



BOOKSELLERS

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Hours

Monday - Wednesday:

10:30 am - 5:30 pm

Thursday & Friday:

10:30 am - 8 pm

Saturday:

10:30 am - 6 pm



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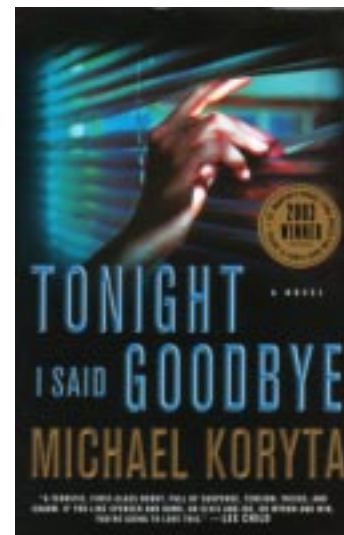
Independent Bookstores
for Independent Minds

First novelist Michael Koryta leads off our sensational September series of events

We have a busy fall season full of author events. It's a diverse slate — tough guys/cozies, big cities/small towns, newcovers/long-time favorites, novelists/short story writers. Something for everyone. We hope you'll join us.

Thursday, September 16, 7 pm MICHAEL KORYTA

St. Martin's Press and the Private Eye Writers of America sponsor an annual contest for first-time private eye novelists. The contest goes back to 1986, and past winners include folk like Les Roberts, Karen Kijewski and Steve Hamilton. This year's winner is Michael Koryta, a Bloomington resident and — get this — he was just 20 years old when he wrote the winning novel, *Tonight I Said Goodbye* (St. Martin's Press, \$21.95??). Koryta is a student at Indiana University, majoring in Criminal Justice. He is also a reporter for the *Bloomington Herald-Tribune* and a member of the Indiana Society of Professional *continued inside* ➔



Calendar

Thursday, September 16, 7 pm

Indiana writer **Michael Koryta** visits to talk about and sign copies of *Tonight I Said Goodbye*, his first novel and winner of the St. Martin's Press/Private Eye Writers of America Best First Private Eye Novel contest.

Saturday, September 18, 2 pm

Indiana writer **Larry D. Sweazy** visits to talk about and sign copies of his short story, "The Promotion," published in a new anthology entitled *Texas Rangers*.

Sunday, September 19, 2 pm

Three Chicago writers — **Barbara D'Amato**, **Michael Allen Dymmoch** and **Libby Fischer Hellman** — visit to talk about and sign copies of their books.

Wednesday, September 22, 7 pm. Discussion: *The Daughter of Time* by Josephine Tey

Thursday, September 23, noon. Discussion: *Daughter of Time* by Tey

Thursday, September 23, 7 pm

Eleanor Sullivan, an Indiana native and author of two mysteries featuring nurse Monika Everhardt, visits to talk about and sign copies of her books.

Saturday, October 2, 2 pm

Monette Michaels (aka our own Moni Draper) and Janet Ferran will talk about and sign copies of *Blind-Sided*, their medical/legal thriller based on actual events in New Orleans.

See "Looking ahead" inside on page 3 for more upcoming events.

Investigators.

Right away, you can understand what attracted the judges: the quick pace, the wisecracking, the youthful energy and, especially, the relationship between the two PIs who work together. Here's how *Publishers Weekly* reviews the book:

"A pair of PIs investigate the murder of one of their own in Koryta's sharp, fast-paced debut. Crusty old John Weston hires partners Lincoln Perry and Joe Pritchard to investigate both the death of his son, Wayne, in an incident the cops have ruled a suicide, and the disappearance of Wayne's wife and young daughter. Perry and Pritchard soon determine that Wayne was working for Jeremiah Hubbard, "Cleveland's answer to Donald Trump," in a series of surveillance jobs that brought him into contact with Russian mobsters. The case heats up considerably when the detectives locate Randy Hartwick, a Marine who served with Wayne in a special ops unit, only to have him shot right before their eyes... Koryta delivers well-crafted scenes and genuinely surprising plot twists. This riveting detective novel should delight fans looking for new talent."

