



THE CARSON GRIFFIN SERIES

DAVID H. HANKS

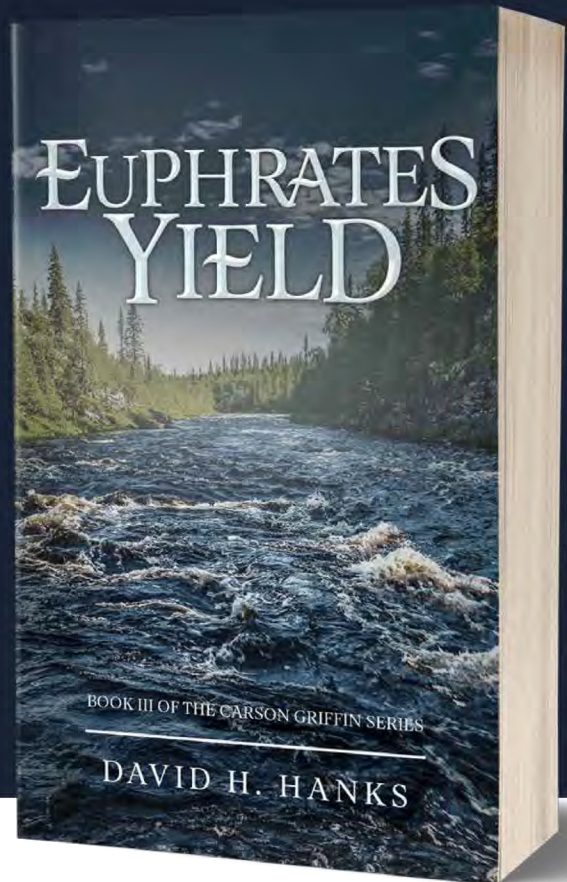
MASCOT
 **BOOKS**

August 4, 2020

\$16.95 US
\$22.74 CAN

ISBN: 978-1-68401-444-6

**Distributed by: Mascot Books,
Ingram, Baker & Taylor, Follett,
and American West.**



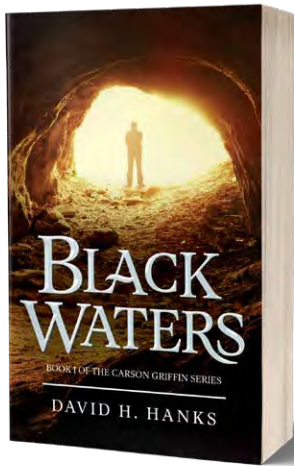
A Nuclear Thriller Series from a Nobel Peace Prize Winner

Carson Griffin is an investigator with the International Nuclear Weapons Agency (INWA), an organization devoted to promoting the peaceful use of nuclear energy and to preventing its use in military or combative applications. His work takes him all over the world, including to some of the 21st century's most volatile regions, to keep nuclear weapons out of the hands of those who would do harm.

The third and final installment in David H. Hanks' Carson Griffin series takes Griffin outside of the INWA's jurisdiction to investigate a hidden nuclear reactor site along the banks of Syria's Euphrates River. The Jihad Terrorist Symbol works with Doku Umarov, a well-known Chechen terrorist, to smuggle parts and nuclear material supplied by a rogue North Korean general into the region with the goal of crating the most powerful weapons of mass destruction on Earth. To save the world from nuclear annihilation, Griffin has to stop the technology from falling into JTS's hands--all while battling the grief of losing his wife. Can he put aside his need for vengeance aside and stop the radical terrorist cell before it's too late?

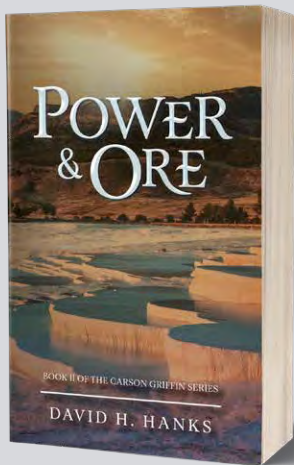
DavidHHanks.com

Other Titles



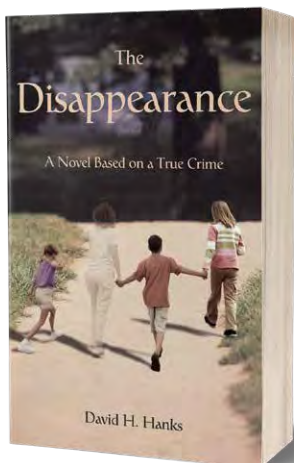
Black Waters (Carson Griffin Series, Book 1)

While on assignment to investigate a uranium smuggling incident in Slovenia, Carson Griffin uncovers a monstrous terrorist plot involving a massive nuclear detonation near the Black Sea that could spread nuclear contamination across Europe. The terror cell, led by a Turkish madman bent on restoring the glory of the once-great Ottoman Empire, pursues him and sends assassins after his family. As Griffin gets close to unraveling the plot, can he prevent a global incident and still keep his family safe?



