



# Tied-In

The Newsletter of the International Association of Media Tie-in Writers

## Timeless

By Alina Adams

“The Man From Oakdale,” a Pocket Books romantic suspense novel tie-in to the Emmy Award winning soap opera “As The World Turns” and an indirect sequel to the New York Times best-seller “Oakdale Confidential,” was commissioned in the winter of 2008, written in the spring, edited and rewritten in the summer, and then put into production immediately after Labor Day for a January 2009 release date.

Everything was going along smoothly . . . until people started coming back from the dead.

A character that was still safely dead in the summer of 2008 returned to the show, alive and kicking, in the fall. Which means that “The Man From Oakdale,” the plot of which was approved the previous winter will be on the shelves with everyone referring to the earlier death of a character that, on the air in January 2009, will be very much alive.

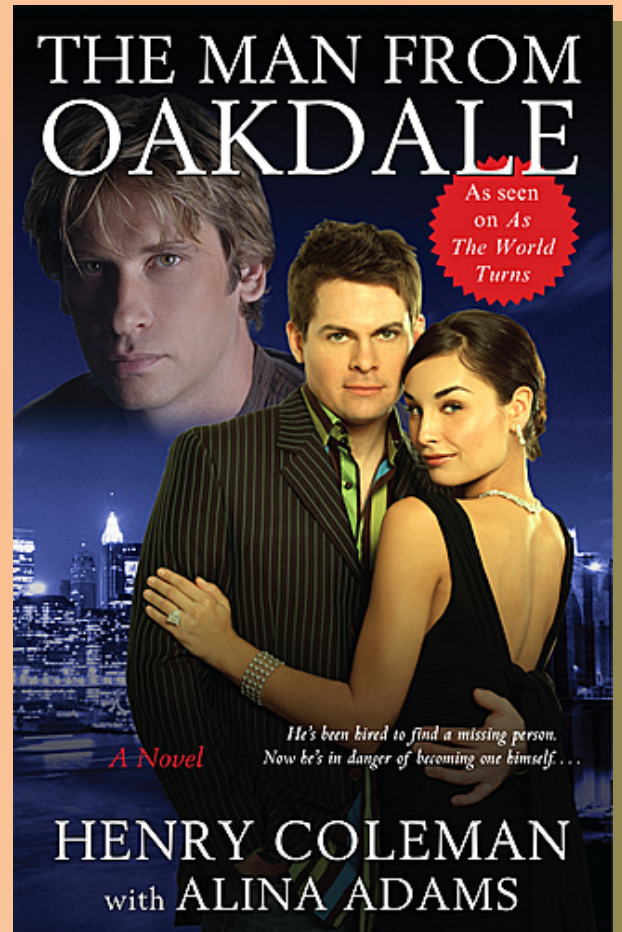
Simultaneously, a long-running “As The World

Turns” villain who is suspected of evil doing in the book as if he were alive will, in fact, on the air be very much dead (unless something changes between my writing this and the start of 2009—which is always possible).

In addition, a woman who was deemed infertile in the book is now pregnant on the show, and a man who despaired of ever becoming a father is well on his way to becoming one (unless, once again, that changes—which it could).

Welcome to the wonderful world of soap opera tie-in writing, where an actor’s real-life tricky contract negotiations, suddenly ballooning mortgage, termination of unemployment benefits or surprise pregnancy means the on-air story might have to be changed. Which is all well and good for them. But I ask you: Why should I suffer?

ABC Daytime, which produces “All My Children,”



“One Life to Live” and “General Hospital” understands this problem. Which is presumably why, when they released the AMC tie-in “Charm!” and OLTL’s “The Killing Club,” the books were wholly original stories that had nothing to do with what was happening on the air short of a major character “writing” them (presumably in the spare moments between passionate love



Alina Adams

affairs, secret children and, as I may have mentioned previously, people coming back from the dead at the most inopportune times).

However, over at Procter & Gamble Productions, the producers of “As The World Turns” and “Guiding Light” believe that their fans would rather read a complimentary story about the characters they love, instead of about complete strangers with only a tangential connection to the main narrative.