We are delighted to be hosting the first signing for *Tonight I Said Goodbye* and Michael Koryta.

Saturday, September 18, 2 pm **LARRY D. SWEAZY**

Larry D. Sweazy is the author of eight short stories that have appeared in *Hardboiled*, *Kracked Mirror Mysteries*, and other small press magazines. His poetry has appeared or will appear in *The Red River Review*, *The Raintree Review*, *The Tipton Poetry Review* and other literary reviews. Sweazy is also a freelance indexer, with over 340 indexes to his credit for such publishers as Cisco Press, Addison-Wesley and O'Reilly. He lives in Noblesville with his wife and dog.

Sweazy will visit to talk about his new short story, published this month in an anthology entitled *Texas Rangers* (Berkley, \$5.99), edited by Ed Gorman and Martin H. Greenberg. In "The Promotion," Samuel "Red" Wolfe, the lead investigator of the Texas Ranger's Unsolved Crimes Investigation Unit (UCIT) has been promoted to Assistant Commander of Company C, and is being transferred to Lubbock. But he has one case that haunts him, and he has promised to solve it before he leaves San Antonio.

Sunday, September 19, 2 pm **BARBARA D'AMATO, MICHAEL ALLEN** **DYMMOCH & LIBBY FISCHER HELLMANN**

Three Chicago writers visit to talk about and sign copies of their books.

Michael Allen Dymmoch departs from her series featuring John Thinnies and Jack Caleb with *The Fall* (St. Martin's Press, \$23.95), a standalone novel about a woman who sees a hit and run in her neighborhood and reports it to the police. As *The Drood Review* noted, "from that point on, a woman who has struggled to gain control over her life finds it wrested from her by circumstance. Despite the support of her friends and family and the concern of the FBI agent who comes to care for her, there is no one who can save her from losing all that

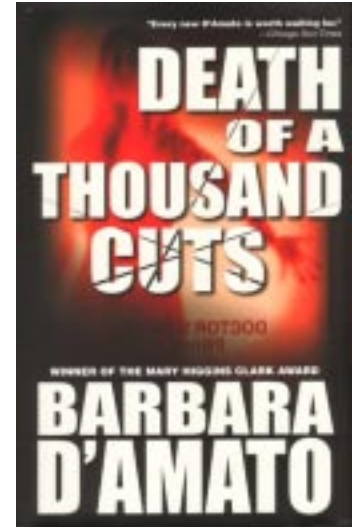
makes her life meaningful. *The Fall* has many a lovely turn of phrase and engaging characters but it is how Joanne changes and what she does about it that are not to be missed."

Barbara D'Amato has been a favorite of mine for years; I've even reprinted one of her earlier novels in my Mystery Company publishing line: *Hardball*, first in the Cat Marsala series (\$13). More recently, D'Amato has been writing smart and scary standalone thrillers, among which *White Male Infant* (Forge, \$6.99) stands out — a heartbreaking and terrifying novel about adoption.

D'Amato's new book is *Death of a Thousand Cuts* (Forge, \$24.95). Here's how *Publishers Weekly* describes it: "Set in Chicago during the heat wave of 1995, D'Amato's absorbing new stand-alone draws the reader into the uncomfortable and strange world of autistic children.

Hawthorne House, a mansion that was once home to a residential school for autistic children, is the setting for a reunion-cum-workshop 15 years after the school's closing. Jeffrey Clifford, a limited but successful computer systems engineer, apprehensively mingles with other former patients, therapists and staff members, including the school's celebrated and charismatic director, Dr. Jay Schermerhorn. When Schermerhorn's body is found brutally mutilated in a pool of blood in the school basement, detectives Emily Folkestone and Oliver Park get on the high-profile case amid a hue and cry from police headquarters and the mayor. Wry humor and characters with real depth help propel the plot to its poignant conclusion. As the further reading list in her author's note suggests, D'Amato has thoroughly researched her subject, raising some strong arguments against Freudian theory and practice that reflect the current debate over Freud in the psychiatric community."

