

Family Scandal, Warrior Cops, Abuse of Power and Government Misconduct Intersect Explosively in the New Novel, *Deer Creek* by Holland Kane

(Jan. 2015) – When Holland Kane sat down to write his latest novel, *Deer Creek* (Rumor House Books, 2015, \$16.95,) he had a clear goal in mind. “I wanted to tell a memorable story which would touch on some hot button issues in society today,” he said.

Deer Creek is the story of the two sisters, Rikki and Abbey—one given away at birth, struggling to survive, the other born later, pampered with love and privilege. The girls eventually find each other and become best friends without knowing that they are biological sisters.

“I was nine-years-old when I came to the United States. English is my second language. The transition from one culture to another, the uncertainties and ill-fitting moments, led to a questioning impulse. In every one of my novels there’s at least one character that’s an artist, an explorer, a seeker. Creative people are sometimes our guides and sometimes false prophets. They frequently do and say things we don’t expect, expanding our emotional horizons, opposing conventions, questioning rules, at times even altering our opinions.” – Holland Kane



Abbey wants to become an actress or model. Rikki is a photographer. Rikki is also the Deputy Mayor’s girlfriend. He’s the civilian commander of the militarized warrior cop SWAT teams, an advocate of the total surveillance state, and an undeclared enemy of Abbey’s father, the mayor, Tom.

“As recent events in Ferguson have shown,” he says, “it’s not just the national government we have to fear for invading our privacy with illegal surveillance. National politics are thoroughly reported and evaluated. More troubling is the loss of 14,000 newsroom jobs that slashed the number of reporters who used to cover the local beat. Local politicians and officials can now act unchecked because no one is watching them. Thus we have grenade-launching Warrior Cops in bedroom communities, warrantless searches and seizures, unconstitutional “nuisance” laws to suppress free speech, “sin” laws criminalizing private behavior—all adding up to abuse of power by local officials.”

In the novel Tom and Ariel, after leaving jobs in Washington D.C., return to Deer Creek and become community leaders. In fact, they become role models in the blood sport we call politics. When they learn that their first child wasn’t adopted with a confidentiality agreement as Tom’s trusted aunt had told them, they are devastated.

The aunt took advantage of an irrevocable guardianship they had given her, but resentful of Ariel for “stealing” Tom, she had changed their daughter’s name to Rikki and then surrendered the girl into the state child care services.

DEER CREEK

a novel

HOLLAND KANE



Press Release

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The family intrigue suddenly turns combustible when the town of Deer Creek explodes with fear and furor over a whistleblower's allegation that the town's prosperous tourist spa-health industry is based on a lie—the local “spring fed, mountain-fresh” waters are tainted, and tourists are falling ill. Exposure would destroy the real estate fortunes on which the town has been built.

Everyone, it seems, has a secret to hide. It's a story of our times, for our times.

Like many authors Kane mines his experience for fictional purposes. He and his wife adopted their daughter at thirteen days of age and then had a natural born son. Years later they invited their daughter's until then anonymous biological parents to join them in celebration, hoping to establish an extended family relationship.

The biological parents, it turned out, were both energetic and prosperous college-graduated professionals. For reasons that they never explained they avoided the Kanes afterward. “Perhaps out of guilt or shame, or maybe on account of regret for having abandoned their responsibility as parents, and thus not wanting to be reminded of it,” said Kane.

His two previous novels received helpful attention from *Kirkus Reviews*, and *Publisher's Weekly*. But unlike many writers of literary novels who must earn their living teaching, he has avoided that route.

Kane served with distinction in the U.S. Army Signal Corps, worked as an executive in corporate America, edited a literary magazine, flirted with bankruptcy, and prospered as an entrepreneur. He and his wife have owned and operated two retail stores. They launched a pet store that got good press for innovation and animal concern. They started a business renting on-site Apple computers when Apple was still a novelty. They've started up Afolio Printing and even plunged into consulting.