“Oakdale Confidential” was released in April of 2006 to tie in with “As The World Turns” 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. It featured beloved heroines Carly, Katie and Maddie in an original adventure and, on the air, triggered a “Who Wrote It?” mystery as everyone in town wondered about the identity of the cryptically “Anonymous” author willing to lay out all of Oakdale’s dirty laundry for the world to see.

In 2007, “Guiding Light” authorized the literary telling

of “Jonathan’s Story.” That novel filled in the blanks on what another popular character had been doing while the actor was off the canvas. When he returned to the show, it was with a secret . . . one that viewers could learn by reading “Jonathan’s Story.” In this case, the tie-in novel actually became a key part of the show’s 70 years and counting on-going narrative.

Now another Oakdale resident has picked up the vaguely poisonous pen. Henry Coleman (as played by actor Trent Dawson) imagines himself Oakdale’s answer to Cary Grant, with just a touch of Oscar Wilde and Indiana Jones for good measure. When his girlfriend Vienna left him during the summer, Henry sat down to conjure up a swash-buckling, continent-sweeping, glamorous, romantic tale of passion and adventure—i.e. the way their lives should be—if only Vienna deigned to return to him.

Being a man of limitless wit but, apparently, limited imagination, Henry cast their friends and neighbors in supporting roles. The living and the dead ones.

What a shame for him—and for me (his, ahem, co-writer)—that several folks ended up changing their mortal status in between copy-editing and publication.

## Taking Credit

By Lee Goldberg

One of the many benefits of being in the IAMTW is our Member Credits database. It lists the contact information and tie-in credits for all of our members. Every few months, we send out the list to dozens of tie-in editors and licensing executives so they’ll have it handy when they are looking for qualified writers to fill open assignments. If you are an IAMTW member, make sure we have your latest contact information and tie-in credits. Visit the “Members Only” section of the IAMTW website and double-check your listing. Send any corrections and updates to Jeff Mariotte at [jmariotte@aol.com](mailto:jmariotte@aol.com). And while you are there, check out our Tie-In Editors database to make sure that the information is current. If you have any corrections or updates, send them to Raymond Benson [Rbinperson@comcast.net](mailto:Rbinperson@comcast.net).

## Odyssey Workshop

IAMTW's Jeanne Cavelos is the director of the Odyssey Writing Workshop. She recently provided the following release:

If you write science fiction, fantasy, or horror, you might be interested in the Odyssey Writing Workshop.

The 2009 workshop will be held from June 8 to July 17 at Saint Anselm College in Manchester, NH. Odyssey provides a great opportunity to improve your writing and receive feedback from editors and authors. More information can be found below, or on the workshop website:

[www.odysseyworkshop.org](http://www.odysseyworkshop.org).

Since its inception in 1996, Odyssey has earned a place as one of the most respected workshops in the science fiction, fantasy, and horror writing community. Odyssey is for developing writers whose work is approaching publication quality and for published writers who want to improve their work. The six-week workshop combines an intensive learning and writing experience with in-depth feedback on student manuscripts. Top authors, editors, and agents have served as guest lecturers, including George R. R. Martin, Harlan Ellison, Jane Yolen, Terry Brooks, Robert J. Sawyer, Ben Bova, Nancy Kress, Elizabeth Hand, Jeff

VanderMeer, Donald Maass, Sheila Williams, Shawna McCarthy, and Dan Simmons.

Fifty-three percent of Odyssey graduates go on to professional publication. The program is held every summer on Saint Anselm College's beautiful campus in Manchester. Saint Anselm is one of the finest liberal arts colleges in the country, dedicated to excellence in education, and its campus provides a lovely setting and state-of-the-art facilities for Odyssey students.

College credit is available upon request.

Jeanne Cavelos, Odyssey's director, founder, and primary instructor, is a best-selling author and a former senior editor at Bantam Doubleday Dell Publishing, where she won the World Fantasy Award for her work. Being a writer and editor makes Cavelos suited to provide students with constructive and professional critiques of their work.

"I give the same unflinchingly honest, concrete, detailed feedback that I provided as a senior editor," Cavelos said.