Libby Hellmann returns for a second visit to The Mystery Company. Her latest is *An Image of Death* (Poisoned Pen, \$24.95 and Berkley, \$6.50). This is PW's review: "Chicago filmmaker Ellie Foreman specializes in video documentaries, but her career has a way of sliding into harrowing murder investigations, as it does in this powerful tale, the third in the series. Foreman's receipt of a hand-delivered, unmarked surveillance videotape, apparently showing the cold-blooded murder of a young woman, ensures she gets involved in the police hunt for the woman's killer, if only at the fringes... When the police run out of leads, Foreman shifts into high gear and uncovers a web of deceit connected to the break-up of the Soviet Union and the ensuing chaos and crime. Hellmann is adept at welding technical information about film-making, diamond cutting and other arcane subjects to strong characters. With her somewhat disreputable past, Foreman comes across



as a complex and flawed heroine, who grapples with issues as large as murder and as mundane as an overdue visit to her father. Foreman's pluck and grit married to Hellmann's solid storytelling should win a growing audience.

Thursday, September 23, 7 pm ELEANOR SULLIVAN

Indianapolis native Eleanor Sullivan, a graduate of Shortridge High School, visits to talk about and sign copies of *Twice Dead* (hardcover \$26.95 and paperback \$14.95) and *Deadly Diversion* (hc \$28.95, pb \$16.95), both published by

Hilliard & Harris. Both books feature nurse Monika Everhardt, and are based on Sullivan's career in nursing.

In *Deadly Diversion*, a small-time crook dies in the ICU just before he was to tell the police who murdered a gangster 20 years ago. Aaron Elkins says: "Eleanor Sullivan has constructed a medical mystery that rings with authenticity, and a spunky, likable, interesting nurse-protagonist."

Sullivan is a former Dean of the University of Kansas School of Nursing and a past president of Sigma Theta Tau International. In addition to her novels, Sullivan is also the author of several textbooks on nursing. She now lives in St. Louis and is the incoming Secretary of Sisters in Crime.

NEW & NOTEWORTHY

Hissy Fit by Mary Kay Andrews
HarperCollins, \$24.95

Keeley Murdock pitches her hissy fit at her wedding rehearsal dinner after discovering her fiancé and her maid of honor using the country club's boardroom table for a very close meeting. Keeley achieves a swath of destruction so wide it gets her father kicked out of the club. The engagement is definitely off.

In the small town of Madison, Georgia actions can have big consequences. Keeley's former fiancé has an influential family determined to ruin Keeley's interior design business in retaliation for the scandal she caused. Luckily, a newcomer to town, Will Mahoney, has just purchased an antebellum mansion he wants restored and decorated by Christmas — an impossible deadline. But he seems to have more money than sense. He hires Keeley.

Trying to sort herself out after the wedding fiasco, Keeley investigates why her mother left home 25 years earlier. Combining her search for clues with antique buying trips throughout the South provides rich texture to the plot.

Andrews peoples her books with marvelous characters and this is no exception. Everyone you'd like to hate and those you cheer for are here. There's a mysterious thread running through the story of Keeley's journey toward finding her own identity in the town where she grew up. It's a nice combination and a good evening's read.

—Sherry

Friends & Neighbors

Mystery Company Members can get an early look at forthcoming books through our Friends & Neighbors program. We offer a selection of advance reading copies of new mysteries. You may borrow one ARC at a time without charge. All we ask is that you return the ARC with your comments about the book and that you allow us to use your comments in the store, on the web and in our newsletter.

