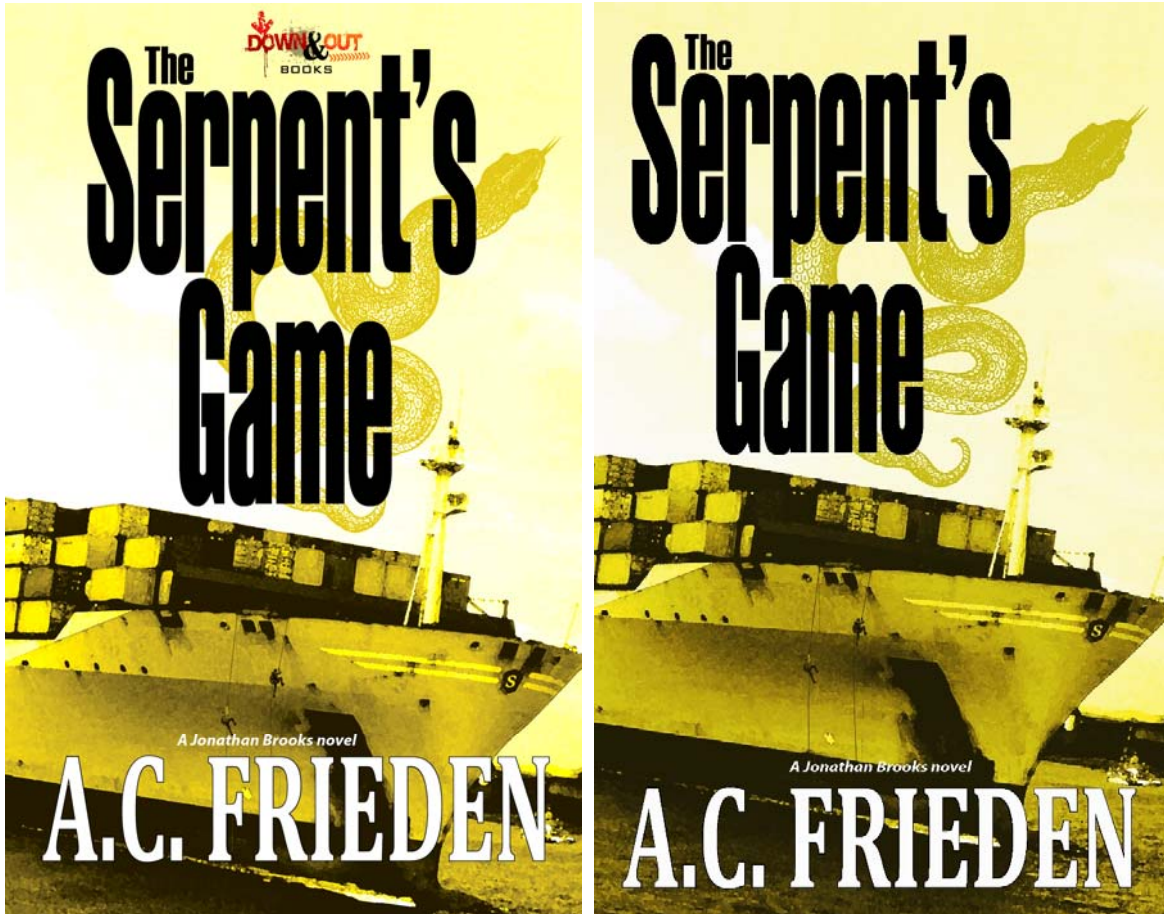


A.C. Frieden's Latest Thriller Released in US, UK, Canada and India

CHICAGO, Illinois, USA (Dec. 1, 2013) – A.C. Frieden has launched *The Serpent's Game*, the latest thriller in his Jonathan Brooks series. It was released in the U.S. and Canada on December 1 in paperback and e-book (Amazon Kindle and Barnes & Noble Nook). The e-book versions were also released in the UK and India.

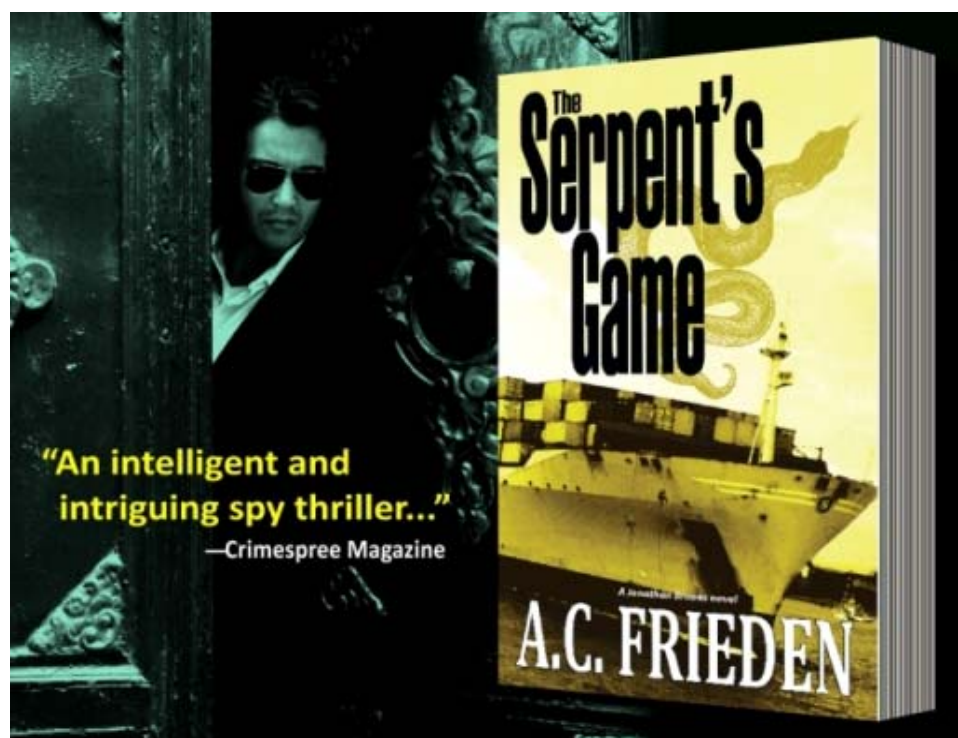


(Above) Covers for Frieden's newest thriller *The Serpent's Game* (left, ebook; right, paperback).

In his prior globetrotting spy thriller *Tranquility Denied*, A.C. Frieden masterfully fused Cold War espionage, courtroom drama, a collision at sea, and a frantic globetrotting search for the truth behind a sinister plot involving some of the world's most dangerous weapons. In *The Serpent's Game*, Frieden returns with his most high-stakes novel to date. Only hours before Hurricane Katrina barrels down on New Orleans, maritime lawyer Jonathan Brooks faces a tough choice: seek refuge out of town or help Mariya, a figure from his past, locate her missing nephew feared drowned in the Mississippi. His law firm now on the brink of collapse and facing the storm of the century, Jonathan is burdened with responsibility. But Mariya is no friend. The sultry Russian provocateur saved his life a decade ago but not without dragging him into a world of murder, mayhem and deceit. As darkness bleeds into the Crescent City, Brooks' search for the truth behind a body in the river catapults him into an international storm that sweeps into the espionage underworld of Russia, the intelligence centers of Washington, D.C., the politics of North Korea, the waterways of the Panama Canal, the back streets of Havana and the barrios of Caracas—and into the heart of Jonathan's own darkness.

Frieden's new thriller is the end result of painstaking research over four years, which included exploring the Panama Canal from the air, water and jungle; braving the crime-infested neighborhoods of Caracas; trekking remote shores of Lake Nicaragua; getting his airman rating to fly seaplanes (for one important scene); interviewing cops who had patrolled the dangerous streets of New Orleans during Hurricane Katrina; surveying Havana's secretive black marketeers; wandering the eerie streets of Pyongyang, North Korea; scoping out an espionage defection scene in Stockholm; attending secret meetings with some of Hugo Chavez's most ardent supporters, as well as his former lover; and chatting with gunrunners, former intelligence officers, diplomats, journalists, military pilots, cargo ship captains, and forensics experts across five countries. "The research was a fascinating adventure in itself," Frieden said. "I wanted to dig deeper, ask the tough questions, extract little-known facts, and experience some degree of danger and thrill firsthand—to make the story and characters as realistic as possible." Frieden's next book in the series, *The Pyongyang Option*, is set mainly in Kiev and Chernobyl, Ukraine, and Pyongyang, North Korea.

So far, the novel's reviews have been superb. Crimespree Magazine calls *The Serpent's Game* "an intelligent and intriguing spy thriller." Bookreview.com describes it as "some of the best writing about the early hours of Katrina," and Jamie Freveletti, author of Robert Ludlum's spy thriller *The Janus Reprisal*, calls Frieden's novel "a gritty, complex and satisfying thriller."



(Above) One of several launch ads for A.C. Frieden's latest thriller, *THE SERPENT'S GAME*.

About the author: A.C. Frieden is an international author and lawyer based in Chicago. His works include the Jonathan Brooks espionage thriller series, as well as other fiction and non-fiction books. The e-book versions are published by Down & Out Books and the paperback by Avendia Publishing. For more information, visit his website at www.acfrieden.com and his blogs.

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