

# Michael Stanley introduces Detective Kubu

## Second Detective Kubu mystery set for release

On April 14 in Knysna, South Africa, we will have the worldwide launch of Detective Kubu's second investigation, *A DEADLY TRADE*. Two months later, on June 2, HarperCollins will release their hardcover in North America at Once Upon A Crime in Minneapolis, Minnesota. However it will have a different title – *THE SECOND DEATH OF GOODLUCK TINUBU*. Finally, Headline will release the hardcover of *A DEADLY TRADE* in the UK on June 11.

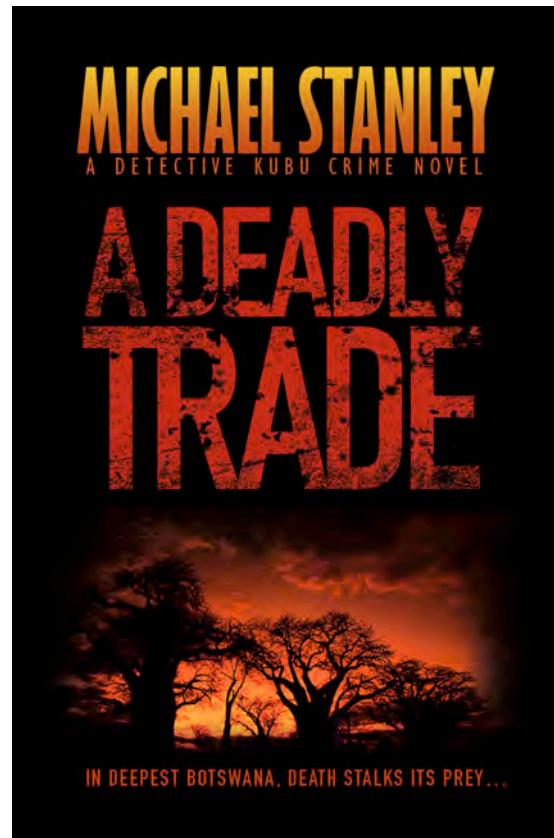
The book is set in a very different part of Botswana from *A CARRION DEATH*'s arid southern regions. Jackalberry Camp, where most of the action takes place, is set in the lush riverine forests of the Linyanti River, which separates Botswana and the Caprivi Strip of Namibia.

The back story of the book is the turmoil in Zimbabwe and how people who fought for their freedom in the Rhodesian Civil War 30 years ago now find themselves without that freedom. Like all wars, the Rhodesian bush war forged strange relationships, both good and evil. This story, set in present day Botswana, is about the dissolution of two such bonds.

## Finalist in the Minnesota Book Awards

*A CARRION DEATH* is a finalist in the genre fiction of the Minnesota Book Awards. The jury will decide between John Sandford's *Phantom Prey*, William Kent Kruger's *Red Knife*, Julie Kramer's *Stalking Susan*, and *A CARRION DEATH*. The winner will be announced at the Awards Dinner on April 25, in St. Paul, Minnesota. Hopefully the snow will have melted.

Please read the PLEASE VOTE box in the right-hand column.



### PLEASE VOTE by APRIL 10

In addition to the juried Awards at the Minnesota Book Awards, there is a Readers Award that goes to the book that gathers the most votes. PLEASE SUPPORT US by going to

[www.twincities.com](http://www.twincities.com).

Scroll down and click on the Book Awards logo. Click on the button next to *A CARRION DEATH*. Finally scroll down and click on VOTE. Please vote now and forward this to as many of your friends as you can. We thank you. Kubu thanks you!

## Detective Kubu in Bad Company

Bad Company is a collection of 17 mystery short stories by South African authors. The book includes top crime writers like Deon Meyer, Mike Nicol and Margie Orford, as well as several novelists who are trying out this genre. The stories range from the urban sprawl of Johannesburg to rural Botswana. Lee Child wrote an introduction for the book and commented: "They told me there were gold mines in South Africa – and look what just came out."

Kubu features in the story "Neighbors," but the context is quite different from the mysteries in our two novels. This story takes place in the small rural village of Gabane. Two neighbours engage in an escalating quarrel, and one dies suddenly of unknown causes. The police are puzzled, but the villagers are certain that witchcraft is behind the death. Kubu and pathologist Ian MacGregor have to act quickly to resolve the mystery and stop the situation getting out of hand.

More than a hundred mystery lovers attended the launch at the Book Lounge in Cape Town on March 20, which was delightfully



Michael Sears, Jane Taylor, Stan Trollip, Peter Church, Tracey Farren (hidden), Margie Orford, Andrew Brown, Joanne Hichens, Tim Keegan (hidden). Missing from the photo is Mike Nicol. Photo by Neil Pendock.

Visit [www.detectivekubu.com](http://www.detectivekubu.com) for news, reviews, and the latest information about Detective Kubu.



introduced and managed by mistress of ceremonies and editor of the collection, Joanne Hichens. More than half the authors were there, and we all had something to say about our characters, writing, or our story. Everyone had fun and a few of the readers had their books signed by all the authors present. They were invited to hunt down the others for a "full house".

Bad Company is available worldwide by mail order from websites such as Kalahari ([www.kalahari.net](http://www.kalahari.net)).

## A CARRION DEATH makes a splash in the USA

Three different publications listed A CARRION DEATH in their top reads for 2008. The Los Angeles Times had it as one of its top 10 crime novels of 2008. Mystery Book listed it as one of its top 6 debut crime novels. And the readers of the online mystery group *DorothyL* voted it as one of their top 10 novels for 2008.

