore Sun

"Tough and funny...a gang of federal double dealers who make the Hollywood press corps look like a church choir."
—Chicago Tribune

"Modern L.A. noir at its finest. An adrenalin blast from first page to last! I couldn't recommend a book more highly."
—John Lescroart

"Fast-paced and exciting... presents a dark, loving Chandleresque vision of Los Angeles. ...The city is as palpable a character as the fascinating violent friendship that Levinson depicts."
—David Morrell

TRANSCRIPT is the name of the first one-act I tried my hand at earlier this year, and I'm thrilled to say it's been selected to have its world premiere during the first **International Mystery Writers Festival at RiverPark Center** in Owensboro, KY, on a double-bill with a one-act by MWA Grand Master **Stuart Kaminsky**. Events organized by RiverPark's CEO/President **Zev Buffman** (iconic award-winning producer of Broadway and touring shows) include participation by the likes of **Angela Lansbury, Julie Andrews, Blake Edwards, Ira Levin, Television Academy Hall of Famer William Link, Sue Grafton, John Jakes, James W. Hall**, and more...

THE JAMES DEAN AFFAIR, second book in my Neil and Stevie "Affair" series, has made its appearance in a Japanese language edition, while "Affair" co-star Augie Fowler pops up twice this year in short story anthologies: **THE DEADLY BRIDE AND 21 OF THE YEAR'S FINEST CRIME AND MYSTERY STORIES**, edited by **Ed Gorman and Martin H. Greenberg**, in a story that first appeared in *Alfred Hitchcock Mystery Magazine*, and **HOLLYWOOD AND CRIME: AN ANTHOLOGY OF HOLLYWOOD CRIME STORIES**, edited by **Robert Randisi**, in an original story among four singled out in a *Publishers Weekly* review, (quote): "Robert S. Levinson delivers a wicked portrait of gossip columnist Hedda Hopper in 'And the Winner Is...', 'which turns on her lackey's efforts to stop a Nazi sharpshooter at the 1960 Academy Awards.'" (unquote)...

INTERNATIONAL MYSTERY WRITERS FESTIVAL June 12-17 RiverPark Center Owensboro, KY

The only festival to present live, professionally produced performances of new mystery plays and screenplays, including the "special event" premiere of

TRANSCRIPT

By Robert S. Levinson

(What seems like a celebrity interview turns into confessions of murder)

on a double bill with

BOOKS

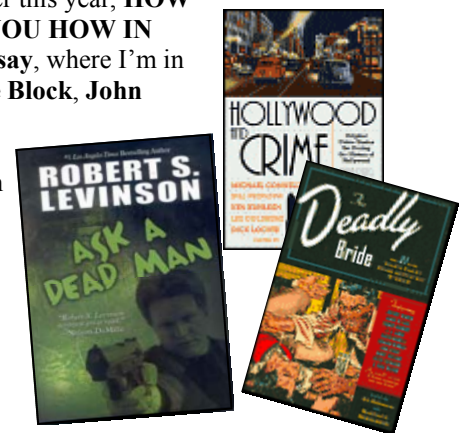
By Stuart Kaminsky

(A journey from a bank robbery to a bookstore full of hostages)

More information:
www.newmysteries.org

INTERNATIONAL THRILLER WRITERS' ThrillerFest returns in July, this time at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in New York, and I'm deep into pre-production on my second go writing, producing and (gasp!) emceeing the **Second Annual Thriller Awards** show. Also returning, the all-star **Killer Thriller Band**, comprising the same gang of best-selling authors that rocked 'em and had 'em dancing at last year's inaugural event...More than a few surprises also on tap...

