



Carrickmacross

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CRITICS RAVE ABOUT CARRICK'S MATTHEW TULLY'S NEW NOVEL

BY BLÁTHNAID MCCAUL

Matthew Tully, who has connections with Carrickmacross, and lived here for a number of years before returning to the US, has written his first book which has received rave reviews from critics world wide.

One such review stated;

"The Chimera Seed can best be described as a taut, energetic thriller. From its opening pages where you learn that a famed, visionary scientist has died and left his son, Dr. Michael Tiernan, a huge inheritance, the story rolls along and gathers speed like a snowball starting an avalanche down a mountainside."

Matthew lived in Carrickmacross when he was a child, from 1977 to 1984, until he and his family returned to the United States. When asked what he can remember about living in Carrickmacross he explained, "My family and I moved to Carrickmacross in August of 1977 and stayed until June of 1984. We have since returned to the United States, but our hearts will always be in Ireland."

Matthew still has family and friends living in the locality and he said no one ever can replace the friends one makes as a child and family is forever.

"We keep pretty steady contact. Nothing major happens without both sides of the Atlantic sharing the news, good or bad.

CARRICK INFLUENCES

Coming from a very long line of storytellers, Matthew explained

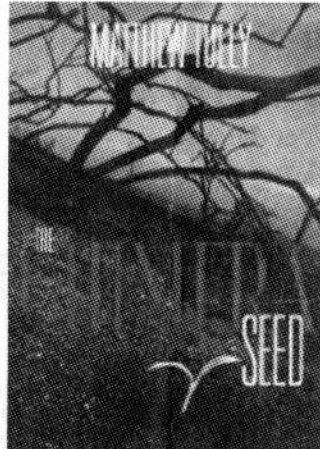
that it was inevitable that one day he would write a book. "I remember as a child, I was often told by the Brothers in St. Joseph School that I had an amazing imagination. Brother Gregory in particular used to encourage this creativity with all of the shows and performances he used to put on for the school."

THE STORY

The Chimera Seed: Immortality is possible, but the cost of eternal life is death. Richard Tiernan's sudden death sparks a chain of events that threatens the survival of the human species. The visionary scientist's son and only heir, Dr. Michael Tiernan, inherits Oisín Pharmaceuticals and learns of his father's astonishing secret. Hidden away in the little Sardinian town of Boroneddu, Michael discovers his father's greatest legacy: the fountain of youth.

In possession of Dionysinol, the most dynamic anti-aging drug ever engineered, Michael Tiernan aspires to turn Oisín Pharmaceuticals into an empire. His plans rapidly unravel when he becomes ensnared in a cutthroat game of pharmaceutical espionage and learns just how far some people will go to acquire immortality and how far others will go to destroy it.

The Chimera Seed transports the reader to Italy, where the genetically-engineered Niamh grape grows, and back to the United States, where politics, corruption, greed, obsession, revenge, passion and moral imperatives make



Dionysinol the most sought after and dangerous substance on Earth.

INSPIRATION

Speaking to The Northern Standard, Matthew explained that he loves to see the finished product, to bring characters to life and have people love and relate to them.

When writing Matthew said that it is hard not to write about Ireland. "My time in Ireland had such a profound influence on the way I see the world." He spoke of how the entire theme of the book is based on a story he heard as a young boy. "The legend of Tír na nÓg is part of the prologue. The book is especially meaningful for those readers with Irish backgrounds as they will undoubtedly see the parallels between the legend and my story." Trying to come up with new and fresh

ideas can be difficult for most people, however, Matthew finds it difficult to answer where he gets his ideas from. "You would think that I'd have an answer to this question since I've been asked so many times, but to be perfectly honest, I don't know where my ideas come from. They just come to me."

Sales of "The Chimera Seed" are going very well. Matthew admitted that he was caught a little off guard when the first run of the book sold out within the first week, but the second (and much larger printing) came off the presses just a number of weeks ago. "We are very pleased with the reception The Chimera Seed is receiving."

The first word that Matthew put to paper with this new book was on St. Patrick's Day 2007. Finishing touches were still being made to the book in late May of 2009. "My publishing house, Comfort Publishing LLC, were very patient and worked with me every step of the way." Matthew plans a sequel The Chimera Spawn, which should be released in the spring of 2010.

Matthew said that he was overwhelmed with the reaction that he received from the book.

"I was astonished, plain and simple. When I read the first review, I thought someone was playing a cruel joke on me. The reviews were just as unbelievable. I'm still shocked by the praise it receives but it's a shock that I can definitely learn to live

with....." he concluded.

One other outstanding review states: Matthew Tully is a writer skilled at developing suspense. Unquestionably, the fast pace of The Chimera Seed is hypnotic. The reader will be transported back and forth across the Atlantic with Dr. Tiernan as he hunts the security leak within his own Oisín Pharmaceutical Company and his vast vineyards in Sardinia. Like Tiernan, the reader will gradually realize the implication an immortal, increasing population would have, on what would become an ever decreasing food supply.

This book is a must read for those seeking an extremely fast paced story of espionage, intrigue, murder, and at times, deliberately imposed physical pain. The main characters are well developed, showing both their self-interest and also their redeeming humanity. Matthew Tully's tale displays real ingenuity with fascinating twists and turns. I will personally await his other stories. Dan Brown, make room for Matthew Tully.

Matthew now resides in New Jersey where he is a public school math teacher and an adjunct professor of philosophy at Fairleigh Dickinson University. The Chimera Seed, published by Comfort Publishing in June '09, is his first novel. The sequel, The Chimera Spawn, is set to be released in the spring of 2010.