



The Detective Kubu Newsletter

DEADLY HARVEST ARRIVES IN SOUTH AFRICA

After being released in the USA at the end of April and in the UK at the beginning of May, DEADLY HARVEST will be available in South Africa on July 29.

We are planning a few launch parties, starting with Michael enjoying morning coffee at Novel Books at the Hobart Shopping Centre in Johannesburg on July 29 and lunch at Le Soufflé, Pine Slopes Shopping Centre on July 30.

Michael and Stanley will throw a party at Love Books in Melville, Johannesburg on October 2. Another party will be held in Knysna at a date yet to be arranged.

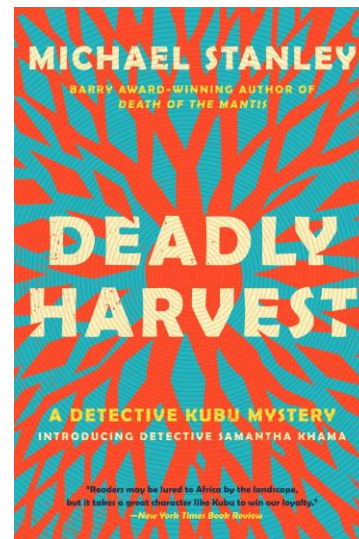
You are invited to any or all of these. We'd love to see you and tell you about our new Detective Kubu mystery, which has received our best reviews yet. Here are some of them.

"DEADLY HARVEST is number four in this fascinating crime series. Detective David 'Kubu' Bengu is a wonderful creation, complex and beguiling. The exotic smells and sounds of Botswana fill the pages... Compelling and deceptively written, it's the perfect summer read."

New York Journal of Books, April 30, 2013

"Tight plotting is seasoned with African culture and the uglier presence of political corruption, AIDS, and black magic. Detective Kubu is joined by Detective Samantha Khama, who helps unravel a mystery involving a witch doctor who is believable and utterly menacing."

Ellery Queen's Mystery Magazine, July 2013



"...richly atmospheric...gritty depiction of corruption and obsession"

Publishers Weekly Starred and boxed review, March 25, 2013

"These darker, grittier entries featuring the portly and perceptive Detective Kubu blend intricate plotting and a compelling cast... Though the cat-and-mouse chase that ensues propels the novel ever forward, Stanley also peppers the tale with richly detailed descriptions of Botswana and the lively lives of its citizens."

Booklist May 1, 2013

"This book took me to a world I didn't want to leave. It kept me reading, it kept me guessing, and it kept me gasping at its many twists and surprises. Highly recommended."

Best-selling author R.L. Kline

Visit www.detectivekubu.com.

“This fourth adventure of Detective Kubu is a vibrant mixture of themes that infuses the traditions of old Botswana against the shock of the new. However, the real appeal of the book is the easy-going voice that Michael Stanley deploys, leading the reader into the darkest of places with little warning. This makes Deadly Harvest into one of the finest crime thrillers of 2013...”

The Strand Mystery Magazine, Feb-May, 2013

Details of upcoming book events are below.

SOUTH AFRICAN EVENTS

Monday, July 29, 10:00 for 10:30

Novel Books

Hobart Grove Shopping Centre
Corner Hobart and Grosvenor Roads
Bryanston. Tel.: 011 463-9320

Tuesday, July 30, 12:00 PM

Le Soufflé Book Club

Pineslopes Shopping Centre
Fourways. Tel.: 011 465-4116

Wednesday, October 2, 7:00 PM

Love Books

The Bamboo Lifestyle Centre
53 Rustenburg Road, Melville, Johannesburg

Knysna and Cape Town events to be announced.

MURDER IS EVERYWHERE

We are part of an award-winning blog called **Murder is Everywhere** where seven authors write weekly about the countries in which their books are set. The authors are Leighton Gage (Brazil) – taking a break, Yrsa Sigurdardottir (Iceland), Cara Black (France), Lisa Brackman (China), Jeff Siger (Greece), Annamaria Alfieri (South America), Caro Ramsey (Scotland), and ourselves. You can read this blog at murderiseverywhere.blogspot.com

We think you will find it very entertaining.

Please share this newsletter with friends.

HOW TO BECOME VERY RICH

To us, what is really interesting about the outing of JK Rowling as the author of the mystery novel *THE CUCKOO'S CALLING* is the fact that it had only sold about 1500 copies before the news became public. It had been well reviewed, etc., but was going nowhere. When she became known as the author, the book became No. 1 on Amazon.

This doesn't bode well for authors who are not well known, because it implies that sales are linked more directly to who writes a book rather than how good the book is.

It also links to the impression shared by most authors that publishers devote most of their marketing and publicity budgets to a few well known authors, leaving the majority of smaller authors with very little to work with.

The question then, of course, is how do lesser known authors get better known?

If you can find the answer to this, bottle it, sell it, and you will be very RICH.
(And if we write as JK Rowling for the next Kubu mystery, you'll know why.)

FREE EBOOK

Detective Kubu Investigates

We've put together a collection of Kubu's shorter adventures as an ebook, as well as an interview with Kubu himself.



DETECTIVE KUBU INVESTIGATES is available for all ebook formats at online stores at US\$0.99 or the equivalent, but anyone who subscribes to this newsletter is welcome to download it here for FREE. Click on the file you want below and enjoy the read!

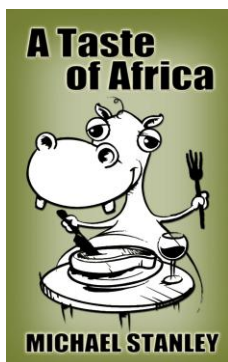
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NEWS FLASH

Several outlets will offer the e-book version of A CARRION DEATH for \$1.99 (at least in the States) from July 19 until August 4. Unfortunately we cannot guarantee these prices will last. The e-book will be available in all formats.

KUKBUK

The KUKBUK of Kubu's favorite recipes has been selling nicely. Recently, we've been fortunate to attend several functions where the organizers provided snacks and drinks featured in the book. Yummy!



A TASTE OF AFRICA – a KUKBUK is available as an ebook from many normal online outlets (Amazon, Barnes and Noble, etc.) for \$2.99. It will soon be available as a print-on-demand book.

How to help your favorite authors

The most difficult thing for authors is getting known. The best referral is from readers who like their work.

There are two things you can do. One: tell your friends about books you like. And two: write a review of one of the authors' books on Amazon, Barnes and Noble, 4MA, DorothyL, or any other online forum, or send it to a local or community newspaper or newsletter.

Please share this newsletter with friends.

THE OTHER MICHAEL SEARS

When Michael checked into his hotel at Bouchercon last year after flying from South Africa, he was told that he had two reservations, so he cancelled one.

Fortunately, he called me when he got to his room and told me about it. I reminded him that there was another Michael Sears at the conference – a debut author who had written an acclaimed first novel about the financial crisis, called *BLACK FRIDAY*. Fortunately too, when he called the front desk, the room hadn't been taken by anyone else.

There has been confusion about two authors having the same name, and we get e-mails occasionally from our readers who say they read *BLACK FRIDAY* because they thought Michael wrote it. Luckily, these readers also say they enjoyed the book. And, yes, it is excellent. So, if you want to read a book by Michael Sears, we recommend *BLACK FRIDAY*.



Stanley with the other Michael Sears in New York last week



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<http://www.facebook.com/MichaelStanleyBooks>

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