## First reviews come in for Kubu's second mystery

"Following his spectacular debut, *A Carrion Death*, Stanley comes roaring back with an even better tale. Bringing a love of Africa similar to Alexander McCall Smith's popular "No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency" series, the author has created an excellent new venue for those who love to read about other cultures while enjoying a good mystery. Highly recommended."

-Library Journal, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2009

"Kubu's second case is as leisurely and well-appointed as the first (*A Carrion Death*, 2008), with maps, glossary and a helpful cast of characters. Stanley—actually the South African team of Michael Sears and Stanley Trollip—should satisfy all armchair travelers and most mystery fans."

-Kirkus Reviews, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2009

"In Stanley's fine second mystery to feature Botswana police detective David Bengu (after 2008's *A Carrion Death*), Bengu, an overweight gourmet aptly nicknamed Kubu (Setswana for hippopotamus), investigates the murders of two male guests at an isolated bush camp.... the South African writing team of Micheal Sears and Stanley Trollip couldn't bear to leave this evocative setting. Readers will feel the same way."

-Publishers Weekly, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009

## Win a Kubu tee shirt

Send an email to

[michaelstanley@detectivekubu.com](mailto:michaelstanley@detectivekubu.com)

with "Kubu Tee Shirt" in the subject line.

Three tee shirts will be given away in a draw from all entrees received by April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

## NEWS FLASH!

A CARRION DEATH has just been nominated for Best First Novel in 2008 in The Critics Award sponsored by Strand Magazine. The other finalists are:

- *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo* by Stieg Larsson
- *City of the Sun* by David Levien
- *A Cure for Night* by Justin Peacock
- *Child 44* by Tom Rob Smith

The finalists for the Best Novel award are:

- *When Will There Be Good News?* by Kate Atkinson
- *Master of the Delta* by Thomas H. Cook
- *The Brass Verdict* by Michael Connelly
- *Lush Life* by Richard Price
- *Hollywood Crows* by Joseph Wambaugh

## Michael and Stanley to take a trip down under

Michael and Stanley will be heading to Australia and New Zealand at the beginning of May to promote A DEADLY TRADE. Separately or together they will meet booksellers in Sydney, Perth, Adelaide, Melbourne, and Brisbane. They will also meet members of the media.

After Australia, the two will fly to Auckland for a series of similar events.

As details of the Australian and New Zealand trip become available, we will post them on our website [www.detectivekubu.com](http://www.detectivekubu.com).

## Sign your friends up

Visit [www.detectivekubu.com](http://www.detectivekubu.com) and sign your friends up to receive this newsletter. It takes less than a minute.

## South African Events

Worldwide launch of A DEADLY TRADE  
Tuesday, April 14, 2009, 07:00 PM  
WORDSWORTH BOOKS  
Knysna Mall, Main Street, Knysna

Tuesday, April 21, 2009, 07:00 PM  
OLD JOHANNIAN CLUB,  
34 St. Andrews Road, Houghton, Joburg

## United States Events

Tuesday, June 02, 2009, 07:00 PM  
ONCE UPON A CRIME  
604 W 26th St, Minneapolis MN

Wednesday, June 03, 2009  
VALLEY BOOKSELLER  
217 Main St N, Stillwater MN

Thursday, June 04, 2009, 07:00 PM  
BOOKCASE  
607 E Lake St, Wayzata MN

Friday, June 05, 2009, 07:30 PM  
MAGERS AND QUINN  
3038 Hennepin Ave, Minneapolis MN

Tuesday, June 09, 2009, 07:00 PM  
BARNES & NOBLE BOOKSELLERS  
2614 2100 N Snelling Ave, Roseville MN

Wednesday, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 07:30 PM  
COMMON GOOD BOOKS  
165 Western Ave N, Suite 14, St. Paul MN

Thursday, June 11, 2009, 07:00 PM  
BORDERS  
802 West Town Center Blvd, Champaign IL

Friday, June 12, 2009, 07:00 PM  
CENTURIES AND SLEUTHS  
7419 W Madison St, Forest Park, IL

## United States Events (cont.)

Saturday, June 13, 2009, 11:00 AM  
MYSTERY ONE BOOKSHOP  
2109 N. Prospect Ave, Milwaukee WI

Saturday, June 13, 2009, 02:00 PM  
BOOKS & CO  
1039 Summit Ave, Oconomowoc WI

Sunday, June 14, 2009, 02:00 PM  
BORDERS  
34300 Woodward, Birmingham MI

Monday, June 15, 2009, 07:00 PM  
AUNT AGATHA'S  
213 S. Fourth, Ann Arbor MI

Wednesday, June 17, 2009, 06:30 PM  
MURDER BY THE BOOK  
2342 Bissonnet St, Houston TX

Friday, June 19, 2009, 07:00 PM  
MYSTERIOUS GALAXY  
#302 7051 Clairemont Mesa Blvd, San Diego CA

Saturday, June 20, 2009, 02:00 PM  
MYSTERY BOOKSTORE  
1036-C Broxton, Los Angeles CA

Sunday, June 21, 2009, 01:00 PM  
MYSTERIES TO DIE FOR  
2940 Thousand Oaks Blvd, Thousand Oaks CA

Tuesday, July 07, 2009  
KATE'S MYSTERY BOOKSTORE/ 2211  
Massachusetts Ave, Cambridge MA

## Share this newsletter

Please send this newsletter to your friends  
who are mystery readers.