
Army-trained local author releases sixth novel of series

By Debra Kelly
THE SUN CORRESPONDENT

James Allan Matte has released his sixth book about James Markham, an extraordinary individual who was set apart from the rest from the moment he was born with a caul.

Like his protagonist, Matte was raised in Montreal, Canada, and was trained in the United States Air Force. He eventually turned his career in the direction of law enforcement. He attended the Backster School of Lie Detection in New York City while working as a special agent of the United States Army Criminal Investigation Unit and then began a career as a civilian polygraphist when he retired from the military.

After 42 years working in the polygraph administration and research fields, Matte has written numerous works on polygraph techniques and has pioneered the creation of new techniques that have since been accepted in the field.

But throughout his career, he said he always knew that he wanted to write fiction.

"I most definitely prefer writing novels over textbooks, because it demands and uses the best of my creative talent," Matte said. "It gives me unparalleled enjoyment, especially in the development of the characters and the formulation of dialogue and narrative."

That love has resulted in the development of his Caul series from a trilogy to an ongoing series. The latest

installment, "The Master of Grand Deception," keeps with the same spirit of adventure and intrigue as the earlier novels, and is available for purchase through Amazon and his website, jampublications.com.

Matte's own experiences in the Air Force and in the field of polygraph research has given him insight into the world in which he has immersed his characters.

"Much of the material for the novels is based on my experiences, as well as the experiences of others who have come into my life," he said. "But it is all fictionalized."

His novels have been a work in progress since 1993, when he was forced to put the first one on hold to write textbooks at the request of his publisher. In 2002, he returned to the first Caul novel, "Born with a Mission," and since then has found his rhythm in expanding on the series.

His main character travels all over the world, from France and Israel to Saudi Arabia, Libya, Croatia and England, and that is only in the first book. In this most recent work, he is sent to China and stumbles into intrigue and abduction.

Now, he said he is currently hard at work on book seven, and is hoping to have it finished and available by Christmas.

For more information on Matte and his books, visit jampublications.com.
