

A.C. Frieden's Second Jonathan Brooks Thriller is Out

CHICAGO, Illinois, USA (Dec. 1, 2013) – *The Serpent's Game*, A.C. Frieden's latest spy thriller in the Jonathan Brooks series, was released on December 1 in paperback and e-book (Amazon Kindle and Barnes & Noble Nook versions). In his prior globetrotting thriller, *Tranquility Denied*, A.C. Frieden masterfully fused Cold War espionage, tense courtroom drama, a collision at sea and a frantic search for the truth behind a sinister plot involving some of the world's most dangerous weapons. In this new sequel, 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 shadowy figure from his past, locate her missing nephew feared drowned in the Mississippi. His law firm now on the brink of financial ruin 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 murky politics of North Korea, the waterways of the Panama Canal, the back streets of Havana and the dangerous barrios of Caracas—and into the heart of Jonathan's own darkness.

“International espionage collides with Katrina-ravaged New Orleans—an intelligent and intriguing spy thriller.”
—Erica Ruth Neubauer
CRIMESPREE MAGAZINE

“A gritty, complex and satisfying thriller.”
—Jamie Freveletti, author of
Robert Ludlum’s *The Janus Reprisal*

The Serpent’s Game
A Jonathan Brooks novel
A.C. FRIEDEN

The much-anticipated sequel to *Tranquility Denied*
Available today in ebook and paperback

(above) One of several launch ads appearing online for *The Serpent's Game*.

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 the day Hurricane Katrina struck; surveying Havana's secretive black marketeers; wandering the eerie streets of Pyongyang, North Korea; 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 in five countries. "The research was a fascinating adventure in itself," Frieden said. "I wanted to dig deeper, ask the tough questions, and experience the danger and thrill firsthand—to make the story and characters as realistic as possible." Frieden's next thriller in the series, *The Pyongyang Option*, is set mainly in Ukraine and North Korea, two countries Frieden has visited to research his novel.

Reviews so far 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 *The Janus Reprisal*, calls it "a gritty, complex and satisfying thriller." *The Serpent's Game* is available in e-book from Down & Out Books and in paperback from Avendia Publishing.



(Above) Frieden prepares for another training flight on a Minnesota lake to test emergency scenarios, which were important for him to write a realistic action scene involving a seaplane in *THE SERPENT'S GAME*.

About the author: A.C. Frieden is a Swiss-Brazilian-American novelist, lawyer, pilot, diver and former sniper and currently lives in Chicago. He is the author of several espionage novels and other literary works, both fiction and nonfiction. For more information, visit his website at www.acfrieden.com or his blogs on literary research travel, writing, diving and piloting.

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To contact the author, visit his official website or email his publishers:

Avendia Publishing
Email: media@avendiapublishing.com

Down & Out Books
Email: info@downandoutbooks.com