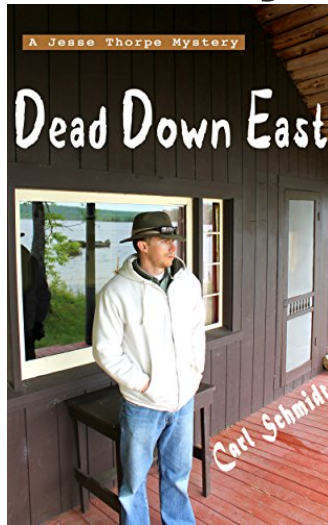


"Dead Down East" by Carl Schmidt



DEAD DOWN EAST, a fictional murder mystery, is both detective noir and smart screwball comedy rolled into one. Jesse Thorpe, a young private investigator operating out of Augusta, Maine, receives a mysterious phone call from a former client, Cynthia Dumais. She begs to be rescued from an island south of Brunswick, within a mile of where William Lavolette, the governor of Maine, was assassinated the night before. She insists that her life is in danger, but is unwilling to provide any further information. Reluctantly, he goes to fetch her.

Fresh, witty and loaded with eccentric characters, this first novel in the series is both clever and stylish. It's an old-school private eye tale with inventive twists and local color. If you enjoy a well-crafted and zesty narrative, lively banter, or take pleasure in the company of Mainers, you'll love DEAD DOWN EAST.

Where can I get a copy?

Available now through Amazon (Search for "Dead Down East")

My Review:

"Dead Down East" by Carl Schmidt is the first book in the "Jesse Thorpe Mystery" series. When part-time musician, part-carpenter and part-time detective, Jesse Thorpe receives a phone call from former client Cynthia Dumais, his vacation is cut short. Ms Dumais has witnessed the murder of the Governor, with whom she's been having a illicit affair, and is seeking protection and counsel. Jesse must safeguard his client and solve the murder, all the while

balancing his relationships with the band, Ms Dumais, his girlfriend Angele, and his handgun Rhonda. The characters are well developed and believable and the story flows easily. It is wonderfully written and endlessly entertaining. It's worth reading just for the magical description of the fishing trip on the lake in the first chapter. I thoroughly recommend "Dead Down East".

A quick interview with the author:

What was your inspiration to write "Dead Down East"?

I enjoyed reading the Hitchcock Sewell mystery/humor series of novels written by Tim Cockey. I found myself laughing out loud every few pages and thoroughly enjoyed myself. It buoyed my spirits and kept a smile on my face for most of the day. That helped me to decide the format for my novels. I chose Maine as the backdrop, because I love its natural beauty and the eccentricities of Mainers. Once I got started, the story began to roll along by itself.

Who was the inspiration for the Jesse Thorpe character?

It's fair to say that Jesse is an amalgam of my son, Jaia, and myself. I chose to put Jaia on the cover, standing in front of the cabin and lake where I spent many summers. Jesse studied physics in college and is a singer-guitar player in a band, and so did I.

"Dead Down East" is the first in the Jesse Thorpe Mysteries and I note that you have two other books in the Jesse Thorpe series. Can you tell us a little about them?

The second novel in the series is *A Priestly Affair*. Monsignor Francis O'Reilly hires Jesse to locate his three-year-old daughter that he has never seen. In short order, Jesse uncovers an organized "family" of con artists, willing to use threats, and even deadly force, to keep their operation running without a hitch.

The third novel in the series, *Redbone*, is finished and ready to be published. All that is required is to complete the artwork for the cover. Juanita Redbone hires Jesse to find out how her son died. The police think it was suicide, but she is certain that Julio has been murdered.

What do you enjoy reading?

I have eclectic tastes. I read more non-fiction than fiction, and have been known to devour issues of *The New Yorker* or *The Atlantic* in a single sitting. I try to keep up with advances in theoretical physics, and love a good novel with a sense of humor. One of my all-time favorite novels is *Snow Falling on Cedars*. Every scene and character in that novel leaps off the page.

Any hints and tips for up and coming authors?

Write about something you love.

About the Author: Carl Schmidt

Carl Schmidt (1946-) lived and traveled widely throughout Asia for seven years, including two years as a Peace Corps volunteer in the Philippines and five years in Japan, where he taught English. He chose Maine as the setting for his Jesse Thorpe Mysteries because he loves its rugged natural beauty and the charming idiosyncrasies of Mainers. He has also written and recorded three musical albums. In 2001, New Falcon Press published his non-fictional book, *A Recipe for Bliss: Kriya Yoga for a New Millennium*. Currently, he is a freelance writer living in Sedona, Arizona with his lovely wife, Holly, and their faithful German shorthaired pointer, Alize.

Links:

- Blog/Website: <http://www.lightformfilms.com/Carl-Schmidt-Author.html>
- Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/CarlSchmidtAuthor/?ref=aymt_ho_mepage_panel
- Amazon: https://www.amazon.com/Carl-Schmidt/e/B01G9HLMRM/ref=sr_ntt_srch_lnk_1?qid=1473033646&sr=8-1

Also by the Author:

