

Addison & Highsmith Publishers

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\$25,000 dagger found in Vegas Library

For two years a dagger has been hidden somewhere in Las Vegas, part of a literary treasure hunt, the clues within the writing of the best-selling mystery novel, *Vegas Die*, a Quest Mystery™ by Stephen Grogan. When discovered the dagger would have been redeemed by the publisher for \$25,000 cash. Thousands of readers, called ‘*Questors*,’ have bought the book attempting to decipher the mystery.

As of today, the hunt is over, the undiscovered dagger has been revealed to be located in the Clark County Library, 1401 E. Flamingo Ave., in Las Vegas, Nevada. **Full solution of clues revealed: visit www.VegasDie.com**

And to the mantra of the Quest Mystery search: *Nothing Is As It Seems*, the dagger is a bookmark featuring the dagger artwork from the book’s front cover, and secreted in an art history book . The bookmark was placed on a specific page next to the 1793 painting, ‘*The Death of Marat*’, by French artist Jacques-Louis David, coincidentally, a French revolutionary politician stabbed in his bathtub...with a dagger.

“The goal was writing transparent clues of a real treasure hunt within the mystery story,” explains author Stephen Grogan, “that you read first a mystery and then went back and started seeing clues.”

“*Vegas Die* has become a best seller”, stated publisher Harvey Addison, “the mystery even won an award for best regional fiction.” To find the treasure Questors tried to decipher clues using Morse Code, writing treatises on various book characters, defining how many times a color was mentioned, or even the author’s use of repetitive words. “For a period of time, there was a mystery hunt tour bus that went around Las Vegas, going to all locations where various plots took place,” said publisher Addison.

To keep the game alive over two years, sub treasure hunts were put together, where red daggers found would spell out the name of ‘David’ the artist’s name, and black daggers found could be deciphered as being the library identification code to the art history book.

“In the end I thought the principal of Occam’s Razor applied best, that the simplest solution is usually the correct one,” explained author Grogan. “The main villain uses a dagger for revenge. How many historical characters used a dagger in revenge killing? Brutus with Caesar, John Wilkes Booth with Lincoln, and the assassination of Marat. One passage in *Vegas Die* is written: *He swore aloud for a better death. Why hadn’t Angelo stabbed him? His tormentor had that extra*

ceremonial knife. Why here, why not in a warm bath, let him bleed out to a fuzzy, forever sleep?

“I wrote in allusions to literary works and artwork like statuary which should have provided direction towards artwork, books and hence a library,” said Grogan.

Is there another forthcoming Quest Mystery with a prize? Now released is a culinary mystery, “***Captain Cooked***” by S.P. Grogan which features a Hawaiian war club worth over \$5,000 hidden on the Big Island of Hawai'i, requiring the use of GPS. Contests for reading ‘***Captain Cooked***’ will begin at the end of the month. A portion of book sales proceeds of ‘***Captain Cooked***’ goes to the Hawaiian Food Bank program. For more information, visit: www.CaptainCooked.com.

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For a complete explanation of the solution to the Quest Mystery visit:

www.VegasDie.com

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