After several years of entrepreneurship Kane says they were exhausted. He returned to grad school full time to pick up an M.F.A. at the University of Arizona in order to get rid of the “musty mind tracks” that had been laid down and then lingered too long after he'd earned his M.B.A. at night school.

Deer Creek is Holland Kane's third novel. *Morning Light*, his second, released in 2013, is the story of a contemporary choreographer and dancer about to make a career breakthrough at Jacob's Pillow Dance Festival in the Berkshires. She is married to a devoted husband whose principles forbid him to use birth control. She doesn't want to become pregnant and their sex life falls into disorder. For intimacy she turns to her best friend's teenage son, a future playwright, and becomes pregnant. *Publisher's Weekly* describes the novel as “a threnody of desire and guilt.”

Morning Light explores Catholicism's rejection of birth control and the erotic consequences tilled by nature. (The author's brother was a Roman Catholic Priest.)

Kane's first novel, *Winter Reeds*, released in 2012, is the story of a documentary filmmaker who finds himself and his girlfriend embroiled in an arson mystery. *Kirkus Reviews* calls the novel “A gripping tale of how some secrets can't be buried.”

For more information about Holland Kane's novels, visit www.hollandkane.com.

DEER CREEK



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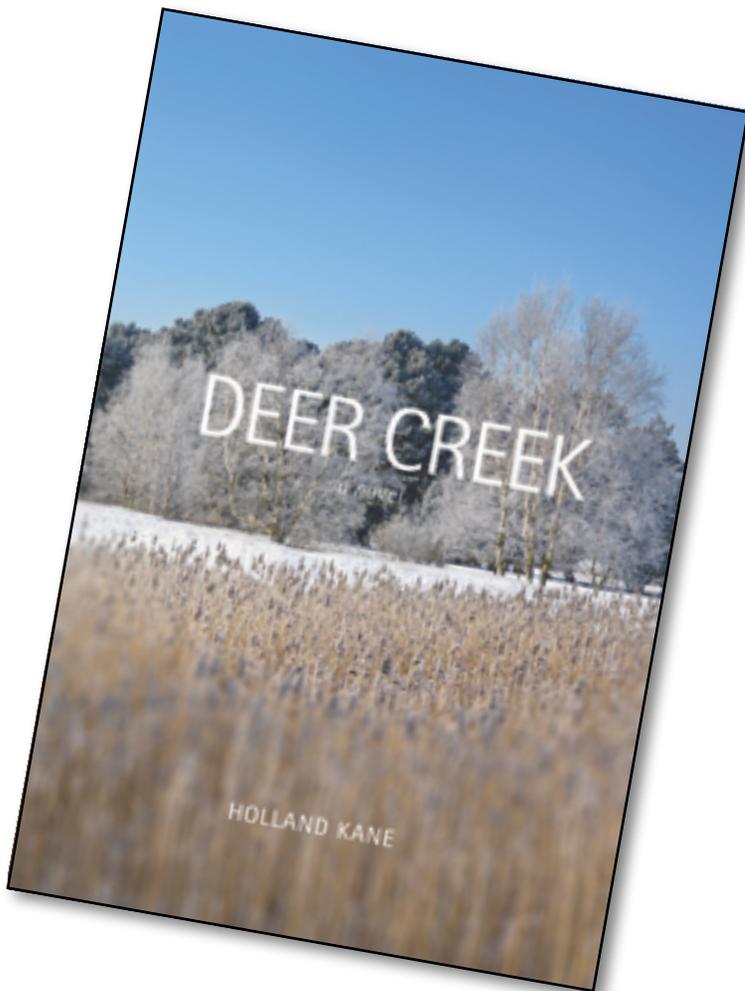
About the Author

The Lithuanian-born American writer Holland Kane spent his childhood in Europe and his teenage years in New York City.

When he's not writing he's reading, or making dinner for his wife. They live in the Pacific Northwest.

To arrange an interview with Holland Kane, or request review copies of his novels, contact Rachel M. Anderson, Publicist, at 952-240-2513 or rachel@rmapublicity.com.

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