This review is by Diane Urbain:

Shadows on the Ivy by Lea Wait
Schribner, \$24.00

An interesting, enjoyable cozy mystery about the poisoning

of two students at a community college. The heroine, Maggie, is a teacher and also deals in antique prints. Throughout, we learn many interesting facts about American history, antique prints and antique fairs. Lea Wait kept me guessing to the end. She includes some interesting secondary characters: the secretary, a cat named Winslow and a wonderful "beau."

LOOKING AHEAD

Wednesday, October 13, 7 pm

Lonno Waiwaiole, a nominee for this year's Anthony Award for best first novel, talks about and signs copies of his books.

Monday, October 18, 7 pm

Kokomo native **Emily Craig**, forensic anthropologist for the Commonwealth of Kentucky, visits to talk about and sign copies of *Teasing Secrets from the Dead: My Investigations at America's Most Infamous Crime Scenes*. Craig will be bringing along crime scene slides.

Wednesday, Oct. 27, 7 pm. Discussion: *The Ax* by Donald Westlake

Thursday, Oct. 28, noon. Discussion: *The Ax* by Westlake

Saturday, November 13, 2 pm

Carmel resident **Phil Dunlap** visits to talk about and sign copies of his first novel, *The Death of Desert Belle*.

Sunday, November 14, 2 pm

Sharon Short and **Heather Webber** visit to talk about and sign copies of their books; both write amusing cozy series set in small-town Ohio.

Thursday, Nov. 18, noon. Discussion: *Aunt Dimity's Death* by Nancy Atherton

Saturday, November 20, 2-4 pm

Our second annual Indiana Mystery Writers' Holiday Celebration. Once again, we're inviting **all** of our state's mystery writers to join us for a reception and signing.

Tuesday, Nov. 23, 7 pm. Discussion: *Original Sin* by P.D. James



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

**Four
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Our book signings

We're having a rash of author appearances in the next three months, and we'd like to invite those who haven't attended one to join us. The authors — sometimes individually, sometimes traveling in a group — generally talk about their current book and their career, and answer questions. It's informal: we put out chairs, provide refreshments — Edna's homemade cookies are worth the trip — and we have the author's backlist of books, in addition to current titles.

You're never obligated to buy a book when you attend the event. Our events generally last an hour — sometimes more if you have lots of questions. Then the writers are available to sign their books for you and talk with you personally.

If you can't attend, but you'd like a signed book, just call the bookstore and have us get it signed for you. You can pick it up at your convenience.

Mystery writers' critique group?

Susan Harding, a Mystery Company member asks: "Write mysteries? Suspense? Want to join a writers' group for gentle critiques and insightful feedback? Contact The Mystery Company and provide your information."

If there is an interest in starting a mystery writers' critique group, we will be happy to host it. One of our staffers, Sherry Crane, has volunteered to lead the group. She's published both in fiction and non-fiction and has participated in critique groups for several years.

Grim Grotto giveaways

We are taking reservations for the new Lemony Snicket, *The Grim Grotto* (HarperCollins, \$11.99). Books will be here on September 21, but in the meantime we're giving away free *Grim Grotto* keychain flashlights (batteries included!) when you reserve your copy of the new book. We also have some cute bookmarks, which we'll be giving away with purchase, when the books arrive. Supplies (of the giveaways) are limited; stop in, call or email to reserve today.

Also, we will be raffling off the hideous talking standee of the sinister Count Olaf that's in the front of the store right now. No purchase necessary, but you must come in to the store and enter in person. The drawing will be held on September 21, and you must pick up the figure from us (i.e. we can't ship it to you). This is a really cool promotional item; we've been having a lot of fun with it and you will too.

Mystery Money

It's no secret how to get **Mystery Money**. All you have to do is get a friend to sign up for a Mystery Company membership, and you will get to draw a card to uncover your reward. Rewards include free books and dollars (\$3 to \$15) off your purchase. And your friends will save too: 6% off purchases right away and 10% off after they've spent \$300.

Bring in your friends now through September 30 to take advantage of this special offer.