

INFINITE WRITER

BOOK OF THE MONTH – JUNE 2010

The three most common criteria recognized as a 'must element' for a successful novel, especially mysteries, are timeliness, edge-of-the-seat conflict, often called a 'page-turner, and believability. Character development and good structural writing are icing on the element cake. When the author cares enough about his story to research the topic if authenticity demands it, you have the special filling between the layers – passion!

Fire has fascinated and mesmerized humankind since the cave dweller. We appreciate its warmth, respect its limits, and stand in awe of its power and intensity. Author, Kurt Kamm, writes a fiery story. The flames of it reach out and draw in your consciousness. The colors of it take over your imagination, and its heat pulls you into the inferno of it. He knows his protagonists and has experienced the power of the fire god first hand.

In his first novel, ***One Foot In The Black***, Mr. **Kamm** took the reader into the pulse of a Wildland fire. The reader discovers the personality of a fire through the firefighter protagonists. That story met the elements and added the icing and filling.

But what about the personality of a serial arsonist? The 'firestarter', the accelerant? What drives them to serve the fire god? Are they driven by an evil lust? A reverent worship? Is it a lust for the power the fire possesses? Or surrender to it as a sacrifice to the god of the fire?

RED FLAG WARNING

Los Angeles County is burning! A serial arsonist is setting the parched hills on fire. Plunge into the infernos, and face the heat, smoke and danger with the men on the fire lines in the award-winning novel--*Red Flag Warning*.

While NiteHeat prowls in the darkness, setting fires and taunting investigators, the Los Angeles County Fire Department's Arson Unit struggles to find the fire setter and stop the devastation. Follow Fire Captain Jim Kendall as he tries to find NiteHeat before the City of Malibu burns down.

In ***Red Flag Warning***, the firefighters are caught in the middle of the furious battle, the capture of the arsonist and the fighting of the fire. The arsonist may be the most difficult to stop. There is no profile to study. No wind currents to assess, no humidity to measure. No flash point to trace. Nothing. Leads drift into the sky

like burning embers. Does the fire possess the arsonist, burning the evidence as it consumes? Or does the arsonist possess the fire? This is a mystery as powerful as the fire itself.

So you think you can solve a mystery? Put the fire out? I thought I could, too. I've reviewed several mysteries. Excellent ones, at that. I challenge you to solve this one. Oh, you'll build a list of possible suspects; you'll turn many a rock looking for clues. You've learned to read in between the smoke filled lines. Your gut tells you that you must be missing something. Something not fitting still haunts you and your list changes, grows and shrinks. Where is it? What is it? You are possessed by the fire! And when you make it through the burn, there is not a rock left unturned. And still, you're stunned!

A page turner, timely, believable, iced with skill and filled with passion. Red Flag Warning is a delicacy! Coming from a fellow author - Five Stars, Mr.Kamm

Review by Susan Haley, **Infinite Writer** Staff Editor, author of *Rainy Day People*, *Amber's Return to Maine*, *Fibers in the Web* & other books. <http://www.sucarha.com/>

Published by Aberdeen Bay and available on Amazon

The book is more than a mystery novel, it is a commentary on wildland arson which is a common occurrence across the nation. In California, where the story takes place, the 2009 Station Fire, started by an arsonist, incinerated 165,000 acres around Los Angeles Kurt Kamm has combined his personal experience in devastating California wildfires and access to CalFire and Los Angeles County firefighters to write novels about wildland fire in Southern California. He has attended several firefighting training academies and is a regular visitor at the wildland firefighter camps and inmate fire camps of Los Angeles County Fire Department.