Power & Ore (Carson Griffin Series, Book 2)

In *Power and Ore*, the second installment in David H. Hanks' Carson Griffin series, the INWA sends Griffin to Turkey to determine the source of a nuclear pulse-driven explosion and into a complex web of competing interests. At the University of Bucharest, entrepreneurs join forces to create a mode of transportation so powerful that it sends the world's governments and terrorist organizations clamoring for control of its technology. All the while, the Jihad Terrorist Symbol will stop at nothing to get their hands on a plutonium sphere and set to work allocating assassins and spies to locate the weapon. In this tale of kidnapping, murder, double crossing, and high espionage, who can Griffin believe or trust? Nobel Peace Prize recipient and nuclear energy expert David H. Hanks weaves a tale of intrigue and suspense that will leave readers on the edge of their seats.



The Disappearance

Georgia, 1972. After Helen Harmon drops her three children off at school and her husband, Jerry, leaves for his job as a security guard at the state prison, she heads to her office at the Winkler Outdoor Advertising company in Valdosta, Georgia—and is never heard from again. The Harmon family can't believe she'd simply vanish, but the thought of foul play is just too horrible to contemplate. Helen and Jerry's son, thirteen-year-old Harold, takes the loss especially hard and assumes the responsibility of helping his younger sister cope with the loss. When a startling discovery is made by two brothers, it ignites a community's mandate for the truth, sending Harold on a quest to uncover the long-buried reality for himself. Emotional, suspenseful, and based on the true disappearance of his mother, David H. Hanks's *The Disappearance* draws from his life experience to craft a compelling story only he could tell.



About David H. Hanks

Among the award winners of the 2005 Nobel Peace Prize given to the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), David H. Hanks held an International Nuclear Safeguards Inspector post at the IAEA in Vienna, Austria, for several years. His seasoned experience in international

nuclear nonproliferation and expertise in the operation of nuclear power plants provides a unique insight into the world Carson Griffin inhabits. Now living in Georgia, David has published several technical documents related to nuclear safeguards and wrote *The Disappearance*, a novel based on his mother's disappearance in Georgia in 1972.

Past Coverage



Valdosta Daily Times

The Moultrie Observer



An Interview with David H. Hanks

**How has being a Nobel Peace Prize winner impacted your life?
Was it a motivating factor in you becoming an author?**

It's an amazing honor to be among the 2005 recipients of the Nobel Peace Prize awarded to the Secretariat of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), also known as the world's "nuclear watchdog." My oldest friends and family are very proud of their modest celebrity from our small hometown in South Georgia, which makes me feel very fortunate. Many good things have come from being part of such an impressive international team of nuclear nonproliferation experts, including motivation to become an author of a nuclear thriller series.

You worked as an international nuclear safeguards inspector with the IAEA and still work in the field of nuclear nonproliferation. What was it like combining your real-life experience with fiction?

Writing a nuclear thriller series felt very comfortable to me during plot development, exploring possible nuclear terrorism scenarios, and using technical jargon that the lay reader understand. Before working for the IAEA or becoming a Senior International Nuclear Safeguards Analyst for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, I worked in the main control room of a large nuclear power plant as a senior reactor operator. That experience, along with U.S. Nuclear Navy training, provided me with detailed knowledge of nuclear power plants which helped me describe events more clearly in the series. Of course, because of my top-secret clearance, my manuscripts are reviewed by the intelligence community before being published.

The future of nuclear energy is one of the most hotly debated topics in both political and social conversation. Do you look at a future with nuclear technologies with hope or with anxiety?

I look forward to further improvements to existing nuclear technology and the new reactor designs coming over the horizon. Nuclear energy production is heavily regulated by every country currently exploiting this technology to generate electricity. Using energy release by nuclear fission from enriched uranium ore provides megawatts of electrical power to our nation's power grid and helps maintain a stable energy source. In my opinion, nuclear power plants will continue to contribute to maintaining a reliable electrical backbone for our country. In principle, Power and Ore is written with some futuristic ideas that might inspire more optimism in using special nuclear fuel developed from former nuclear weapons material—thereby decreasing stockpiles while fueling advanced reactor designs.

An Interview with David H. Hanks

What's the biggest misconception the general population has about nuclear power?

That's a tough question. There are several misconceptions among constituents of the general population. I suppose if I were to guess, the idea that a nuclear power plant's reactor core could detonate like a nuclear weapon is one that still crops up in audiences when I give talks about nuclear power or nonproliferation. Nothing could be further from reality, of course. A reactor core is designed to sustain a chain reaction: heat generated by fission is removed by circulating water, and that hot water generates steam that drives turbine generators that produce electricity. A nuclear weapon has no heat regulation: the uranium pit at the center of the device releases immense amounts of energy as heat that vaporizes everything in its path. The mechanisms are inherently different.

Part of what sets these books apart is that the conflict occurs on an international stage. How did you choose these settings and how much research did you do to render them so vividly?

