



JASON SNOW MYSTERIES

CURIOSITY'S CURSOR

"July is murder in the city" is how the adventure begins and how Jason Snow, retired police detective turned private eye, enters into an investigation of the gruesome discovery of the beheading of a brilliant adjunct professor of literature at the local university who plans to write a tell all book about the abuse of power involving fraud, deception, prostitution and masquerade on many levels of the academic community.

EYE SHADOWS

"I think it was her eyes" is how Jason Snow explains his enchantment with Anoria Bradford who has come to his office to plead her case that her brother Bradley did not commit suicide three years ago, but was, in fact, murdered by either his own family or someone that was close to the family. During the investigation, Jason Snow discovers many of "the secrets" the rich and famous family has been able to keep sequestered from public view and scrutiny.

HALLOWED BE THY NAME

"February held for me the winter of my discontent" is why Jason Snow, despondent and depressed, seeks the spiritual guidance of a parish priest and ends up uncovering some disturbing and dysfunctional distortions of the concepts of family, church, faith and an allegiance. While the people investigated come to terms with their own definitions of morality and the hereafter, Jason encounters his own tests of conscience and faith while trying to unravel the mysteries surrounding recent turf wars, ethnic gangs imposing justice on their perceived enemies, and holy men and women who have lost their way.

BORROWED TIME

"I've been married for three years, Mr. Snow, and I believe my wife is cheating on me is how the dowdy looking client began the conversation." Jason Snow's first response is to say, "I don't handle those kind of cases anymore." This request comes on the four year anniversary of his own divorce from which Jason is still hurting and is reluctant to confront those feelings again. When he discovers, however, that the client's spouse has mysteriously disappeared and that she has a "mysterious" background, new questions come to the foreground that pique Jason's interest in solving the mystery that surrounds her. In the process of doing so, Jason's journey crosses paths with why his ex seems to have vanished off the face of the earth the last few years.

IVY LEAGUE

"I fear for my sister's life, Mr. Snow. I need your help to keep her safe. She's the only family I have left" is how Marianne Levine stated her case.

Ivy Levine and her long-time Ivy League college friends entered into an agreement their senior year of college to purchase and own in equal shares in a forty acre estate on the coast of Maine in the town of Heavenly. Their compact and ownership agreement states that each shareholder must attend the annual gathering held each Labor Day weekend or forfeit his/her financial stake in and title to the estate.

Upon the death of a shareholder, the remaining shareholders would be encouraged to bid on the vacant share at a fair market value price. The proceeds from the five million dollar insurance policy each share holder must maintain on himself/herself, would be divided up among the remaining shareholders. Under the terms of the agreement, the heirs of that shareholder would not be entitled to any claim on that money nor on the ownership of the share.

The law firm of Bettincourt, Weis and Perkins of Ogunquit Maine was placed on retainer to store the records and any documents relating to the compact and to represent the group in all legal matters individually as well as collectively. The retainer was divided among the five participants.

According to the contract signed and agreed to by all five of the original group, the last remaining survivor of that group would inherit the entire estate free and clear of any liens or challenges along with the small metal box that contained the “secrets” the group has quietly held over the years

That there are only three remaining group members and because, they have lost two of the original members to suspicious circumstances in the last year, Ivy’s sister, Marianne, hires Jason Snow to be on site during this year’s gathering to provide security, fearing that someone is plotting for the demise of the remaining members based upon anonymous threats to the remaining members of the group.

DESTINY’S DANCE

Jason Snow has semi-retired to the quiet seaside community of Watershed, along the sea coast of Massachusetts where he grew up, raised by his doting grandparents. He now plans to keep busy with less taxing insurance investigation work while spending time with his college-age daughter, Amanda, and his new wife Samantha. His office is now located in his home, and he has settled into a comfortable routine of paperwork and regular hours and the pleasure of enjoying a stable family life.

Meanwhile the disappearance of and subsequent rape and murder of a young girl who worked as a server in a donut shop in Baltimore, Maryland spark his interest when he reads about it on a local news web. The article doesn’t contain many details about the girl’s life or murder. It is not until he discovers that his daughter went to high school with this girl that his investigative senses are thrown into overdrive.

In Baltimore, a middle-aged police captain feels his investigative instincts draining from him because of his involvement in primarily administrative tasks over the last few years. He misses the hands-on investigation of a case seizes the opportunity to latch onto this particular case to get back into the game. With the help and even the interference of two novice reporters seeking their big break, the separate investigations in two states by two unconnected entities uncovers an international drug smuggling operation. Jason Snow and Capt. Carlisle eventually join forces once they discover that they are operating on parallel lines of inquiry

SNOWBOUND [featuring a twenty-something Jason Snow]

As a senior college student trying to afford housing near campus, Jason applies for and is chosen as the building super for an apartment complex. Life becomes complicated when Jason and his six tenants are snowbound. What transpires is a valuable lesson in the complexity of human nature—both the good and the evil dimensions which lead the future detective to a career choice as the tone and mood of the seclusion and isolation caused by the storm outside goes from the innocence of enjoying days off from work or school—away from the hustle and bustle of daily fast paced living—to the more basic instincts for survival of the fittest, including both murder and cannibalism.

“THROUGH THE FROSTED GLASS DOOR” [short story]

The short story that started it all and introduced private detective, Jason Snow, to the reading public. Jason is hired by a man who thinks his wife is cheating on him. The problem is that Jason finds out from that wife that the man who hired him has been missing and presumed dead for over ten years. Lots of twists and turns take Jason Snow and the reader on a topsy-turvy ride through the seedier side of the city filled with illicit sex, drug addicts, and criminal minds.