Her typewritten critiques average around 1,000 words and her handwritten line edits on manuscripts are extensive. In addition, she guides students through the six weeks, gaining in-depth knowledge of their work, providing detailed assessments of their



Jeanne Cavelos and her iguana

strengths and weaknesses in private meetings, and helping them target their weaknesses one by one.

Odyssey class time is split between workshop sessions and lectures. An advanced, comprehensive curriculum covers the elements of fiction writing in depth. Students learn the tools and techniques necessary to strengthen their writing.

The class meets for four hours in the morning, five days a week. Students spend about eight hours more per day writing and critiquing each other's work. The early admission application deadline is January 31st, and the regular admission deadline is April 8th. Tuition is \$1,900, and housing is \$700 for a double room and \$1,400 for a single.

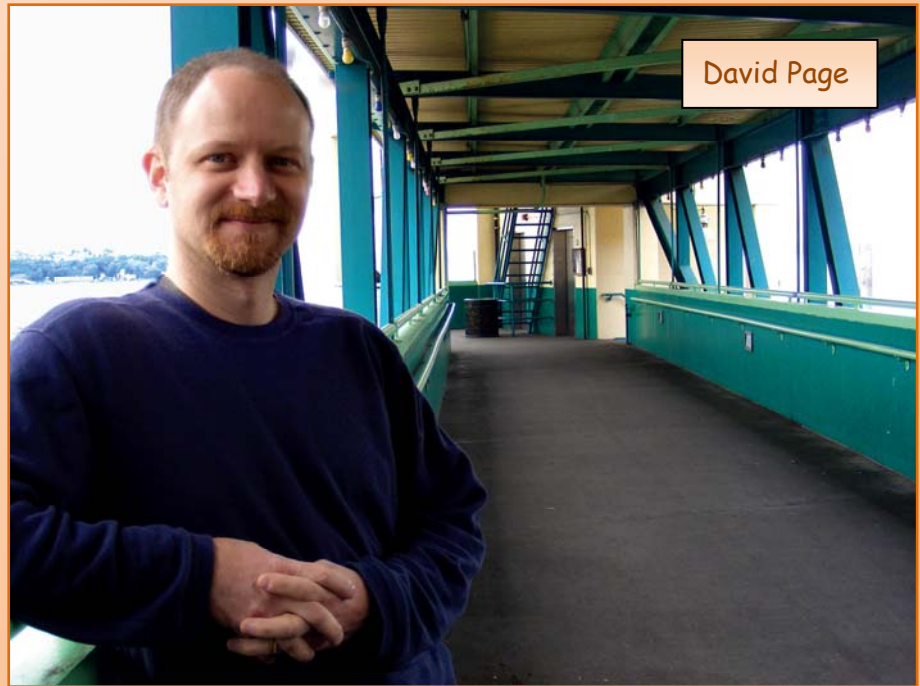
Our 2009 Writer-in-Residence is Carrie Vaughn, New York Times bestselling author and Odyssey 1998 graduate.

Carrie is the author of the phenomenally popular "Kitty" novels, about a werewolf who hosts a talk radio show. The first novel, *Kitty and the Midnight Hour* has more than a hundred thousand copies in print. Books five and six of the series, *Dead Man's Hand* and *Kitty Raises Hell*, will appear in 2009. Carrie's short stories have appeared in *Realms of Fantasy*, *Weird Tales*, George R. R. Martin's *Wild Cards* series, and other anthologies.

She has a Master's degree in English Literature from the University of Colorado at Boulder and has been a lifelong science fiction fan and reader.

Other Guest Lecturers Odyssey welcomes in 2009: bestselling author Jeffrey A. Carver; award-winning authors Melissa Scott, Patricia Bray, and Jack Ketchum, and Editor-in-Chief of the Ace and Roc science fiction/fantasy imprints, Ginjer Buchanan.

The Odyssey website, [www.odysseyworkshop.org](http://www.odysseyworkshop.org), offers free podcasts, writing and publishing tips, a class syllabus, and information about how to apply. Those interested in applying to the workshop should visit the website, phone or fax (603) 673-6234, or e-mail [jcavelos@sff.net](mailto:jcavelos@sff.net).



## IAMTW Member David Page Releases His Second Novel

*When you've lost what you love most, a life in hell comes easy...*

*Lewis Wentworth's wife was murdered on a London subway car; now Lewis spends his night searching the underbelly of London looking for the man with the snake tattoo.*

So begins the synopsis for an exciting new mass market paperback release *Mithras Court: A Novel of the Mists* from author David A. Page. *Mithras Court* weaves a mesmerizing tale of mystery and intrigue, love and revenge with ties to popular *Wizards of the Coast* world *Ravenloft* and will be a key

book for fans of horror and gothic romance alike.

The novel was released this past November, and Page introduced it at a party hosted by his local Barnes & Noble.

Page was born in Boston and spent most of his early years in the New England area. Surrounded by old stone walls, revolutionary forts and old Indian Trails, there were stories about the fascinating past everywhere he looked. After reading *The Hobbit* and *The Sword of Shannara* at the age of twelve, Page boldly announced to his parents that he was going to write a book of his own.

He started by scrawling on an old notepad and by age eighteen submitted his first short story. A good number of years and a history degree later, Page headed for the West coast in search of life experiences to inspire his writing. His journey was not in vain; his first novel, *Surviving Frank*, was published in 2003 by Five Star Press. *Mithras Court: A Novel of the Mists* is his second novel. Several of his short stories have appeared in small press magazines.

He continues to reside in the Pacific Northwest, where he is inspired by the ocean, the mountains and the friends and family he has found there.

## SCRIBE AWARD SUBMISSIONS TO DATE

### GENERAL FICTION

#### BEST NOVEL—ORIGINAL

CSI: HEADHUNTER  
by Greg Cox  
MR. MONK GOES TO  
GERMANY by Lee Goldberg  
MURDER SHE WROTE: A  
SLAYING IN SAVANNAH  
by Donald Bain  
BURN NOTICE: THE FIX  
by Tod Goldberg  
CRIMINAL MINDS:  
FINISHING SCHOOL  
by Max Allan Collins  
CSI: NY: FOUR WALLS  
by Keith R.A. DeCandido

#### BEST NOVEL—ADAPTED

DEATH DEFYING ACTS  
by Greg Cox  
THE WACKNESS  
by Dale C. Phillips  
INDIANA JONES AND THE  
KINGDOM OF THE CRYSTAL  
SKULL by James Rollins  
THE X FILES  
by Max Allan Collins  
THE TUDORS: KING TAKES  
QUEEN by Elizabeth Massie

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### SPECULATIVE FICTION

#### BEST NOVEL—ORIGINAL

THE 4400: THE VESUVIUS  
PROPHECY by Greg Cox  
GHOST WHISPERER: PLAGUE  
ROOM by Steven Piziks  
STAR TREK DESTINY: MERE  
MORTALS by David Mack  
THE DARKWOOD MASK  
by Jeff LaSala  
EBERRON: LEGACY OF  
DHAKAN, Book 1: THE DOOM  
OF KINGS  
by Don Bassingthwaite  
HEAVEN'S BONES  
by Samantha Henderson  
GHOST WHISPERER:  
REVENGE by Doranna Durgin  
SUPERNATURAL: BONE KEY  
by Keith R.A. DeCandido  
WARHAMMER: ELFLAYERS -  
A GOTREK AND FELIX NOVEL  
by Nathan Long  
STARGATE SG-1: THE  
BARQUE OF HEAVEN  
by Suzanne Wood  
STARGATE SG-1: DO NO  
HARM by Karen Miller  
STARGATE ATLANTIS:  
MIRROR, MIRROR  
by Sabine Bauer  
THUNDERBIRDS:  
COUNTDOWN TO ACTION  
by Joan Marie Verba

DEATHMARCH: THE  
STONETELLERS, VOLUME  
TWO by Jean Rabe  
AFTERBLIGHT CHRONICLES:  
ARROWHEAD by Paul Kane  
STAR TREK TEROK NOR: DAY  
OF THE VIPERS  
by James Swallow