Many of the places I describe in my novels are places I've been to while working for the IAEA and the U.S. Government or have performed extensive research on while writing the book. Even today when I travel abroad and find myself in a tavern or café, I imagine a scene that would take on characteristics of my surroundings. Delegation discussions—the frequent purpose of my trips abroad—are unique to topics being hashed out at the time, but using a bit of imagination, these meetings can be turned around and twisted into the manuscript of a thriller.

Though these books are fictional, is there a lesson you hope readers take away from your series?

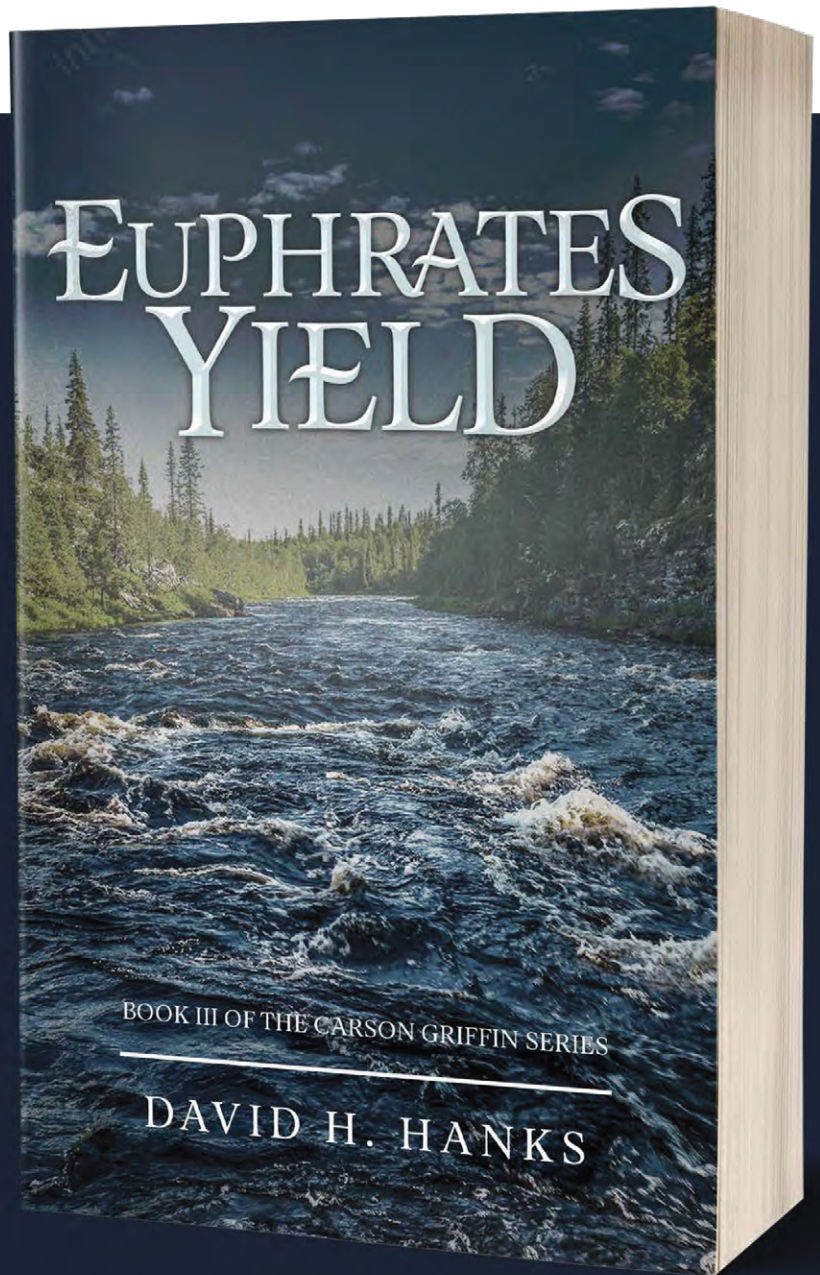
My goal has always been to entertain while, without sounding like a textbook, informing my audience of as many facts as possible. Fiction is a great tool for stretching the boring details of nuclear physics into the fantastic adventures of a covert operating inspector. In Carson's world, espionage, nuclear terrorism, human emotion, and international travel blend together to form a new approach to what many would consider an exciting thriller. Many lessons are held within the Carson Griffin series, but one is especially clear: the importance of maintaining an international organization like the IAEA to ensure nuclear energy is used for peaceful purposes.

August 4, 2020

\$16.95 US
\$22.74 CAN

ISBN: 978-1-68401-444-6

Distributed by: Mascot
Books, Ingram, Baker
& Taylor, Follett, and
American West.



David is available for interviews, events, and appearances. For press inquiries or to request a review copy of *Euphrates Yield*, *Power and Ore*, or *Black Waters*, please contract Francys Reed at francys@mascotbooks.com.

For bulk purchase inquiries, please contract
Caitie Merico at caitie@mascotbooks.com.

