

Casperian Books Acquires the Enigmatic "Kelland"

By Paul G. Bens, Jr.

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Independent Publisher Casperian Books Acquires North American Rights to Paul G. Bens Jr.'s Debut Novel, "Kelland"

Los Angeles, California • Author Paul G. Bens, Jr. announced today that Sacramento-based independent publisher Casperian Books has acquired North American rights to his first novel, *Kelland*, with publication set for the Fall of 2009.

Mixing elements of mystery, horror and current events, *Kelland* tells the story of four remarkably different individuals, each at a turning point in their lives when they meet an enigmatic stranger, the titular character *Kelland*. Is Kelland a friend or a foe? As the mystery unravels, they must decide for themselves, as Kelland is a puzzle, a chameleon and an almost imperceptible presence whose effect upon their lives is fleeting, loving, devastating, and ultimately redemptive.

Bens said, "I am very proud that *Kelland* has found a home amongst Casperian's diverse and cutting-edge catalogue. The novel tells an important story, one the mainstream media has largely missed. Casperian has recognized that the story of these characters--and of all the people like them--needs to be told. It couldn't be a better match."

Known primarily for his short, dark fiction, openly gay author Bens has seen his work published in print and electronic magazines as diverse as Cemetery Dance, Velvet Mafia: Dangerous Queer Fiction, Outsider Ink, Chick Flicks, HeavyGlow, Twisted Tongue and Scared Naked. *Kelland* is Bens' debut novel and will be released by Casperian in trade paperback format throughout the United States and Canada in the Fall of 2009.

About Kelland: Two young boys rescued from the Viet Nam war. A couple drifting apart over the suicide of their only son. A devoutly Catholic child with the voice of an angel who is troubled by visions both sacred and profane. What links these seemingly disconnected people, and who is the mysterious Kelland, so determined to expose their hidden agony? This is a story about how the past transmutes the present, how lies and dark secrets divide people from those who love them, and how the truth must be confronted before the damage done can be healed. It's a journey of sorrow, of mystery and of redemption. <http://www.whoiskelland.com>

About Casperian Books: Based in Sacramento, California, Casperian Books is a limited liability company dedicated to publishing quality literary and genre fiction that the mainstream publishing houses often overlook. <http://www.casperianbooks.com>

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>**About Paul G. Bens, Jr.:** Born in the Commonwealth of Kentucky, far too many years ago to be honest about, Paul G. Bens, Jr., has spent the majority of his adult life in the entertainment industry. As a Casting Associate, Bens worked for three years on the NBC hit series *Night Court*, as well as the short-lived series *Walter & Emily*, *Good & Evil* and *Room for Two*. As a film and television Casting Director he was

responsible for the principal casting of numerous low-budget features, as well as the television series *Ned & Stacey*, *Malcolm & Eddie*, *Likely Suspects* and *Murder in Small Town X*. Outside of casting, Bens has been many things: a film producer, a file clerk, an altar boy, a bartender (still makes killer martinis), a boy scout and, for a second-and-a-half, an actor. Currently, he works in the new media division of an historic Hollywood film studio and lives in the Los Angeles area with his boyfriend. <http://www.paulbens.com>

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