#### BEST NOVEL—ADAPTED

HELLBOY II: THE GOLDEN  
ARMY by Bob Greenberger  
WORLD OF WARCRAFT:  
BEYOND THE DARK PORTAL  
by Aaron Rosenberg &  
Christie Golden  
STAR WARS: THE FORCE  
UNLEASHED  
by Sean Williams  
METAL GEAR SOLID  
by Raymond Benson  
THE MUMMY 3  
by Max Allan Collins  
MUTANT CHRONICLES  
by Matt Forbeck

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### YOUNG ADULT— ALL GENRES

#### BEST NOVEL—ORIGINAL

PRIMEVAL: SHADOW OF THE  
JAGUAR by Steven Savile  
DISNEY CLUB PENGUIN:  
STOWAWAY! ADVENTURES  
AT SEA by Tracey West

#### BEST NOVEL—ADAPTED

IRON MAN: THE JUNIOR  
NOVEL by Stephen D. Sullivan  
THE DARK KNIGHT: THE  
JUNIOR NOVEL by Stacia  
Deutsch and Rhody Cohon  
JOURNEY TO THE CENTER OF  
THE EARTH 3D  
by Tracey West

# Convention Calendar

## Love is Murder

Feb. 6-8, Chicago, IL  
Westin Chicago North Shore  
Guests: IAMTW's Raymond  
Benson, as well as Alex Kava,  
Steve Berry, Jeffrey Deaver.  
Registration: price varies  
based on food options.  
Events: Agent meetings,  
pitch sessions, seminars,  
banquets, and more.  
For more information:  
[www.loveismurder.net](http://www.loveismurder.net)

## Left Coast Crime

Left Coast Crime 2009 will be held on the Big Island of Hawaii from March 7-12. The conference's toastmaster, who is charged with keeping the crowd entertained at the awards ceremony, on the beach, at the bar, and in the elevator, is IAMTW's own Vice President Lee Goldberg.

One of the highlights of the convention will be the premiere of: "The House Without a Key," a new play based on Earl Derr Biggers' Charlie Chan novel.

LCC will also feature a luau, talks about Hawaiian flora and fauna, pre- and post-convention trips, and fun and informative interactive panels.

For more information about Left Coast Crime, visit: [www.leftcoastcrime.org/2009](http://www.leftcoastcrime.org/2009)

## Official Stargate SG1 and Atlantis Convention

April 2-5, Vancouver, BC,  
Hilton Metrotown, Burnaby,  
BC. Attendance will be  
limited to 525 to guarantee a  
more intimate setting.  
Parties, photo-ops, autograph  
sessions, and more Guests:  
Joe Flanigan, Amanda  
Tapping, Robert Picardo, and  
others. Attendance fees range  
from \$199 to \$499. Call  
CREATION at 818-409-0960  
ext. 225 for more  
information.

## Norwescon 32

"Things that Time Forgot"  
will be held April 9-12 at the  
Doubletree Hotel at Seatac,  
WA. Guest of honor is tie-in  
writer R.A. Salvatore. The  
publisher guest is Wizards of  
the Coast. For more  
information: Norwescon, PO  
Box 68547, Seattle, WA  
98168-0547, 206-270-7850.  
[www.norwescon.org](http://www.norwescon.org)

## WWA Convention

The Western Writers of  
America Convention is set for  
June 9-12 at the Sheraton in  
Midwest City, Oklahoma.  
Visit the organization's web  
site for more information.  
[www.westernwriters.org](http://www.westernwriters.org)

## RWA 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

Washington, DC's Marriott  
Wardman Park Hotel will

play host to the RWA event  
July 15-18. More than 100  
workshops, panels, and  
round-tables will be offered,  
and many publishing  
professions will be on hand.  
One-on-one pitch sessions  
with agents and editors are  
included. A 500-author  
charity book signing is also  
planned. The conference  
early registration fee is \$425  
for members and \$500 for  
non-RWA members.  
Registration opens on the  
RWA Web site January 20.  
[www.rwanational.org](http://www.rwanational.org)

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