PAST, PRESENT & FUTURES: Set for publication later this year, **HOW I GOT PUBLISHED—FAMOUS AUTHORS TELL YOU HOW IN THEIR OWN WORDS** by **Ray White and Duane Lindsay**, where I'm in amazing company that includes **Clive Cussler, Lawrence Sanders, John Gilstrap, Dave Barry**, etc., etc...In addition to the annual **Los Angeles Times Festival of Books** (signing at the **Mysterious Bookstore** and **Sisters in Crime** booths), I'm primed for this year's **Bouchercon** and a first-time ever visit to Alaska, as well as what's become a tradition, giving **Joan Hansen** hugs and a mock hard time at her annual "Men of Mystery" event in Irvine, CA...In the works, another thriller, this one full of historical spy stuff and the American "turncoat rebel" who achieves fame behind the Iron Curtain...**THIS JUST IN:** A Neil Gulliver short story, "Prisoner of Memory," set for the July/August double-issue of *Alfred Hitchcock Mystery Magazine*...Nominated for a **Derringer Award** by the **Short Mystery Fiction Society**, for "Uncle Blinky's Corner of the World," from the March/April 2006 issue of *Ellery Queen Mystery Magazine*... Until next time, take care and be well...

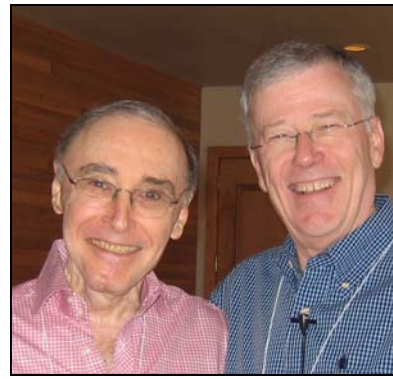
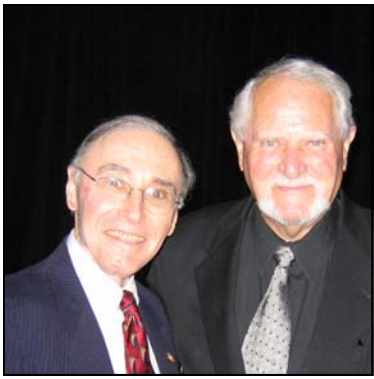


ASK A DEAD MAN, another Levinson *Los Angeles Times* bestseller, is now available in trade paperback as well as hard cover. Short stories appear in **THE DEADLY BRIDE AND 21 OF THE YEAR'S FINEST CRIME AND MYSTERY STORIES** and **HOLLYWOOD AND CRIME: AN ANTHOLOGY OF HOLLYWOOD CRIME STORIES**.



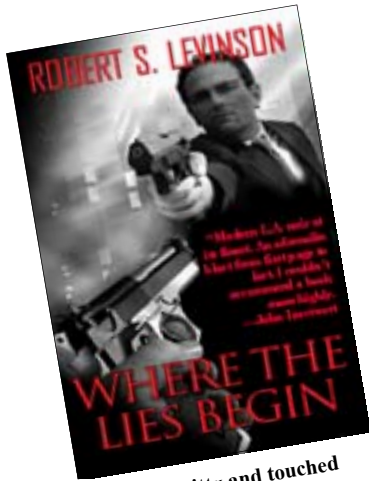
Killer Thriller Band Strikes Again!

ITW 2nd Annual Thriller Awards Show
ITW's ThrillerFest - July 12-15-NYC



TOP: Bob and Clive Cussler smile for the camera at ThrillerFest in Phoenix, AZ; with Joan Hansen at her sixth annual “Men of Mystery” in Irvine, CA; reunited with an old pal, Dennis Foley, bestselling author of military fiction; **BOTTOM:** Mystery on the Menu” luncheon at Cerritos (CA) library featured, from left, seated: Denise Hamilton, Tod Goldberg, Joanne Fluke, Jennifer Colt, Steven J. Cannell, Brett Ellen Block, Sheryl Anderson; standing: Paul Levine, Walter Satterhwait, Gar Anthony Haywood, Kelly Lange, Susan Kandel, Bob, John Shannon; with Joseph Wambaugh at Mysterious Galaxy in San Diego, where Bob grilled Joe about his new novel.

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“Poetic, gritty and touched with black humor...dissects the Machiavellian world of big-city politics, vividly dramatizing the unbridled ambition and terrifying end-game power plays only hinted at by today’s headlines. Levinson’s cool writing and hot topics are bold and memorable.”
 —Gayle Lynds