



NEIL TURNER READER'S CLUB

Greetings!

I hope spring has broken out somewhere at this point. We've experienced a very odd few months here in Ottawa, from warm and sunny days to dreary rain to cold and snow. Now we have a possibility of flooding. Enough already! This month's update will be brief, as there isn't much writing news to tell you about. I'm somewhat preoccupied gearing up for surgery next week and dealing with several other personal issues (nothing bad, just time consuming). My hope is that I'll be back on track sometime in June. I don't expect to send a Reader's Club update next month as I'll be in recovery mode for several weeks, but we'll see. That doesn't mean there's no good news! Congratulations to LeeAnn B., the winner of last month's SPRING draw, which we're awarding despite the questionable arrival of spring. In keeping with my practice of making the monthly draw titles somewhat topical, something hospital—related seems appropriate this month. How about recognizing nurses? This seems like a good moment for me to curry a little favor with the nursing community, doesn't it? ☺ So, enter to win a gift card by hitting reply and typing WE LOVE NURSES! Simple as that. On the deal front, our audiobook publisher and Audiobook.com are discounting *Nowhere to Hide* by 60% until May 5th. Grab the deal [here](#). Read on for the rest of this month's news.

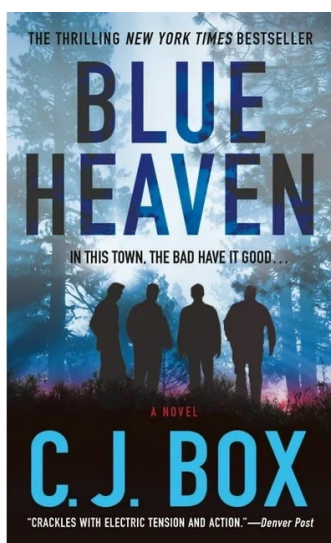
A Peek Behind the Scenes

Behind the Curtain

While we have Reader's Club members from around the world, most of my marketing efforts have centered on North America, the UK, and Australia/New Zealand, which has worked out quite well. I've



always wanted to expand my reach, so perhaps it's time to see where else we can take Tony's stories. My books are already on sale worldwide, but only in English; I haven't ventured into the foreign-language market. The question is, which market do I test first? During the three years that my family lived in Germany, I developed a great appreciation of the country and its people—of many things and people European, in fact. Germany has a large population that does a lot of reading, so I'm dipping my author's toe more fully into the German market for novels, which is exhilarating and a little frightening. I'm going to start with a more concerted marketing effort of the English books to test how receptive Deutschland is to the Tony concept in general. If that fares well over the next several months, I'll explore translation, which is a considerable investment. Wish me *Viel Glück*?



Blue Heaven by C.J. Box

What's Neil Reading?

C.J. Box is a terrific author whose books are a definite departure from the style of book I write. *Blue Heaven* by C.J. Box is an outstanding thriller that effectively contrasts some of modern society's darkest characters and motivations against a beautiful natural

setting, transitioning from simple folks living a bucolic lifestyle into something decidedly dreary and corrupt. It's a simplistic good versus evil construct that Box uses to good effect in setting up a taut storyline that must be resolved within 48 hours. Two pre-teens witness a murder in the woods, are spotted by the killers, and the race to silence them is on. Aside from the kids, who are endearing, our heroes are ordinary folks who rise to the occasion in an effort to save them, bring the killers to justice, and—not so coincidentally—save a piece of themselves in the process. As always, Box's writing is excellent, the tension is sublime, and the race to the outcome is a thrilling ride that ends with an unexpected final touch that is truly heartwarming. A terrific read. If you haven't yet discovered this writer, do yourself a favour and give him a try.

Win a Free Book

Reader's Club Q & A

What's on your mind? Ask away! I'll answer one reader question in every Reader's Club Update. If I choose yours, I'll send you a free eBook copy of one of my novels! Please send your questions via the *Contact* page on my [website](#) or send an email to info@neilturnerbooks.com. If you send an email, please type *Reader's Club Q & A* in the subject line. Thank you!



Here's this month's question and answer.

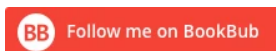
Q: How much of Tony's character is drawn from yourself?

A: A fair amount, but he's not an alter-ego or anything like that. We share a taste in music, we were both competent athletes back in the day, and both of our budding sporting "careers" ended with injury. We share Italian ancestry, although mine is watered down by a generation. Aside from that, his sensibilities are influenced by mine, although I work hard to keep Tony true to the character as I understand him. A lot of that comes during editing, when I realize that he's reacted to a situation exactly how I might have, right down to verbalization. It's actually a difficult balance to maintain.

And that's it for this month (and next), folks. Thanks for being a member of our Reader's Club!

Take care, be well, and happy reading (or listening!),

Neil



Neil Turner Books

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